



SHIRE OF  
**MERREDIN**  
INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT

# COMMUNITY NEWS & INFORMATION

JULY 2023

## Council Adopts Corporate Business Plan

The Shire of Merredin Council is excited to announce the adoption of the new Corporate Business Plan 2022/23 - 2025/2026 (CBP) during the recent Ordinary Council Meeting held on Tuesday, 27 June 2023. This plan shows the steps the Shire will take towards achieving the vision Council and Community have set for the Shire of Merredin by describing our priorities, and the projects, initiatives and services the Shire will deliver over the next four years. It also outlines how these priorities will be funded and resourced, so the Community can easily see how the plan will be implemented.

Over the next four years, the Shire will embark on several significant projects that closely align with the key priorities highlighted in our Strategic Community Plan (SCP). These initiatives are thoughtfully detailed within the CBP, aiming to fulfill our promises to the community and make tangible progress towards their aspirations.

Our current areas of focus include a commitment to enhancing internal governance, strengthening financial sustainability, compliance, and meeting regulatory requirements. Simultaneously, we are dedicating efforts to review and plan for our recreation services and associated assets, ensuring they are optimised to meet the needs of our residents.

This plan also has a strong focus on the CBD Redevelopment Project. Building upon the successful completion of Pioneer Park in October 2022, featuring a new car park, recreation areas, and beautiful landscaping, our attention is now directed towards the construction of a vibrant Town Centre precinct and the revitalisation of Apex Park. We anticipate commencing

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## July Council Meeting

The next Ordinary Council Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 18 July 2023 at 4:00pm in the Council Chambers on the Cnr of King and Barrack Streets. Members of the public are welcome to attend the meeting. The Agenda will be available to view on the Shire of Merredin website. Public questions can be submitted by 2.00pm on the day of the council meeting by completing the form here linked below.  
[www.merredin.wa.gov.au/council-meetings/](http://www.merredin.wa.gov.au/council-meetings/)



construction in late 2023, with an expected completion date in 2024.

Demonstrating our dedication to sustainability, we are initiating a series of regionally significant projects in water and waste management. These initiatives aim to promote a greener future and include an ongoing investigation into a potential regional waste facility in partnership with Wheatbelt East Regional Organization of Councils (WEROC). Furthermore, we are committed to exploring and implementing innovative practices that address the real impacts of climate change, ensuring a resilient and environmentally conscious Shire.

In line with our commitment to fostering business and economic development, we will be undertaking a comprehensive review of our Local Planning Scheme. This review serves as the initial step in an overarching approach to support local businesses and drive economic growth within the Shire.

We encourage all community members to read the full document, available at the following link: [bit.ly/MerredinCBP](https://bit.ly/MerredinCBP).



### **TOURISM OFFICER**

***Level 5 full time or part time (hours negotiable)***

***\$54,544 to \$58,116***

### **TOURISM SUPPORT OFFICER/S**

***Level 4/5—Casual***

***\$32.46—\$36.76 p/h (inclusive of casual loading)***

The Shire of Merredin is seeking candidates with strong customer service experience and an interest in tourism and visitor servicing, to support our Visitor Centre team.

The successful applicant/s for the Tourism Officer role will have experience in the tourism industry (or similar) and able to provide quality and professional customer service in visitor servicing, Transwa bookings and Eastern Wheatbelt regional tourism, and to provide administrative support to the Visitor Centre Manager.

Ideally, candidates for the Tourism Support Officer role will have experience in the delivery of customer services in a similar environment, have knowledge of the local area and have a desire to share this with visitors to the region.

Both roles require the ability to work under pressure at times, particularly through the wildflower season, and to demonstrate they can work in a supportive team environment - a degree of flexibility on working days and hours is a must.

To ensure the successful candidates are able to take up their roles effectively, there will be 3 weeks full-time training. Casual work is available through the peak wildflower season, July-September 2023 and during this time, casuals will be required to support a 7-day rotational roster. Note: it is expected that there will be some ongoing employment for casual staff after October 2023, however this will be on an ad hoc basis.

If you are interested in either (or both) position/s, but are concerned about meeting all the requirements of the position description, please contact Robyn McCarthy on (08) 9041 1666 for a confidential discussion. We are keen to talk to people that are open to learning and we offer a supportive workplace where you can further develop your skills.

If you wish to apply for both positions, please state this in your application and forward your resume and covering letter outlining your ability to meet the selection criteria (no more than 2 pages) to [careers@merredin.wa.gov.au](mailto:careers@merredin.wa.gov.au) by 4:00pm Friday, 14 July 2023. The Shire will be assessing applications as we receive them and may undertake interviews prior to the closing date.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us on (08) 9041 1666.

