



SHIRE OF
MERREDIN
INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT

COMMUNITY NEWS & INFORMATION

FEBRUARY 2022

Auspire Citizen of the Year Awards

On the morning of Wednesday, 26 January 2022, the community gathered at the Merredin Community Resource Centre (CRC) for the Australia Day Breakfast, where the Shire awarded the 2022 Auspire Community Citizen of the Year awards.

Shire President Mark McKenzie was called to the stage at 9.30am for the awards presentation. He began by thanking the Merredin CRC staff and volunteers for organising the event, and then spoke about the importance of Australia Day. "It is an opportunity for all Australians to come together as a nation to reflect, respect and celebrate. Reflect on our history and its highs and lows, respect the stories of others, and celebrate our nation, its achievements and most of all, its people," he said. Councillor McKenzie then read out the nominations for the following categories;

- Citizen of the Year;** Chesney Maloney, Kristy Sharp, and Tyler Winter
- Senior Citizen of the Year;** Jane Patroni and Margaret Dalton
- Young Citizen of the Year;** Alan Pryce and Maddie Earle-Sadler
- Active Citizenship;** Merredin Youth Committee and Petticoat Lane Op Shop.



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February Council Meeting

The next Ordinary Council Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 22 February 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 website. 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/



Citizen of the Year - Tyler Winter

Tyler is an exemplary member of the Merredin community who is consistently giving his time to many initiatives since arriving in Merredin. He has been heavily involved in the recommencement of the Merredin Blue Light Unit and in addition to the hours he commits through his work, he has also committed a large number of volunteer hours. Tyler has been imperative in the formulation of the Merredin Youth Committee and is involved in both the St John volunteer ambulance and Merredin Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service.



Senior Citizen of the Year - Jane Patroni

Jane is a committed St John Ambulance volunteer and Chairperson of the Merredin Railway Museum. She is proactive in hosting events to encourage volunteers and involve ex railway workers. Her community involvement also extends to the Catholic Church Parish and the Merredin CRC Committee. Jane demonstrates active Citizenship by not only being involved in the community herself, but also by being inclusive and encouraging others to be engaged in community projects.



Youth Citizen of the Year - Maddie Earle-Sadler

Maddie is Merredin's local youth worker, and since starting in the role in April last year, Maddie has already achieved an incredible amount and has built the Youth Centre up to be an inviting and positive place for our youth to attend. She has organised many programs, giving young people opportunities to build skills, self-worth and develop friendships. Maddie is also a member of the Community Suicide Prevention Group, is a part of the Merredin Blue Light Ball committee and volunteers her time for Eastern Districts Hockey Association.



Active Citizenship - Petticoat Lane

Petticoat Lane is a not-for-profit community kitchen and op-shop run by a small group of volunteers. They provide emergency packs for the homeless, knit beanies for premature babies and run a community kitchen that offer free meals to the vulnerable. At times they have provided over 80 hot and nutritious meals to people in need in the Merredin area. There are many people in Merredin in need of a decent meal, connection with others and care and the volunteers of the Petticoat Lane Community Kitchen provide this on a weekly basis.



Proof of Vaccination Required at Cummins Theatre

Based on the latest health advice from the WA State Government, from January 31, 2022 onward, proof of COVID-19 vaccination requirements for people aged 16 years and over will apply to the Cummins Theatre. You will be required to show your proof of vaccination certificate along with valid ID when entering.

Refund Policy


Refunds will be offered to people who have purchased tickets to Cummins Theatre shows prior to 31 January, 2022, and are unable to provide proof of vaccination.

There are no refunds on tickets purchased after 31 January, 2022, as patrons must agree they are vaccinated and able to enter the venue as a condition of purchase. Refunds will only be offered to those who are either;

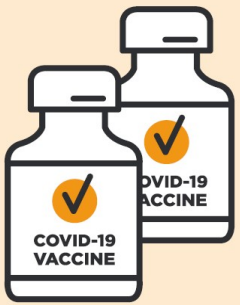
- ▶ In isolation awaiting a COVID-19 test result; or
- ▶ Are COVID-19 positive.

