



SHIRE OF
MERREDIN
INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT

COMMUNITY NEWS & INFORMATION

APRIL 2022

Amy Shark Tour Hitting Cummins Theatre

ARIA Award winning Artist Amy Shark is embarking on her biggest tour EVER, hitting the Cummins Theatre in Merredin on Sunday, 29 May this year!

Amy is an Australian indie pop singer-songwriter-guitarist and producer from the Gold Coast, Queensland.

The "I Said Hi" and "Everybody Rise" singer scored nine nominations at the 2018 ARIA Awards and four wins, including Album Of The Year, Best Female Artist and Best Pop Release.

Having just wrapped up her major-city arena tour, there are no signs of slowing down for Amy Shark! The 'See U Somewhere Australia' Tour is set to be one of the biggest tours the country has ever seen, with Amy hitting over FORTY towns and cities across every single state and territory.

Amy has toured internationally and performed on several major US television shows including The Late Late Show with James Corden and The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon and collaborated with renowned musicians in many genres such as Ed Sheeran, Travis Barker, and Keith Urban.

Amy will be supported by Perth based four piece band, Dulcie who will perform from 7.30pm—8pm on the night before Amy takes the stage at 8.30pm. This is an all ages event, and the Tivoli bar at the Theatre will be open for the duration of the performance.

While current ticket allocations for the show have been exhausted, members of the public are still able to join a waiting list should more tickets be released - bit.ly/as-waitlist

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April Ordinary Council Meeting

The next Ordinary Council Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 26 April 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/



AMY SHARK

SEE U SOMEWHERE AUSTRALIA TOUR 2022

MAY 19
BUNBURY, WA

MAY 20
MANDURAH, WA

MAY 21
MARGARET RIVER, WA

MAY 26
ALBANY, WA

MAY 27
ESPERANCE, WA

MAY 28
KALGOORLIE, WA

MAY 29
MERREDIN, WA

MAY 31
GERALDTON, WA

JUNE 02
KARRATHA, WA

JUNE 04
BROOME, WA

WITH SUPPORT FROM
DULCIE



TICKETS AT AMYSHARK.COM



cause interruption to water supply and damage property.

The new pipeline will be installed below ground via open excavation. While most of the new pipeline will be in the Hughes Road reserve, some sections will be installed within private farmlands. Where this is the case, the project team is in touch with directly impacted landowners and occupiers. Please note that existing and old sections of the pipeline will remain in place at the current time.

When is this happening?

This work will commence construction from Monday, 4 April 2022, and we expect the new pipeline to take approximately 9 months to construct. We will keep you updated as the work progresses.

Our contractor is working on a roster of 10 days with a four day break. Working hours will be between 6:30am and 6:00pm.

How will this impact me?

As with any construction activities you may notice an increase in activity, traffic movements, noise and trenching while we install the new pipeline. We will maintain access as best as possible to Great Eastern Highway from Hughes Road, as well as residential driveways, during construction.

We appreciate your patience with the temporary speed changes and possible detours as part of the traffic management during construction. There will also be some permanent speed changes to a section of Hughes Road to improve the road safety within in this area.

You may experience a temporary water supply disruption during this work. A written notice will be provided at least 48 hours prior to any planned outage.

How can I find out more?

Please contact Advisor Community Engagement, Grace Davies via email at Grace.Davies@watercorporation.com.au or by calling 9420 3812.

To visit the project webpage, navigate to Ongoing Works and search Merredin water pipeline upgrade or visit the link below.

www.watercorporation.com.au/Outages-and-works/Ongoing-Works/Merredin-Water-Pipeline-Upgrade

Subscribe to project updates via email

If you would like to subscribe to project updates via email, please get in touch using the above contact details.



Water Corporation Notice Pipeline Works in Merredin

Water Corporation will soon commence work to upgrade a 3.6km section of water pipeline along Hughes Road in Merredin. This is part of the Goldfields/Golden pipeline which supplies water to customers between Perth and Kalgoorlie.

