



Shire of Merredin Welcomes New Councillors

Following the October 16 Local Government Ordinary Postal Elections, four candidates were elected to the role of Councillor for the Shire of Merredin for a term of 4 years. The Shire would like to congratulate and welcome the newly elected and re-elected Councillors for 2021; Donna Crook, Julie Flockart, Megan Simmonds, and Romolo Patroni.

The Councillors Elect were sworn in to their positions by Temporary CEO Mark Dacombe prior to the October Ordinary Council Meeting on Tuesday, 19 October at 4pm.

The Shire would also like to congratulate the new Shire President Mark McKenzie, and Deputy President Leah Boehme, whose terms will expire in 2023.



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November Council Meeting

The next Ordinary Council Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 16 November at 4:00pm. This meeting will be held at the Shire Administration 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 on Friday, 12 November. Public questions can be submitted by 2.00pm on the day of the council meeting by completing the form here: www.merredin.wa.gov.au/council-meetings/



Why don't we get the jab?

COVID-19 is here to stay, and with New South Wales opening their border to international travellers, it won't be long before Western Australia will once again be threatened by the pandemic which has caused havoc across the globe.

Merredin as of 17 October 2021 has one of the lowest vaccination rates in the Wheatbelt, with just 63.6% percent of 15 years and above having received their first dose and only 43.6% having had their second.

When the borders open up and people begin to flock to Western Australia, with these low rates we will be left exposed and have more chance of contracting COVID-19, ultimately becoming very ill which will place more stress on the Western Australian Health System.

On Thursday, October 21, Premier Mark McGowan announced his mandate rules that may soon enforce workers to have both vaccinations by either the end of this year or early 2022. The consequence is they will be unable to go to work and will not be able to remain employed.

The jobs were broken down into three areas, 'High-Risk Work Sites', 'Critical Work-sites' and 'In the Event of a Lockdown'. Suffice to say this means High Risk work sites will have to have their second dose by 31 December 2021. These jobs include primary and community health workers, police and corrective services officers, and meat workers in abattoirs and meat processing.

Critical work sites will have to have their second dose by January 2022, including supermarkets, schools, restaurants, childcare, financial institutions and yes, even funeral directors such as myself. The changes will effect at least 75% of WA's workforce.

In my role as Shire President, I participated in a meeting two weeks ago talking about the roll out of the Wheatbelt

COVID-19 Vaccination Drive which continues in Merredin on Monday, 22 November until Wednesday, 24 November at the Merredin Regional Library. You can walk in with your Medicare card and get your jab without making an appointment. It would be great to see our numbers rise from such a fantastic initiative that we are lucky to be a part of.

So, what I am asking is let's get our numbers up, call into your doctor and ask for an appointment or head to the walk-in clinics at the library and 'Roll up for WA!'

Mark McKenzie
Shire President



Eric Hind Scholarship - Applications Now Open!

Applications are now open for the 2021-22 'Eric Hind Music Scholarship'. This annual music scholarship is awarded to a young talented music student to the value of \$1,000. It is awarded by the Shire of Merredin and named in honour of Mr Eric Hind as recognition and acknowledgement for his contribution to the Shire as a Councillor and his accomplishments as a violinist.

Applicants must be aged 11 – 19 years and be a music student. An applicant must reside in Merredin or alternatively, they may be a boarding school student who has previously been a student at Merredin College or St Mary's Primary School.

All applications must be received at the Shire of Merredin Administration Centre, cnr King & Bates Streets or via email to ea@merredin.wa.gov.au. Applications close 1 December 2021.

The scholarship will be awarded at the 2022 Australia Day Breakfast to be hosted by the CRC.

Roll up for WA

COVID-19 Vaccination

Get your COVID-19 vaccinations at GP's, state-run clinics and pharmacies.



GALA NIGHT

Save the Date

16 DECEMBER

BARRACK & BATES STREETS **6PM - 9PM**

If you would like to hold a market stall, please email media@merredin.wa.gov.au or call the Shire on (08) 9041 1611.

Calling all Gala Night Stallholders!

The Shire are now welcoming stallholder applications for the 2021 Gala Night.