If you are feeling unwell prior to the show, we recommend that you stay home. Cummins Theatre staff reserve the right to refuse entry to ticketholders who are displaying COVID-19 symptoms. In this case, we will work with you to organise a refund.

If you purchase tickets for a show that is later cancelled due to the impacts of COVID-19 we will contact you and offer you two options; a refund, or an exchange of tickets for a future performance date.



COVID-19: Proof of vaccination



- ✓ 1st dose
- ✓ 2nd dose

Fully vaccinated means at least two doses

WA.gov.au



CBD Redevelopment — Visitor Centre Location

In an exciting development for the CBD Project, several locations in town are now currently being investigated for the placement of the Visitor Centre. These locations will need to meet specific requirements to ensure accreditation guidelines are met, as outlined by Tourism WA. It is expected that the most appropriate site to be selected within the coming months.

CBD Redevelopment — Call out for Contractors

Are you a local business that is interested in being part of one of the biggest redevelopments in Merredin? Then we have an exciting opportunity for you!

Construction for stages of the multi-million-dollar CBD revitalisation will be released in a number of public tenders in the coming months. It is expected that more than \$4.9 million will be injected into the local economy over the duration of the redevelopment and multiple associated projects.

A key priority for the Shire is to ensure that local suppliers and contractors have every opportunity to be involved in these projects. To achieve this, a price preference will be given to local companies, as well as to businesses using local sub-contractors, during the tender process.

To connect local businesses with construction companies, the Shire is creating a list that will be provided to all companies registering an interest in submitting a tender for the works.

Any local businesses, big or small, that would like to be included on this list should provide the following details to tenders@merredin.wa.gov.au by COB Friday, 11 February 2022.

- ▶ Business Name
- ▶ Contact Name
- ▶ Contact Number
- ▶ Contact Email
- ▶ Brief description of Goods or Services
- ▶ ABN

For any queries regarding the above, please contact the Shire on (08) 9041 1611.

Welcoming a new member to the Admin Team

Last month we welcomed Jimmy Corby to the Corporate Services Administration Team. James has previous experience working in finance at Community Bank. He has now moved to Merredin and is looking forward to calling it home.

“Thank you to everyone for the warm and heartfelt welcome to Merredin.

I think what I am most excited about in my new role at the Shire is to connect with the locals within the Shire and to form a connection with the town,” Jimmy said.



Welcoming back a Familiar Face

Join us in welcoming Robyn Anderson back to the Corporate Services team here at the Shire! Robyn first joined the Shire team in late 2013 as the Finance Officer before transitioning into the records role until September 2016. Now, after more than 5 years, Robyn has returned to the Admin Office to reprise her finance role.

“I’m excited to be back at the Shire after all these years!

All the new staff have been very welcoming and helpful while I find my feet in this role,” Robyn said.



Australia Day Pool Party

The Australia Day celebrations continued into the afternoon of Wednesday, 26 January. At 12pm, the Merredin District Olympic Swimming Pool opened its doors to the public for the free pool party, with approximately 283 people coming through the venue for the day.

Lindon, the Shire’s Executive Manager Engineering Services, and Daniel, the Manager of Projects, were on BBQ duty (pictured right) for the day, cooking the sausages and onions for the sausage sizzle which all of the patrons enjoyed!

For the second year running, the Volunteer Fire and Rescue Team also brought along their inflatable obstacle course which they set up as a slide into the pool. Both kids and adults raced each other for ultimate glory on the inflatable, before enjoying a dip in the cool water under the blaring hot sun.

Thank you to Collgar Wind Farm for supporting the event, and to the Pool and shire staff for putting on a fantastic event for people of all ages to get involved with.





Mask-wearing will be mandatory at all indoor public settings in the Wheatbelt and Great Southern

Effective 6.00pm today, Thursday 27 January



Anyone who has been in the Wheatbelt or Great Southern since Thursday, 20 January and has entered another regional area will also be required to follow the mask rules.

Some exemptions apply, including for people with disabilities, people doing vigorous indoor exercise and children in primary school or younger.

More information can be found at www.wa.gov.au

Now Hiring - Community Development Coordinator

The Shire of Merredin is currently seeking a suitably experienced person to join our team as a Community Development Coordinator.

The Community Development Coordinator plays an integral role in the Shire of Merredin's Community Services team. In this position you will represent the Shire in various aspects of community life, from engaging with community groups and organisations, to club development planning, youth programming, and event planning and liaison with other event organisers. You will be involved in the development of policy and strategies within the Community Services team and also play a key role in the Shire's grant writing program.

Applications are to include a CV, Statement of Claims against the Selection Criteria, and a covering letter (max 2 pages) indicating your ability to meet the role requirements. Applicants are required to address the selection criteria.

A position description can be obtained online on the Shire of Merredin website. Alternatively, you can contact the Shire on (08) 9041 1611 during office hours or via email careers@merredin.wa.gov.au.

Applications are to be received by **no later than 5.00pm, Friday, 18 February 2022**. Applications are to be marked "Private and Confidential" and emailed to careers@merredin.wa.gov.au or sent via post to PO Box 42 Merredin WA 6415.

Lisa Clack—Chief Executive Officer

Farewell, Ross!

Merredin's local driving assessor Ross Hudson, conducted his first driving test when the Merredin Shire offices first opened in 1996. Since then, Ross has conducted more than 7,500 tests, and has become a family favourite not only across our Shire, but also the wider Wheatbelt community.

Now 76 years young, Ross has conducted his final test and will be hanging up the steering wheel to enjoy retirement. The Shire would like to thank Ross for his continued service. We will certainly miss him and his enthusiastic smile, and wish him all the best for his future.



Welcoming our new Australian Citizens

At the Australia Day Breakfast seven people from three families, made the pledge to become an Australian Citizen in front of family and friends. Congratulations to the following people;

Adenike Adeniyi, Olugbenga Adeniyi and Semilogo Adeniyi
Mithu Joseph and Eloise Sanoop Scariah
Daphne McGrath and Keziyah McGrath (pictured below)



Merredin Regional Community & Leisure Centre

The updated Proof of Vaccination Directions have now come into effect as of 12.01pm, Monday, 31 January 2022.

As per the updated directions, proof of vaccination will NOT be required upon entry to the Merredin Regional Community & Leisure Centre if you are involved in;

- Community Sport; and/or
- Swimming and/or swimming lessons

For patrons who wish to use the Grandstand Bar and Restaurant or the Peak and Play & Café, proof of vaccinations will apply. Please note that this excludes takeaway orders.

For further information about the Proof of Vaccination Directions, please visit <https://www.wa.gov.au/government/publications/proof-of-vaccination-directions-no-2>



COMMUNITY FUNDING GRANT PROGRAM 2022/23

DOES YOUR COMMUNITY GROUP DESIRE FUNDING FOR A PROJECT?

Every year, the Shire of Merredin makes an allocation in its Annual Budget to provide funding to community groups for a variety of projects. We are pleased to announce that applications are now open for the 2022 Community Grant Funding Program. Applications must be received by Monday, 14 March 2022 at 5.00pm. Please note, late applications will not be considered.

Who can apply for funding?

To be eligible, you must be based in the Shire of Merredin and either an incorporated body or to be auspiced by an incorporated organisation.

What projects can be funded?

The community funding grant program will fund infrastructure, events or activities as relevant to your project, and alignment with the Shire's strategic vision. Examples of previous projects that funding was allocated to include:

- The installation of cabinet work at the Merredin Military Museum;
- In-kind support for events including the Merredin Show and Song Fest; and
- Specialised public art at Merredin College.

Download an Application Form from the Shire website via bit.ly/CommunityFundingGrants

For more information please contact Andrina at the Shire

Telephone: (08) 9041 1611 | dceo@merredin.wa.gov.au | www.merredin.wa.gov.au

THE CUMMINS THEATRE & WHISKEY & BOOTS PRESENTS

MAMA STITCH

STORIES ABOUT MUMS FROM THE COMMUNITY OF MERREDIN



We are delighted to be seeking stories from the community of Merredin about their Mums.

If you are keen to share stories about your relationship with your mother, please contact:

Meg Cethin
Ph: 0428 128 153
Em: megethin@gmail.com

Whiskey & Boots use storytelling, headphone verbatim and music and invite audiences to listen, reflect and celebrate their maternal line.

"I have not stopped telling people what an awesome experience it was!"

- Annette Peterson - Participant
Joondalup

stories - music - toast



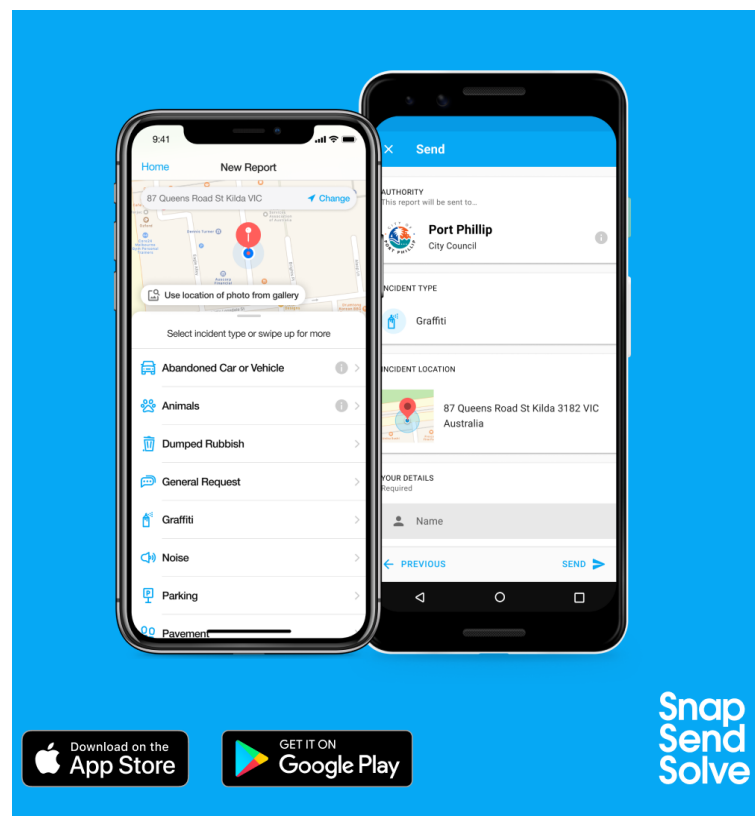
Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries



WHISKEY & BOOTS



CUMMINS THEATRE



Snap Send Solve

New at the Visitor Centre

Treat yourself to a range of Sandalwood beauty, skincare and lifestyle products from The Sandalwood Shop. We have in stock a range of gift packs including;

- ▶ **Simply Sandalwood**, containing body butter and a linen sachet of sandalwood chips
- ▶ **Love Your Skin**, containing a moisturising day cream and a body butter.
- ▶ **Mt Romance Daily Delights** gift pack, containing sandalwood shampoo & conditioner, SPF15 lip care stick, soap bar and bath salt sachet.
- ▶ **Mt Romance Relaxation Kit** containing Australian sandalwood oil, an inhalation scarf and relaxation instructions.

We also stock sandalwood hand sanitising gel, hand and nail cream, deodorant, reed diffusers and perfume.

The Sandalwood Shop is the worlds largest distillery of pure Australian Sandalwood oil with their unique range of Sandalwood beauty and lifestyle products manufactured on site in Albany WA.



Library Memorabilia Stolen

More than 40 items were stolen from the Merredin Regional Library memorabilia and history room.

These include vintage cameras, bottles, coins, and other memorabilia dating back from the early 1900's to the 1980's. All of the items are of historic value and are mostly donated from members of the public, and as such, are irreplaceable.

We are encouraging anyone who may have information relating to these items to please contact the Merredin Police on 13 14 44.



Showtime regretfully announces the postponement of the Hotel California—The Eagles Experience performance due to WA government's recent decision to continue border restrictions indefinitely.

The new performance date will be Tuesday, 1 February 2023.

All existing tickets will remain valid for the new performance date – this means you may bring your existing tickets to the new performance date and will be admitted as normal.

If you prefer a refund, please contact Cummins Theatre as soon as possible to submit your request.

We apologise for this inconvenience, and we thank all patrons for their continued understanding and support during these difficult times.

We look forward to bringing you the fantastic performance you've been waiting for on this new date.



Eric Hind Music Scholarship

Applications are now open for the 2022 '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 7 – 20 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.

Details for how to apply are available on the Shire website - visit www.merredin.wa.gov.au. Applications close 28 February 2022.



Aboriginal Art Workshop

By Artist – Robyn Davis of Kwobidjak Creations

Merredin CRC

16th & 17th Feb 2022

10am - 2.30pm

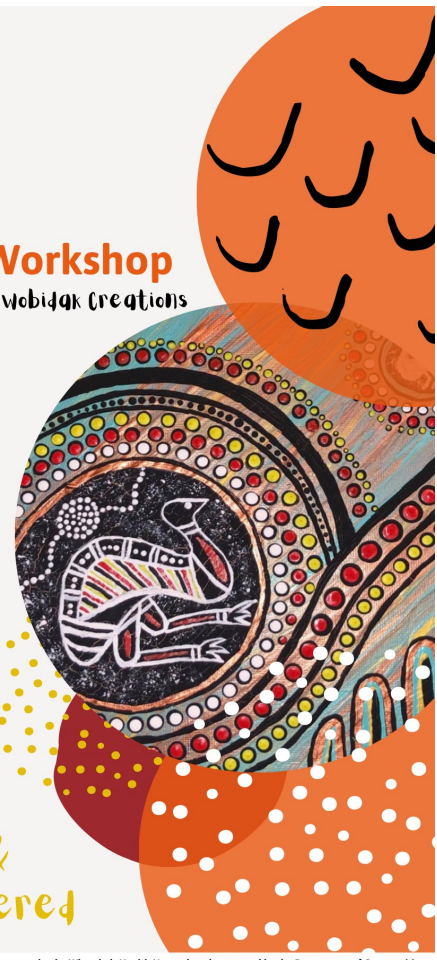
All Welcome - Inclusive Workshop
Ages 18+

- * Learn Aboriginal Culture
- * Understanding of Stories
- * Create Cultural Creations
- * Story telling through Art
- * Painting & Fabric Mediums Used

SEATS LIMITED, RSVP ESSENTIAL
Inclusive event for all abilities
Register online, or call 0458 809 759
www.wheatbelt.com.au/DecoArts



FREE &
Fully catered



Brought to you by the Wheatbelt Health Network and sponsored by the Department of Communities
Government of Western Australia
Department of Communities



MERREDIN

International Women's Day 2022

SATURDAY MARCH 12 | 11.15 AM

Cummins Theatre

3 Course luncheon with champagne on arrival
Tickets \$80 PP

GUEST SPEAKERS

Hon Mia Davies- Leader of the Opposition
Leader of the National Party WA
Sam Retallack-Head of People and Culture IGO Ltd
Claire O'Brien-Smith- Ultra Marathon Runner

Limited Tickets | Bookings by 25 February

Online Bookings-
<https://www.trybooking.com/BVVUN>

Proudly Sponsored by 

TWILIGHT MARKETS

Friday 25th February 2022





5 pm - 8 pm

Merredin CRC

CNR Barrack & Queen Streets

Food - Stalls - Entertainment

For more information
or to book a stall

-  9041 1041
-  administration4@merredincrc.com
-  Merredincrc.com
-  Merredin Community Resource Centre

"Meet me at the
markets!"