The existing pipeline is aged and approaching end of life. This work is essential to ensure reliability of water supply to our customers throughout the Goldfields and Agricultural Regions. This will reduce the risk of leaks and breaks that can



ENGINEERING

CBD Redevelopment Upgrade

The Shire of Merredin released a private request for tender last month for the construction of Pioneer Park, which closed on 31 March. As part of this process, a Local Suppliers List was provided to each prospective Tenderer to promote the use of local businesses in the delivery of the works. It is expected that the contract for these services will be awarded in the first week of April, with construction of Pioneer Park scheduled to commence in late May/ early June.

Meanwhile, a Request for Tender for the detailed design of Apex Park and the Merredin Town Square has closed and will also be awarded to the successful contractor in the first week of April.

The detailed design services will include the creation of a place for the community to connect, an event space, upgrade to the intersection of Barrack and Bates Streets and the creation of a multi-generational park.

Construction of the Merredin Town Square and Apex Park is the next stage of the CBD Redevelopment project and builds upon the revitalisation of Pioneer Park. The aim of this project is to;

- ▶ Provide the Merredin CBD with an individual, natural identity;
- ▶ Provide the community with quality infrastructure and facilities;
- ▶ Improve the walkability of the town and promote community connectedness;
- ▶ Enhance key site-lines enticing passing tourists into the town centre;
- ▶ Promote Merredin as a cultural precinct and retail hub; and
- ▶ Support economic development in the region.

If you are a local business that is interested in being added to our contractors list for this project, please provide the following details to tenders@merredin.wa.gov.au;

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| ▶ Business Name | ▶ ABN |
| ▶ Contact Name | ▶ Brief description of goods or services |
| ▶ Contact Number | |
| ▶ Contact Email | |



CUMMINS THEATRE

Mama Stitch: Stories About Merredin Mums

By Libby MacCalman

Talented storytellers and musicians, Georgia King, Mark Storen, Holly Garvey and Tom Garvey farewelled the Cummins Theatre last Friday, with their season finale of Mama Stitch.

The visiting artists spent two weeks in Merredin collecting and recording stories from a selection of local residents before transforming the anecdotes into a series of exquisite performances celebrating mums and the special place they hold in our hearts.



The stories were presented as Headphone Verbatim, which involved actors Georgia and Mark wearing headphones and delivering the recorded interviews as they heard them – live, in character and without embellishment. The pair were extraordinary, as they seamlessly captured the essence of the tales that they were recounting.

The stories were underscored with original music and songs that had been inspired by the recollections and memories shared.

Warm, funny, wistful, and at times confronting, there was no shortage of heart in this evocative and touching theatre production that left audience members reflecting on relationships and the moments shared with their own mothers.



Pulse oximeter What you need to know!

- Are you non-Aboriginal and over 65?
- Are you Aboriginal and over 50?
- Are you pregnant?



If you answered YES to any of the above – collect a free pulse oximeter from your local government today!

What is a pulse oximeter?

It is a small, peg-like device that clips onto your fingertip to read your heart rate and blood oxygen level. It takes only one minute to work, is reusable and can be shared between other people in your household.



Why do I need one?

If you become COVID-19 positive, you may need to be remotely monitored through the WA COVID Care at Home program. By having a pulse oximeter already in your home, a health professional can assess you and provide health advice from the comfort of your home.

Visit [WA COVID Care at Home](#) for more information.

Where do I get one?

Visit your local government to collect a free pulse oximeter for you and your household (each eligible household can receive one pulse oximeter but supplies are limited).

Do **not** pick up a pulse oximeter if you are already COVID-19 positive. If you have already received a positive COVID-19 test result, the Department of Health will contact you and provide further information.

Visit [COVID-19 \(coronavirus\) \(healthywa.wa.gov.au\)](#) for more information.

This document can be made available in alternative formats on request for a person with disability.