Application forms can be downloaded from the Shire website and handed in to the Shire Administration Office or emailed through to media@merredin.wa.gov.au. The stallholder fee is \$15 and can be paid either over the phone or in person at the Admin Building.

Mosquito Season

Mosquitoes can breed around your home and lay eggs in fresh or salty water, and often in containers that hold water. Common breeding sites include pot plant drip trays, ponds, pet bowls, old tyres and rubbish that may collect water.

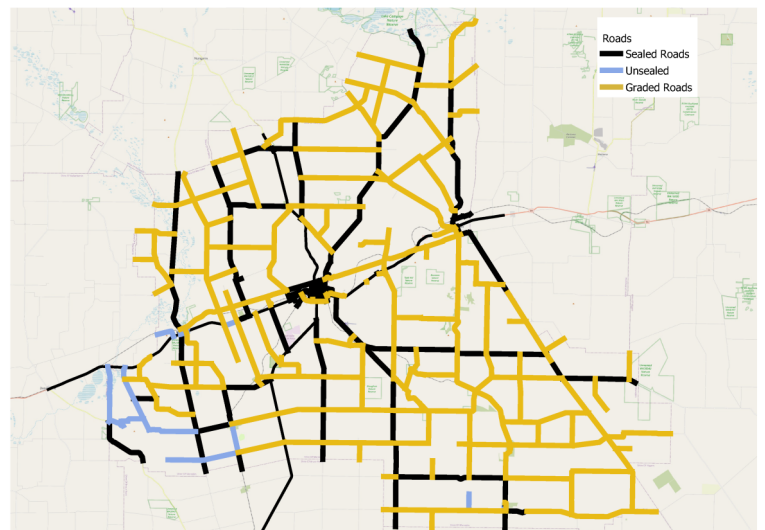
Stop mosquitos breeding by following these steps;

1. Empty out containers and rubbish that may hold water.
2. Clean out roof gutters to prevent water from pooling.
3. Keep swimming pools properly maintained / free of debris
4. Cover rainwater and septic tank openings

ENGINEERING

Grading Update

As of November 1, the Shire's outside crew have completed 842km of grading of unsealed roads, with just 38km left to complete this year. The map below depicts the unsealed roads left to be completed in blue, while the completed roads are also shown in yellow.



New Mower

The Shire have recently acquired a new lawnmower as part of the Engineering departments ongoing commitment to the beautification of the town.





JOB VACANCIES

Finance Officer

Commencing: Immediately

Position Status: Full Time

(From \$58,937 - Dependent on Experience)

The Shire of Merredin is seeking a Finance Officer to join our Administration team. The successful applicant should have well developed customer service skills. A background in finance and administration would be well regarded. This role covers all aspects of debtors and creditors, and also includes the requirement to process vehicle licensing. Experience using SynergySoft would be ideal, but not essential as full training will be given.

Conditions of employment will be in accordance with the Local Government Industry Award 2020 and the salary designated from Level 7, Step 1. A position description and information package is available on the Shire of Merredin website or by contacting Leticia Richards on careers@merredin.wa.gov.au. Written applications addressing the selection criteria and including a detailed resume and references marked 'Confidential Application – Finance Officer' and addressed to the Chief Executive Officer and emailed to careers@merredin.wa.gov.au by 12.00pm, Friday 12 November 2021.

Cummins Theatre Manager

Commencing: Immediately

Position Status: Full Time

(\$72,040 - \$77,034 plus benefits)

The Shire of Merredin is seeking a person with drive and enthusiasm to manage the Cummins Theatre and to encourage and promote cultural and artistic activities in the district.

The heritage-listed Cummins Theatre is the centrepiece of professional entertainment, cultural and artistic expression in Merredin and the Central Wheatbelt. You will manage all aspects of event, entertainment and performance management within the facility, identifying opportunities for artistic endeavours throughout the district, encourage a broad range of professional and community involvement in artistic and cultural performance and lend assistance to designated Shire staff in conserving and protecting the

Theatre.

This position is offered with an attractive package that will be negotiated with the successful applicant and will be dependent upon experience and qualifications. Further information can be obtained by contacting the Chief Executive Officer, Lisa Clack on (08) 9041 1611.

A position description and information package is available below, or by contacting Leticia Richards on careers@merredin.wa.gov.au. Written applications addressing the selection criteria and including a detailed resume and references marked 'Confidential Application – Cummins Theatre Manager' addressed to the Chief Executive Officer and emailed to careers@merredin.wa.gov.au by 12.00pm, Friday 12 November 2021.

Welcoming the Shire's New CEO

The Shire of Merredin would like to welcome our new Chief Executive Officer to the team, Lisa Clack. Lisa has joined us from the Shire of East Pilbara, and has many years experience working at both a local government and state government level.

A Message From Lisa

"Thank you for the warm welcome I have received so far and I am looking forward to meeting more people as I settle in.

I'm excited to be able to join with Councillors, the community and Council staff as we work together on a number of exciting projects for the region."



Shire Facility Christmas Hours

	Administration	Visitors Centre	Cummins Theatre	Library	Swimming Pool	Landfill Site
20 Dec	8.30am - 4.30pm	8.30am - 4.30pm	9.00am - 3.00pm	10.00am - 5.00pm	12.00pm - 6.00pm	7.30am - 12.00pm 12.30pm - 3.30pm
21 Dec	8.30am - 4.30pm	8.30am - 4.30pm	9.00am - 3.00pm	10.00am - 5.00pm	12.00pm - 6.00pm	7.30am - 12.00pm 12.30pm - 3.30pm
22 Dec	8.30am - 4.30pm	8.30am - 4.30pm	9.00am - 3.00pm	10.00am - 5.00pm	12.00pm - 6.00pm	7.30am - 12.00pm 12.30pm - 3.30pm
23 Dec	8.30am - 4.30pm	8.30am - 4.30pm	9.00am - 3.00pm	10.00am - 6.00pm	12.00pm - 6.00pm	7.30am - 12.00pm 12.30pm - 3.30pm
24 Dec	8.30am - 12.00pm	8.30am - 4.30pm	9.00am - 12.00pm	10.00am - 12.00pm	12.00pm - 6.00pm	7.30am - 12.00pm 12.30pm - 3.30pm
25 Dec	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
26 Dec	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	2.00pm - 6.00pm	CLOSED
27 Dec	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	12.00pm - 6.00pm	7.30am - 12.00pm 12.30pm - 3.30pm
28 Dec	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	12.00pm - 6.00pm	7.30am - 12.00pm 12.30pm - 3.30pm
29 Dec	CLOSED	9.00am - 1.00pm	CLOSED	CLOSED	12.00pm - 6.00pm	7.30am - 12.00pm 12.30pm - 3.30pm
30 Dec	CLOSED	9.00am - 1.00pm	CLOSED	CLOSED	12.00pm - 6.00pm	7.30am - 12.00pm 12.30pm - 3.30pm
Dec	CLOSED	9.00am - 1.00pm	CLOSED	CLOSED	12.00pm - 6.00pm	7.30am - 12.00pm 12.30pm - 3.30pm
1 Jan	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	12.00pm - 6.00pm	CLOSED
2 Jan	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	12.00pm - 6.00pm	10.00am - 12.00pm 12.30pm - 3.00pm
3 Jan	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	12.00pm - 6.00pm	7.30am - 12.00pm
4 Jan	8.30am - 4.30pm	8.30am - 4.30pm	9.00am - 3.00pm	10.00am - 5.00pm	12.00pm - 6.00pm	7.30am - 12.00pm

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

Ranger Services: 0400 240 787 | Town Maintenance Supervisor: 0429 411 412 | In an Emergency, please call 000

2022 Council Meeting Dates

Ordinary Council Meetings for 2022 will be held on the fourth Tuesday of the month, with the exception of December, in the Council Chambers at the Shire Administration Building commencing at 4.00pm on the following dates; 25 January, 22 February, 22 March, 26 April, 24 May, 28 June, 26 July, 23 August, 27 September, 25 October 22 November, and 13 December. Members of the public are welcome to attend.





FIRE SAFETY

Harvest Bans and Total Fire Bans

As we come into fire season, we will start to encounter Harvest and Vehicle Movement Bans and Total Fire Bans.

Harvest and Vehicle Movement Bans are put in place when conditions are such that the use of engines, vehicles, plant or machinery constitute high bushfire risk activities. They are imposed when the expected weather predictions indicate that if a fire were to start, it would be dangerous, destructive and difficult to stop.

Total Fire Bans are declared by DFES when severe weather conditions are forecast, or when widespread fires mean they don't have the resources to fight more.

On Total Fire Ban days, it is illegal to light an open-air fire or conduct any activity that could start a fire, including using barbeques or pizza ovens that burn solid fuel, using welders or grinders outside, or using equipment powered by an internal combustion engine in area with vegetation.

Visit www.dfes.wa.gov.au to see a full list of what you can and can't do in a Total Fire Ban, and www.emergency.wa.gov.au to check if there's a Total Fire Ban in effect.

To check if there is a Harvest Ban in place in the Shire of Merredin, ring 9041 2999. To receive SMS alerts from the Shire of Merredin advising of Harvest Bans, please email the Media Officer via media@merredin.wa.gov.au.

Extended Restricted Burning Period

Under the Shire of Merredin delegation authority number DL5.2 Burning, Prohibited and Restricted Times (Variations) I, the undersigned authorised delegate, in consultation with the Shire of Merredin Chief Bush Fire Control Officer, agree to **EXTEND** the Restricted Burning Period for two (2) weeks, until Sunday, 14 November 2021.

Shire of Merredin Fire Control Officers consulted

Authorised CALM Act 1984 Officer from Parks and Wildlife consulted

Councillor Mark McKenzie

Shire President

Date: 28 October 2021

Firebreaks Reminder

A reminder to residents that firebreaks were due to be completed by Monday, 1 November 2021. Firebreak Inspections will commence shortly to ensure compliance with the Shire of Merredin's Firebreak Notice.

Failure to comply with the 'Fire Break order' may result in the issuing of a modified penalty from the Shire.

For properties in town under 2000sqm, your land must now be cleared of flammable materials; for properties over 2000sqm, firebreaks 3m wide must have been installed.

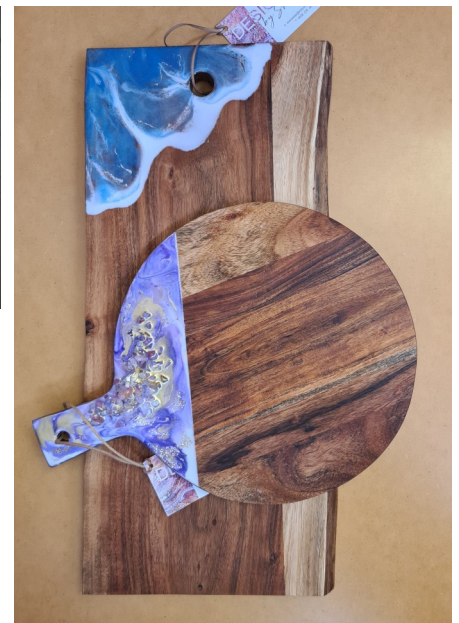
For all town properties, all grass must be no higher than 5cm, and all roofs, gutters and walls of buildings must be free of flammable matter.

What's On Offer at the Visitor Centre

The visitor's centre is now selling Poppy's for Remembrance Day. The red poppy symbolises remembrance, commemorating those who have made the ultimate sacrifice in times of war. The donation of \$5 goes to the RSL General Appeals Patriotic Fund.

The visitor's centre also has a great selection of products made by local makers and creators. When you choose locally made gifts you get a gift that is truly unique. Designs by Sheree have a beautiful selection of wooden and resin serving boards, perfect for all year round entertaining.

We also have some beautiful gifts for lovers of wildflowers, notebooks, gift cards, mugs, books, seeds and of course the famous CWA cookbooks. We have a large range of products so why not pop in and have a browse, we'd love to see you!



Merredin Pool OPEN!

The Merredin District Olympic Swimming Pool is now open as of Monday, 1 November 2021, with early morning swimming commencing Monday, 8 November 2021.

The pool will be open daily from 12pm to 6pm, with early morning swimming held Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 6am - 7.30am. Please note, the pool will be closed on Christmas Day and will open at 2pm on Boxing Day.