**Lisa Clack**

Chief Executive Officer



### **Merredin Tip Shop**

The Shire would like to thank all of the community members who visited the Merredin Tip Shop on Saturday, 10 June 2023. With the combined effort of the community, the Shire was able to divert a total of 15.7m<sup>3</sup> of waste from landfill, which brings our yearly total to 78.5m<sup>3</sup>.

We invite you to contribute any unwanted items of value for our next opening day on Saturday, 12 August 2023 from 10:00am to 3:00pm.

To stay informed about the latest information regarding

opening dates and items available, we encourage you to visit the official Shire website or regularly check in with our Facebook page.

### **E-Waste Recycling**

The Merredin Waste Management Facility is now accepting residential Electronic Waste (e-waste) – free of charge!

This aims to accommodate the State Governments ban on e-waste to landfill commencing in January 2024, and we will be accepting various e-waste types such as TVs, printers, computers, cables and kitchen appliances of all brands and models. Some items may not be accepted as reprocessing services are limited in the region, such as various medical electronic waste. For more information on acceptable e-waste items, please call (08) 9041 1611.

We ask that you please notify staff before dropping off any e-waste. Please also ensure it is separated prior to your arrival, and you follow instructions give by the gate house operator.

Thank you for your continued support.

### **CBD Redevelopment Update - Apex Park**

The Shire has recently submitted a Lotterywest grant application for the revitalisation of Apex Park. The additional funding sought from Lotterywest will support the Shire in completing the construction of the new park, funding play elements, soft-fall, park furniture and trees. The renewed space will provide a safe and inclusive space for people of all ages to play, exercise, and socialise.

The outcome of the Shire's application is anticipated to be received in October 2023.

### **Synergy EV 'Fast' Charging Station**

Synergy and Horizon Power are working with the State Government to create Australia's longest Electric Vehicle (EV) charging network (the WA EV Network).

Synergy recently completed the site set-out for the new transformer to be installed in Merredin as part of the EV Highway. It is anticipated that the new 'Fast' Charging Station will be installed by the end of the year.

Once completed, EV drivers will have access to 98 EV charging stations across 49 locations, from Eucla at the South Australian border to Kununurra in the far north of Western Australia.

### **Merredin Recycled Water Network Upgrade**

We are excited to announce that the Shire of Merredin has been successful in securing \$100,000 in grant funding from

the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation (DWER) through the Community Water Supply Program (CWSP) for the upgrade of its recycled water network.

This recycled water network is key to ensuring continued irrigation of the Shire's greenspaces. The upgrade of this network will improve the Shire's water security and operational efficiency, which will mean we will be able to maintain these greenspaces into the future.

### **Farewell, Lindon!**

This month we farewelled a valued member of our team, Lindon Mellor. Lindon began working at the Shire as the Executive Manager of Engineering Services in September 2021, and during his time at the Shire, he has also acted as the Executive Manager Corporate Services for a period of 6 months, and the Acting Chief Executive Officer several times. Lindon has consistently brought his positivity, can-do attitude and strong leadership qualities to every project and team he is involved in, and has consistently stepped up to the challenge from the first day he walked through the door. Lindon's other recent achievements include reconstruction of key road projects such as the Eastern Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network, was awarded IPWEA's Young Emerging Leader in March 2023, and was part of the award-winning Engineering team who delivered the first part of Merredin's multi-million-dollar CBD Redevelopment Project.

"I would like to thank my fellow colleagues, especially the outdoor crew who I worked closely with each day. I am proud of the work that my team and I have done, including delivering Pioneer Park which has been in the pipeline for many years. It was a lot of hard work to get it up and running, but was well worth it to see so many community members enjoying the space," he said.

Lindon and his wife made the tough decision to leave the Shire after Lindon accepted a position at the Shire of York, which is closer to both their families. Although we will miss Lindon very much, we wish him all the best with his future endeavours.





## Executive Manager Strategy and Community

Join us in welcoming the new EMSC to the Shire Team, Codi Brindley-Mullen! Codi joins us from the Shire of Kellerberrin, where she spent 9 years striving to achieve the best for Council, Employees, and the community.

### A message from Codi

"I am looking forward to being involved in the Merredin Community, helping Council achieve their direction and accepting all challenges thrown my way.