© Department of Health 2022

Coming soon to Merredin Library Members

Merredin Library will soon be adding a new electronic platform for members to access for free. Hoopla is a groundbreaking digital media service offered by your local public library that allows you to borrow movies, music, audiobooks, ebooks, comics and TV shows to enjoy on your computer, tablet, or phone – and even your TV! Titles can be streamed immediately, or downloaded to phones or tablets for offline enjoyment later. There are hundreds of thousands of titles to choose from, with more being added daily. Hoopla is like having your public library at your fingertips. Anytime. Anywhere! Stay tuned for more details.

Welcoming our Newest Australian Citizen!

The Shire of Merredin has welcomed a new Australian Citizen at a Citizenship ceremony held on Wednesday, 30 March. The Shire would like to congratulate Supansa Namboot for making the pledge.



Visitor Centre—Products for Sale

Knitted Comfort Chooks by Sandy Fleay

Local Merredin resident Sandy Fleay was inspired by a story of the knitted chooks after seeing the article many years ago on a Better Homes and Gardens TV segment. Along with many other women around Australia who are now knitting chooks, Sandy creates these colourful cuddly hens in abundance.

There is no doubt these delightful hens have an affable nature and will bring comfort and joy into their new homes with such a story interwoven into each and every one Sandy continues to create.

Each chook even comes with a printed copy of the Story of the Strathewen Chook, so, pop into the visitor centre today and check out these beautiful and knitted

Sandy's chooks, all hand knitted with love, they make a beautiful and unique gift.



Sale Stock

We have a "Sale Stock" section at the Visitor centre with lots of bargains to be had. We have books, mugs, hats, wildflower seeds, bags and much more! From end of line to end of season pop down and grab yourself a bargain!



Japanese Encephalitis Virus

Japanese encephalitis virus (JEV) is an acute mosquito-borne arbovirus disease associated with abortion in pigs, and inflammation of the brain in humans and horses. It is spread through mosquito bites and is more common in areas of increased mosquito activity.

Western Australian pig producers and horse owners are urged to monitor for signs of Japanese encephalitis, after the disease was confirmed in at least 22 commercial pig farms across eastern Australia, including New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland, and South Australia. There is currently no evidence of JEV in Western Australia (WA), however, an increase in surveillance in mosquitoes, sentinel chicken flocks, pigs and horses are being undertaken to monitor the situation.

Transmission: JEV is transmitted to humans through bites from particular types of infected mosquitoes. The virus exists in a transmission cycle between mosquitoes, pigs and/or water birds. Pigs are an important host with the virus potentially occurring at high levels in their blood for 4-6 days. Mosquitoes that feed on infected pigs during this period can become infected with the virus and then transmit it to humans. After a person is bitten by an infected mosquito, it takes approximately five to 15 days for the first symptoms to appear.

JEV cannot be transmitted from human to human or by eating meat from an infected animal.

Signs and Symptoms: Approximately 99% of people infected with JEV have no symptoms. Those that develop symptoms may experience a fever and headache. Severe disease is characterised by an acute encephalitis (inflammation of the brain), with sudden onset of high fever and chills, severe headache, photophobia, neck stiffness, nausea/vomiting, convulsions, and coma. Of these severe cases, approximately one-third die, and one-third are left with permanent disabilities.

Treatment: There is no specific treatment. Treatment usually involves management of the symptoms.

Spread: You can help stop the virus spreading by avoiding being bitten by mosquitos.

Mosquito management advice

- Ensure effluent ponds or water bodies have sufficient capacity to contain all excess wastewater from pig production and are well maintained to prevent mosquito

breeding

- Ensure misting/irrigation systems do not create standing water in or around pig sheds
- Level or drain depressions in the ground that may hold water
- Empty, cover or discard any water holding containers, including rubbish/debris, to reduce mosquito breeding on the property
- Screen water tanks with insect-proof mesh, including inlet, overflow, and inspection ports.
- Ensure guttering is not blocked and does not hold water

Apply residual barrier sprays to buildings, structures, and vegetation (ensure any application of pesticides is in accordance with the registered product label and will not compromise livestock production standards or withholding periods)

Advice for horse owners seeking information about ways to reduce the risk of exposure to biting mosquitoes for their animals:

Horse owners can also put measures in place to help their horses avoid mosquito bites;

- During hotter months put a light cotton rug on them, a fly mask, and if the horse allows, apply a safe insect repellent. Do not spray the repellent around or above their eyes
- The Australian mosquito that transmits JEV feeds at night and is reluctant to enter dwellings, so stabling horses between dusk and dawn is a valuable action
- Rugging and hooding with lightweight permethrin fabric may help protect horses not stabled overnight.

What to do if you suspect JEV in your animals

JEV is a reportable disease. If you suspect JEV in any animal immediately contact your local DPIRD Veterinary Officer or phone the all-hours Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline (1800 675 888).

Download your own copy of the Fight the Bite campaign brochure on the Shire of Merredin website.

→ www.merredin.wa.gov.au



WA Plastics Ban

To reduce plastic pollution, the Western Australian Government is implementing a state-wide ban on the supply of certain plastic items, enforceable from 1 July 2022. Organisations that will no longer be able to provide a banned item include: restaurants, cafes, bars, takeaway food shops, party suppliers, supermarkets, packaging suppliers, market stalls, not-for-profit organisations (including charities and community groups), online stores and many more. The fines are significant, up to \$5000 for any non-compliance with the Regulations and therefore we want businesses to take the right step and plan ahead for the ban.

The National Retail Association (NRA) has been engaged by the WA Government to help businesses to prepare for, transition, and manage the ban. The website and resources have been developed by the NRA and approved by the WA Department of Water and Environmental Regulation. NRA is hosting **monthly online 'pop-in' sessions** (last Wednesday of each month Feb-July 2022), designed for retailers, hospitality and suppliers directly impacted by the WA ban to 'pop in', ask them questions, train their team/clients, and raise emerging concerns.

As a first step to prepare for ban businesses can just go to website <https://plasticsbanwa.com.au/> and register into session for free.

WA PLASTICS BAN
Business Engagement Program

To reduce plastic pollution, the WA Government is implementing a ban on certain plastic items.

From **1 July 2022**, it is illegal to supply:

- Any Plastic Shopping Bag with Handles
- Disposable Plastic Straws & Stirrers
- Disposable Plastic Cutlery
- Disposable Plastic Plates
- Disposable Plastic Bowls (without lids)
- Disposable Plastic Food Containers (without lids)
- Expanded Polystyrene Food Containers & Trays
- Disposable Plastic Cups for Cold Drinks*
*Banned from 1 Oct 2022

Releases of balloons will also be banned in WA from 1 July 2022.
*Some exemptions and other banned items apply. See plasticsbanwa.com.au for details

Every Club Workshop

Governance

Understanding your constitution and key documents

APRIL, DATE TBC

Time TBC

Check the Shire of Merredin website for more info

Hosted by Caroline Robinson - 150 Square Solutions

One on one assistance offered to clubs following their participation in an Every Club Workshop

To RSVP, please visit bit.ly/EveryClubRegistration





FIRE SAFETY

You'll soon be able to view the current day's Fire Danger Rating on the Shire of Merredin website homepage.

Why have we done this?

Fire Danger Ratings (FDR) tell you how dangerous a fire would be if one started. The higher the FDR, the more severe the bushfire will be.

During the Restricted Burning Periods your burn permits are automatically cancelled if the FDR is Very High or higher. If you burn on one of these days you can receive an infringement from the Ranger – and if you burn and the fire gets away from you on one of these days, you could even face criminal charges.

Every year volunteer firefighters are called to fires in Merredin where residents burn rubbish in their backyards without a permit or on dangerous fire weather days. These burns put the resident, their neighbours, their property and the volunteer firefighters at risk.