Entry prices to the pool are as follows;

Adult	\$4.50
Child*	\$3.50
Season Pass - Adult	\$232
Season Pass - Child*	\$134
Family Season Pass (2 Adults 4 Children)	\$335
Family Season Pass Per Additional Child*	\$28.50
Family Half Season Pass (Valid until 12 Jan 2022)	\$232
10 Day Pass - Adult	\$41
10 Day Pass - Child*	\$31
Monthly Pass - Adult	\$82
Monthly Pass - Child*	\$62
Private Hire (per hour)	\$136
Vacation Swimming Lessons Per Day	\$3.50
School Swimming Carnivals	\$1.50
Spectators	\$1.50
Child Under 5	Free

* Children must be currently attending school to qualify for Child rates

Season tickets can be purchased from the pool, however the pool can only accept cash payments. For EFTPOS, please visit the Shire Office located on the Cnr of King and Barrack Streets.

Screen Printing in the Merredin Library

10 aspiring screen printers enjoyed a productive session in the Merredin Library on Thursday, 28 October. Our budding artists were shown how to create a stencil and the best way to apply the stencil to fabric. There were some very colourful and clever bags and tea towels made throughout the morning.

Their teacher was WA based visual artist Louise Snook. Louise specializes in dyeing, felt making and screen printing methods and enjoys teaching these techniques to others. Louise was brought to Merredin as part of the Awesome Artist Residency program in cooperation with the State Library of WA.

The workshop was free to participants with all materials supplied. The workshop was limited to 10 people but it is hoped that Louise will be back in the New Year to offer new workshops!



Farewell, Mark!

As many of you know, Mark Dacombe joined us at the Shire of Merredin as the Temporary CEO at the start of 2020. Though his position was only an interim position, things quickly changed when the COVID-19 pandemic hit. Now almost 2 years on, Mark is leaving his role at the Shire and heading back to his business in Perth.

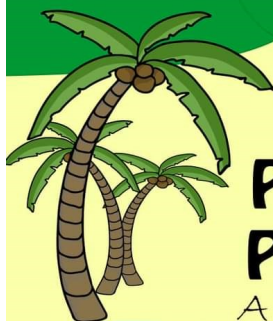
Mark was involved in many successful projects and events, such as the Piazza and Gateway Merredin, and was a key driving force behind the new Strategic Community Plan, and the Corporate Business Plan.

It has been a pleasure having Mark with us, and wish him all the best for his future endeavours.



"The Pirate Prince" by Judith Prior
by arrangement with David Spicer Productions
www.davidspicer.com.au

Friday 5 November
Saturday 6 November
Friday 12 November
Saturday 13 November
Sunday 14 November



The Pirate Prince

A Two Act Musical



Tickets:
Regular \$20
Concession \$15

Fri/Sat 7pm - BYO Supper
Sunday 2pm - Afternoon tea \$5

Bar available

Doors open half hour before show

Tickets available at Trybooking or via the Cummins Theatre website

<https://www.trybooking.com/BUVNF>



Language warning
Adult themes

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Lest We Forget

THURSDAY, 11 NOVEMBER 2021
VISITORS CENTRE LAWN

All are welcome to attend!

- PROGRAM -

- 10.30AM - Flags lowered to half mast
- 10.58AM - The Ode
- 10.59AM - The Last Post
- 11.00AM - One Minutes Silence
- 11.01AM - Rouse
- 11.02AM - Advance Australia Fair



SHIRE OF MERREDIN
INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT

NEW HORIZONS PRO WRESTLING
NOV 20

MERREDIN MAYHEM
THE RETURN

PERTHWRESTLING.COM.AU/MERREDIN - DOORS 6:30PM, SHOW 7PM
CUMMINS THEATRE, 31 BATES ST, MERREDIN

HERESY DESIGN & PRODUCTION

A Windmill Theatre Company Production

Grug

Based on the much-loved picture book character created by Ted Prior

FOR AGES 2-6

"He's like the Elmo of down under"
NEW YORK TIMES

MORNING SHOW AT 10:00AM
AFTERNOON SHOW AT 1:30PM
Run Time: 35 mins

24 NOVEMBER 2021
CUMMINS THEATRE, MERREDIN

Book at windmill.org.au | cumminstheatre.com.au

WINDMILL THEATRECO | lotterywest | Government of South Australia | Australia Council for the Arts