## Public Notice

### Offer No: Do1-2023 - Disposal of Property

The Shire of Merredin invites offers for disposal of the following property:

Lot 29 McCallum Street, Muntadgin, WA 6240, Deposit plan 148880, Certificate of Title Volume 1013, Folio 836

Further information is available by contacting Leah Boehme on (08) 9041 1611 or email the following: [emcs@merredin.wa.gov.au](mailto:emcs@merredin.wa.gov.au)

Offers are to be marked "Private & Confidential – disposal of property Do1-2023," addressed to the Chief Executive Officer, and will be received up to 12:00pm WST on Friday, 14 July 2023. Offers are to be submitted via email to [admin@merredin.wa.gov.au](mailto:admin@merredin.wa.gov.au) (preferred), posted to PO Box 42, Merredin WA 6415, or hand delivered to the Shire Administration Office, corner of King and Barrack Streets, Merredin WA 6415, during normal business hours. Late offers will not be accepted.

**Lisa Clack**

*Chief Executive Officer*

22 June 2023




## Join the 2023 Gala Night Working Group!


Calling all passionate individuals in our community! The Shire of Merredin's highly anticipated Gala Night is fast approaching, and we want YOU to be part of the magic.

We are looking for people to join our 2023 Gala Night Working Group, including individuals, local stakeholders, business groups, and organisations.

Submit an Expression of Interest by completing the form on the Shire website here [bit.ly/galanightworkinggroup](https://bit.ly/galanightworkinggroup).

For more information, please contact Leanne Bryant on (08) 9041 3295 or email [mcc@merredin.wa.gov.au](mailto:mcc@merredin.wa.gov.au).







**MERREDIN REGIONAL LIBRARY**



*Presents*

## JULY PHOTO DISPLAY

..... Featuring Merredin since 1910 .....



**BUSINESSES | STREETS | MAPS**

Photographs from the Barbara Hall and Bob Abell Collection, and the Merredin Library Memorabilia Collection



HONOURING VIETNAM VETERANS 57 YEARS ON  
FROM THE BATTLE OF LONG TAN

# LONG TAN DAY

*Lest We Forget*

**FRIDAY, 18 AUGUST 2023**

REFLECTION POND - ROY LITTLE PARK

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

We invite all members of the community to join the Long Tan Day committee, to assist in the planning and delivering of Long Tan Day service in 2024. Please register your interest by emailing Leanne via [mcc@merredin.wa.gov.au](mailto:mcc@merredin.wa.gov.au) or phone 9041 3295



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The Restricted Burning Period will commence on 16 September 2023, and will continue until 31 October 2023, and from 18 February 2024 until 16 March 2024 (permits required).

The Prohibited Burning Period will commence on 1 November 2023, and will continue until 17 February 2024 (NO burning).



## VISITOR CENTRE

Our favourite time of year is fast approaching as the Wheatbelt transforms into a kaleidoscope of colour with wildflowers blooming and crops transforming! With wildflower season just around the corner, we have a wide range of guides to assist you identifying species while out exploring our rocks and reserves. Prices range from \$6.95 to \$49.95.



## 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





## FIRE SAFETY

### Home Fire Safety

*By Sheree Lowe, Emergency Services Officer*

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 arrives. 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 injury, a fire blanket should be used instead. Fire blankets are inexpensive and can be purchased from a number of retailers in Merredin. Keep one in your kitchen, and practice using it – there are directions on the blanket housing, and easy demonstrations on Youtube.

#### Electrical appliances

- ▶ Only use licensed electrical contractors (Merredin has plenty of great ones!) to install or repair 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. Ensure 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 a lot of computers or other electrical devices in the house, have one of our 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 definitely worth going to the effort to clean and maintain your fireplace and chimney each year. 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 any of these, visit the link below.

[www.dfes.wa.gov.au/hazard-information/fire-in-the-home/preventing](http://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/hazard-information/fire-in-the-home/preventing)



## LIBRARY

### New Library System

The Merredin Library has now moved to a new Library Management System from Saturday, 1 July 2023 onwards.

Your current membership barcodes will work on the new system so there is no need to rejoin, and there will be no change to how borrowers access the e-resources.

Please be patient with staff as they adjust to the new system.

### Premier's Reading Challenge

The Premier's Reading Challenge is a four month voyage through the enchanting world of books. This literacy engagement program was established in 2022 to encourage students to read more books and improve literacy levels. Each week, students who log their reading achievements will be eligible to win a prize.

There are two weekly prize draws which are divided into age categories:

- ▶ Kindergarten to Year 4; and
- ▶ Year 5 to Year 10.

Prizes include a zip-line experience from the Matagarup Bridge, wireless headphones, a Perth Zoo family pass, cinema vouchers and much more!

The Merredin Library has more than 600 of the recommended 7000 titles to read.