It's therefore so important to be aware of today's FDR if you're planning to burn.

To try and increase awareness of the FDR, we are adding the current day's FDR to our website. The Shire of Merredin also has two FDR signs at the eastern and western edge of the Merredin townsite on the highway that they keep up to date, and you can also view the FDR for the region on the Emergency WA website below.

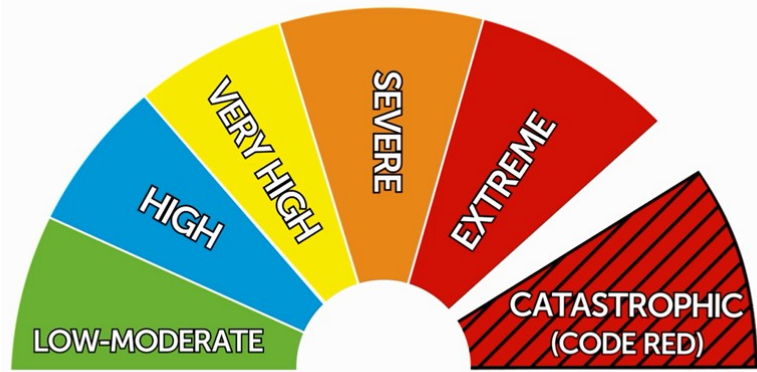
www.emergency.wa.gov.au/#firedangerratings

What do the ratings mean?

When the FDR is Low-Moderate or High, it generally means that any fires that start can mostly likely be quickly and safely brought under control. Very High means conditions will potentially be hot, dry and/or windy, a fire may be difficult for firefighters to control. A FDR of Severe or Extreme means conditions are very hot, dry and windy, and if a fire starts it will be unpredictable, fast moving, and difficult for firefighters to bring under control, and will be very dangerous for members of the public within the fire's proximity. Catastrophic FDR means conditions are the worst they can possibly be as far as fire safety is concerned. The only safe place to be in this situation, is far away from the fire.

Bushfire Survival Plan. You should consider the rating when you decide whether to stay and actively defend your property or whether to leave early.

If someone you know tells you about a possible emergency, or if you can see or smell something that might be dangerous, that's your warning. Take immediate action to stay safe. Do not wait to receive a warning or text message.



FIRE DANGER RATING

THE SHIRE OF MERREDIN AND A CHOURED TASTE CHOIR PRESENTS



THE BORN TO SING CHOIR

TICKET PRICE
\$15 STANDARD **\$10** CONCESSION



APRIL 30TH | 7.00-9.00PM

CUMMINS THEATRE, MERREDIN

BAR OPEN DURING THE INTERVAL AND AFTER THE SHOW.



SPECIAL

THERE WILL BE A FREE SINGING WORKSHOP IN THE BAR AREA AT CUMMINS FROM 12NOON-1.30PM



EASTER

In The

PARK

6 APRIL | 0-5 YEARS

APEX PARK, MERREDIN

9.30AM - 11.30AM

FOOD, CRAFTS & ACTIVITIES, AND AN EASTER EGG HUNT!

WHEATBELT COFFEE VAN WILL BE ATTENDING

WINNERS OF THE COLOURING COMP ANNOUNCED! ENTRIES CLOSE 30 MARCH. PICK UP YOUR COLOURING PAGE FROM ANY OF THE BELOW ORGANISATIONS



Government of Western Australia
WA Country Health Service



Rsvp to the Merredin Library on 9041 1222 by 4 April

Merredin

Roll up
for WA

COVID-19 Vaccination

COVID-19 vaccination clinic

Merredin Library

Room 9 - 22 Coronation St, Merredin, 6415

Tues 5 - Thurs 7 April, 2022

Tues 12:30pm - 6:00pm

Wed 10:00am - 7:00pm

Thurs 8:30am - 1:00pm

Ages 5+ eligible

Get your Booster (16+) to ensure you have the best protection against COVID-19, including the current Omicron strain.



Child and Adult COVID-19 vaccine available. People aged 5+ years are eligible. Receive your FREE COVID-19 Pfizer vaccine. 1st, 2nd or Booster available. (Boosters 16+).

Walk-in
Clinic

We acknowledge the traditional owners of the land and pay our respects to their Elders, past, present and emerging.



Government of Western Australia
WA Country Health Service

APRIL

SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN!

12 APRIL

STAINED GLASS PICTURES

Make stained glass windows out of tissue paper and card. Lots of interesting designs to choose from or make your own.

14 APRIL

EASTER CRAFT

Make a fun easter rabbit, egg box or cards just in time for Easter

19 APRIL

CLAY FUN

Make multi coloured clay creatures or fun clay animals

21 APRIL

SAND CASTLES

Come along and build castles out of cardboard then paint them with sand

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



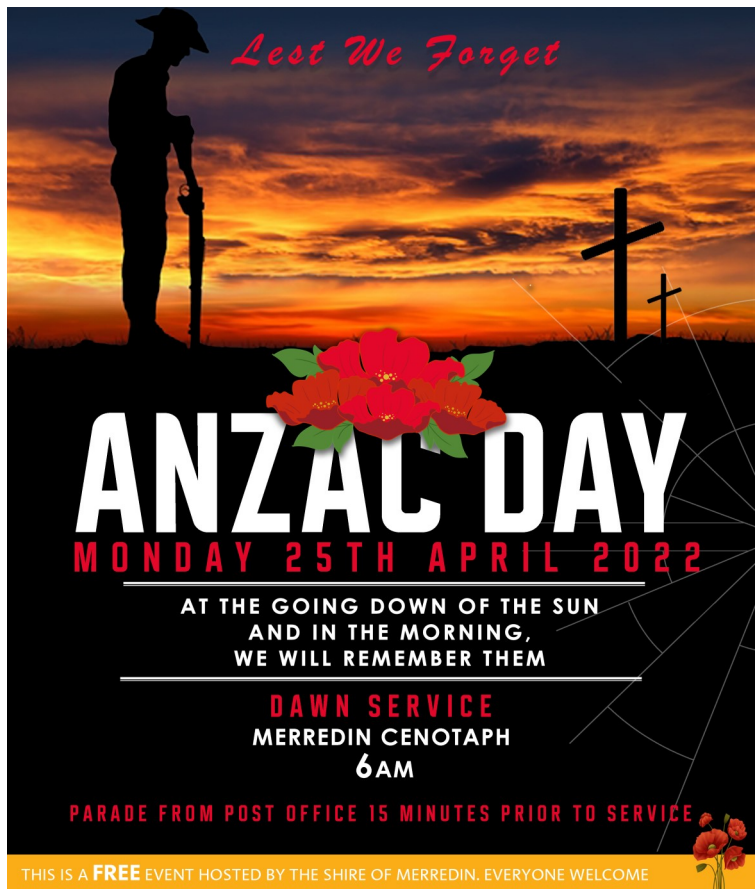
BOOK YOUR PLACE BY CALLING THE LIBRARY ON (08) 9041 1222

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



Lest We Forget

ANZAC DAY

MONDAY 25TH APRIL 2022

AT THE GOING DOWN OF THE SUN
AND IN THE MORNING,
WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

DAWN SERVICE
MERREDIN CENOTAPH
6AM

PARADE FROM POST OFFICE 15 MINUTES PRIOR TO SERVICE

THIS IS A FREE EVENT HOSTED BY THE SHIRE OF MERREDIN. EVERYONE WELCOME

For more information please contact Olivia at the Shire

Telephone: (08) 9041 1611
events@merredin.wa.gov.au
www.merredin.wa.gov.au
facebook.com/ShireofMerredin



SHIRE OF
MERREDIN
INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT