



SHIRE OF
MERREDIN
INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT

COMMUNITY NEWS & INFORMATION

JANUARY 2023

Gala Night 2022

The Merredin CBD came alive on Thursday, 15 December for the towns annual Gala Night with boot scooting, late night shopping and a visit from Santa! For Wheatbelt children far from any snow or ice, the pop-up ice-skating rink proudly sponsored by the Road Safety Commission, proved to be a very popular new attraction and challenge. There was plenty of sliding going on as the kids took on the challenge of staying upright on their blades.

As always, the queue was long for the ever-popular face painting stall, while just across the road adults were able to enjoy some refreshments and a harvest catch up in the pop-up bar area.

The Shire of Merredin would like to thank all the stallholders, community volunteers, and committee members that make this event possible each and every year. Thank you also to the 21 local business who donated a prize to the very popular ‘Shop Local’ raffle, which was drawn on the night by Shire President Mark McKenzie.

We look forward to seeing you all again at Gala Night 2023!



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To sign up to receive hard copies of the Shire’s newsletter, please email media@merredin.wa.gov.au with your name and postal address. Alternatively, if you would like to sign up for the E-newsletter, please head to the Shire website at merredin.wa.gov.au and complete the form located at the bottom of the home page.

January Council Meeting

The next Ordinary Council Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 24 January 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/



Review of Representation—Discussion Paper Open For Comment

The Shire of Merredin is conducting a review of its system of representation, in line with the Local Government Reform Proposals which are expected to be introduced into parliament in early 2023.

As part of this review, the Shire is seeking feedback on the Review of Representation Discussion Paper which has been developed to outline possible scenarios of change that may be introduced as part of these reforms.

The significant changes outlined in the paper revolve around the requirement to reduce the number of Councillors from nine, to between five and seven (including the Shire President).

To view the discussion paper, visit bit.ly/3jOkE94

We encourage discussion within the community and welcome any feedback regarding this Discussion Paper.

Written submissions can be addressed to the Chief Executive Officer and emailed to ea@merredin.wa.gov.au or posted to PO Box 42, Merredin WA 6415. Alternately, community members may wish to submit feedback through this survey: surveymonkey.com/r/TF27H6L

All submissions must be received by 4.00pm on Wednesday, 8 February 2023.

Merredin Heritage Project Secures Funding

The Shire of Merredin is one of 38 successful recipients to share in more than \$1million in funding, through the State Governments 2022/23 Heritage Grant Program.

This program provides matched funding to heritage site owners for vital conservation works of heritage places, and funding assistance to local heritage managers to deliver interpretation projects that share the stories of our past.

Merredin will receive \$20,000 for the development and implementation of an interpretation plan for Pioneer Park and the Merredin Water Tower, inclusive of on-site, print and online interpretive materials. Please note, the Shire are working with the State Government to finalise funding for the refurbishment of the Water Tower. These works will not be completed with this grant.

Congratulations also to the Merredin Railway Station Group who also received \$7,712.00 in funding to develop an interpretation plan for the Merredin Railway Museum's Main Display area.

Summer Reading Challenge

During December and January, Western Australian Public Libraries are running an exciting Summer Reading Quest, including our very own Merredin Regional Library!

The Quest is open to children of all ages and runs until **31 January 2023**, so it's not too late to sign up.

You can participate in the following ways;

1. Reading Log (ages five and over)

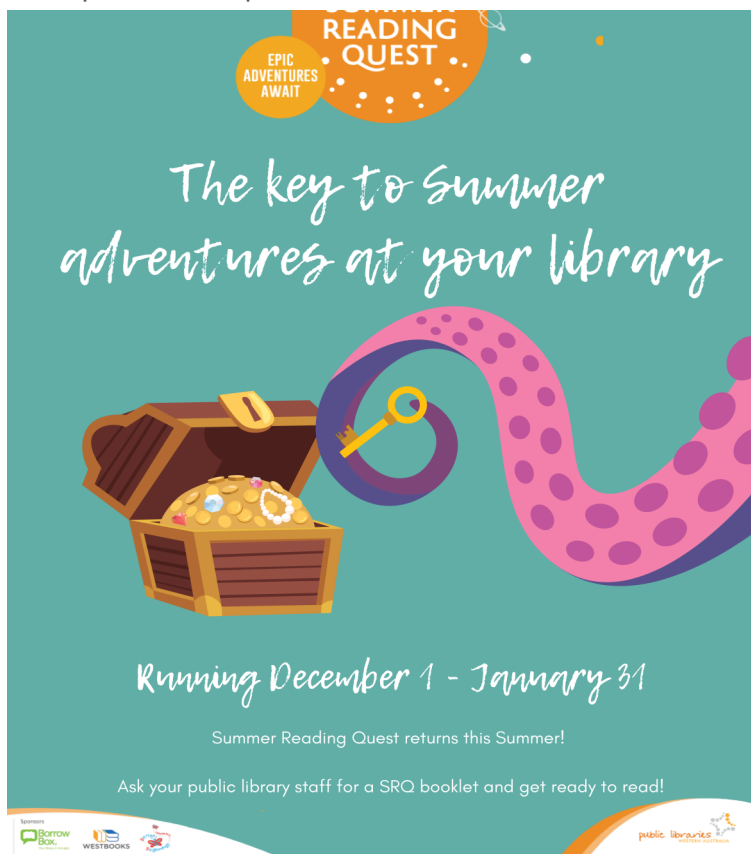
A calendar-style reading log to record the number of days and time read.

2. Adventure Activity Card

Pick up a Summer Reading Quest booklet from your local Library, which includes the **Reading Log** and the **Adventure Activity Card**. During January record the number of days and time read and/or tick off the Adventure Activities as you complete them. You can collect small prizes from the Library as you complete various stages.

3. Summer Steps (ages five and under)

This is a thirty day Quest with fun literacy activities for little ones to do with family and friends. Pick up a Summer Steps card from the library and tick off each step as you complete it. Check in with your local Library once you have completed 10 steps for a small prize.



The poster features a teal background with a pink and purple wavy ribbon graphic on the right. At the top left, there is a circular badge that says "EPIC ADVENTURES AWAIT". To its right, the words "READING QUEST" are written in a white, bubbly font. Below this, the main text reads "The key to Summer adventures at your library" in a white, cursive font. In the center, there is an illustration of an open treasure chest filled with gold coins and a key. At the bottom, it says "Running December 1 - January 31" and "Summer Reading Quest returns this Summer!". Below that, it asks to "Ask your public library staff for a SRQ booklet and get ready to read!". At the very bottom, there are logos for "Borrow Box", "WESTBOOKS", and "public libraries" with a small map icon.



ENGINEERING

EV Chargers Currently Out Of Order

Please be advised that there are currently no EV charging stations available within the Shire of Merredin due to damage sustained to the units over the December period.

The Shire is working closely with Tesla to have two new charging units delivered and installed as soon as possible.

We apologise for any inconvenience and thank you for your patience.

Pond Maintenance at Roy Little Park

The Shire is currently in the process of lowering the water level in the pond at Roy Little Park to allow for the completion of repair works to the existing rock pitching surrounding the pond.

We will not be emptying the pond completely in order to ensure the ducks that reside at Roy Little Park will still have some access to water.

For more information, please contact Lindon Mellor, Executive Manager Engineering Services at the Shire, on (08) 9041 1611.

Corella Management Program

The Shire of Merredin has recommenced a Butler's Corella management program this month. Butler's Corella, are a declared pest in the Wheatbelt. The current large local population is causing environmental destruction, in particular long-term damage to trees that are important habitats for other species including the endangered black cockatoo. Corellas have heavily impacted biodiversity within the Shire and are causing significant damage to playing surfaces, native vegetation and infrastructure.

For more information, please visit bit.ly/corellamanagement.

Road Works—Bulls Head Road

The Shire of Merredin have engaged a contractor to complete road widening works on Bulls Head Road, between Norpa Siding Road and Arnold Road.

The road works will take place from Tuesday, 17 January 2023 until Sunday, 22 January 2023.

Traffic management will be in place until project completion. Motorists are asked to follow all directional signage and allow for longer drive times.

Pioneer Park Car Park

The Shire closed the carpark located at Pioneer Park in late December to prevent damage to the road surface during the extreme heat. We are now working with the construction contractor to resolve the issue.

It is expected that the carpark will re-open within the next few weeks.

Visitor Centre Product Spotlight

We have the Landscape 2023 Calendars discounted to \$7.50 (half price) and one from the Wheatbelts' own sculptor creative, Jordan Sprigg Sculptures, retailing for \$20. We can take payments over the phone and pop the calendar in the post if you can't get into Merredin.

Don't forget throughout the year we have a good range of local and Wheatbelt jewellery, pottery, handmade items, local timber products, jams & preserves in our retail shop for gift ideas.



JOB VACANCY

Administration Officer—Corporate Services
Position Status: Full Time (\$59,000 - \$63,900)

Applications are invited for the position of Administration Officer – Corporate Services. The successful candidate will provide confidential and effective administrative support for the Shire of Merredin, including efficient and courteous customer service.

Principal roles of the position include undertaking clerical and administrative activities, customer service, and working as part of the Corporate Services team at the Shire of Merredin Administration Building.

A position description can be obtained online on the Shire of Merredin website. Applications are to be received by no later than 4.00pm on **Tuesday, 24 January 2023**. Alternatively, you can contact the Shire on (08) 9041 1611 during office hours.

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.

120 Years of the Golden Pipeline

A photographic display featuring rarely seen photographs from the collection of Barbara Hall and Bob Abell and the State Library of WA

On display at the Merredin Library throughout January 2023.
Come in and enjoy it today.



★★★★ HOTEL ★★★★★ CALIFORNIA *The Eagles Experience*



- 31 JAN KALGOORLIE, GOLDFIELDS ARTS CENTRE
- 1 FEB MERREDIN, CUMMINS THEATRE
- 2 FEB ALBANY, ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE
- 3 FEB MANDURAH, PERFORMING ARTS CENTRE
- 4 FEB BUNBURY, REGIONAL ENTERTAINMENT CENTRE
- 9 FEB PERTH, ASTOR THEATRE

BOOK NOW! Tickets available via the venue websites and box offices, or visit facebook.com/EaglesExperience

f @ EaglesExperience *Showtime*

CELTIC ILLUSION

THE MAGIC RETURNS

7.30PM, 3RD APRIL 2023
CUMMINS THEATRE, MERREDIN

Memphis Rockers

Present
The American Rock and Roll Experience
- The Early Years -
Playing the HITS from the 50's and 60's
Featuring Special Guest - Alix Jordan as Dusty Springfield

CUMMINS THEATRE- MERREDIN
SATURDAY 13TH MAY 2023 7PM

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM
CENTRAL WHEATBELT VISITORS CENTRE
OR CUMMINSTHEATRE.COM.AU

GREAT MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT
Hits From All The Legends Of Rock and Roll

NOT TO BE MISSED • ONE SHOW ONLY
HURRY GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY

KMA ENTERTAINMENT INC