Register at the below link to start your reading journey:

<https://www.premiersreadingchallenge.wa.edu.au/>





**BINGO**

**LAST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH**

**1:30PM - 3:00PM | MERREDIN LIBRARY**

FREE OVER 50'S EVENT  
FEEL FREE TO BRING ALONG SOME NIBBLES!  
TEA AND COFFEE PROVIDED

**FUN, WACKY PRIZES FOR WINNERS!**

**MERREDIN REGIONAL LIBRARY**



**COMING THIS AUGUST!**

**LEGO CLUB**

**FOR AGES 5 - 14 YEARS**

**LIMITED SPOTS AVAILABLE**

*Expressions of interest are encouraged  
Please contact the Merredin Library using the details below  
All donations of LEGO will be gratefully accepted*

**THIS IS A FREE PROGRAM RUN BY THE MERREDIN LIBRARY!**

For more information please  
contact Wendy at the Library  
Telephone: (08) 9041 1222  
library@merredin.wa.gov.au  
www.merredin.wa.gov.au  
facebook/ShireofMerredin

**MERREDIN REGIONAL LIBRARY**

## Wildflower Season is here!

The Wildflower season for the Eastern Wheatbelt has officially begun, with the first sprouts of colour popping up in all of your favourite wildflower spots!

Over 980 species have been recorded in the Shire of Merredin alone. Species of acacia and eucalypt make up the majority, but also included are 47 species of orchids and numerous species of hakea, grevillea, verticordia and other varieties of heath land plants.

In the Merredin townsite, reserves such as Tamma Parkland and Merredin Peak are worth exploring, while it is also worth visiting Caw Street and Totadgin Conservation Park.

If you find any flowers in the Shire of Merredin before the Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre (CWVC) do, please let them know through Facebook. You can also email information and photos through to [visitor@merredin.wa.gov.au](mailto:visitor@merredin.wa.gov.au) or phone the CWVC on 9041 1666. Please provide your name and if known, the botanical name of the wildflowers in your images.

For state-wide information on Wildflower hotspots the WA Visitor Centre has an online tracking of location of wildflower sites here: [bit.ly/wildflowertracker](http://bit.ly/wildflowertracker)





# JULY

## SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN

**4 JULY** **Fantastic Flying Things**  
Make 3 different flying things – a plane, a whirligig and a bat plane

**5 JULY** **Winter Wonderland**  
Join Amity Health and WACHS for another fun craft session!

**6 JULY** **Jigsaws**  
Create your very own jigsaws!

**11 JULY** **Clay Fun!**  
Make multi coloured clay creatures or fun clay animals

**13 JULY** **Paper Dragons**  
Two fun paper dragons to make

**PARENTAL SUPERVISION REQUIRED FOR ALL CHILDREN UNDER 10**

Bookings essential | Limit of 40 participants | No walk-ins  
All sessions are 10:30am - 11:30am - Come dressed for fun!

**ALL ACTIVITIES ARE \$2 PER PARTICIPANT**

BOOK YOUR PLACE BY CALLING THE LIBRARY ON (08) 9041 1222

For more information please contact Wendy at the Library  
Telephone: (08) 9041 1222  
library@merredin.wa.gov.au  
www.merredin.wa.gov.au  
facebook.com/ShireofMerredin

**MERREDIN REGIONAL LIBRARY**

# NAIDOC WEEK

FREE MOVIE & SNACKS!

FOR OUR ELDERLY  
2-9 JULY 2023

## THE LAST DAUGHTER

BY BRENDA MATTHEWS

“We can't change the Nation or the world without first changing ourselves”

**COME ALONG TO THE MERREDIN CINEMA FOR A FREE MOVIE!**  
KIDS ENJOY ICE CREAM AND POPCORN, WHILE ADULTS CAN RELAX WITH TEA AND CAKE!

To book your free tickets, scan the QR Codes below

Saturday, 8 July 2023 - 10:15am      Sunday, 9 July 2023 - 3:10pm

MERREDIN

MERREDIN YOUTH COMMITTEE PRESENTS

# BLUE LIGHT DISCO

**GOLD COIN ENTRY**

**FRIDAY | 28TH JULY 2023**

**DRESS AS SOMEONE INSPIRATIONAL TO YOU**

CUMMINS THEATRE

CHECK OUT OUR FB PAGE FOR MORE INFO

# Morning Melodies

DAVID SCHEEL IN...

## DON'T SHOOT ME, I'M ONLY THE PIANO PLAYER!

A MORNING OF CLASSICAL MUSIC AND COMEDY

**Cummins Theatre**  
**Friday, 4 August 2023**  
Morning Tea at 10.30am  
Concert starts 11am  
**Bookings Essential \$15**  
Morning Tea is included in ticket price

Tickets available at [Cumminstheatre.com.au](http://Cumminstheatre.com.au)  
or Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre