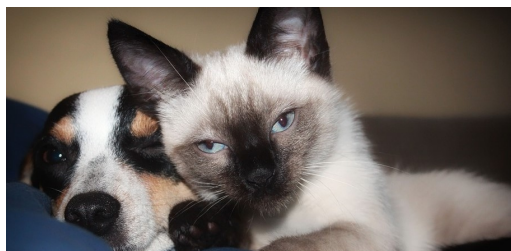


SHIRE OF MERREDIN COMMUNITY NEWS & INFORMATION



Corella Control Program

As previously indicated via our post to Facebook, from January 2018 the Shire of Merredin will commence a program to control the corellas that are currently in the Merredin town site. Due to logistical reasons this program will now commence in early February.

The implementation of this program has been deemed necessary due primarily to the corellas causing damage to public infrastructure, parks and private property. The non-native corellas are also competing with native wildlife and putting undue pressure and stress on the area's native ecosystem.

The program aims to achieve success through the use of 'bird scare shot' (a non-lethal tactic employed successfully in many other scenarios researched by the Shire) to encourage wildlife to move on. The 'bird scare shot' will be employed in the early morning and late afternoon during week days. Every effort will be made to ensure its success.

In the unlikely event that that this program fails to encourage the corellas to move on the Shire has been granted a licence to cull the corellas. However, it is the primary aim to employ the 'Bird Scare Shot' effectively and culling will only take place as a last resort.

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February Council Meeting

The next Ordinary Council Meeting will be held at the Shire Administration Building in the Council Chambers on Tuesday, 20 February 2018 at 3:00pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend. The Agenda will be available to view on Council's website on Monday, 19 February 2018.

Dog & Cat Ownership

Pet owners are reminded that it is a requirement under the Cat Act 2011 and Dog Act 1976 that all cats and dogs must be microchipped and registered with their local Council (dogs from 3 months of age, cats from 6 months however microchipping can be done from 6 weeks of age for both). Not only is this a legal requirement but it also assists Council staff in reuniting pets with their owners faster in the event that they are lost.

Residents are also reminded that no more than two (2) dogs and/or two (2) cats can be kept. If an owner wishes to keep more than two dogs or two cats, they must first seek permission from their local Council. It is also a legal requirement that any cat/kitten dog/puppy must be microchipped prior to sale or being given away. Heavy fines apply for the sale/giving of non-microchipped animals.



Final Rates Instalment

Notice of due payment for the final rates instalment (if paying by instalment) for ratepayers for the 2017/18 financial year will be issued 5 February 2018 with payment due by 5 March. Ratepayers who have not paid one or all of their instalments by the due date will be sent a letter from the Shire of Merredin's debt collection agency.

As per Council Policy 3.2, ratepayers who are experiencing difficulty in meeting their rate payments may approach the Shire (prior to the due date - 5 March) and provided you can demonstrate that you are experiencing financial hardship, alternative financial arrangements can be made. As per Section 6.51 of the Local Government Act 1995 interest will be charged as part of the alternative arrangement.

Ratepayers should note that no arrangement will be entered into if such an agreement will not result in current rates owing being paid by the close of the 2017/18 financial year.

Are You 'Asbestos Aware'?

The Shire of Merredin urges local industry, business and trades to utilise the newly announced asbestos management resources for commercial and non-residential properties.

In an Australian first, the Asbestos Management Handbook for Commercial and Non-residential Properties provides property owners, managers, developers and workers with essential, practical, user-friendly guidelines and tools to manage asbestos-containing-materials (ACMs) in line with requirements. The comprehensive Handbook, Asbestos Management Templates and Fact Sheets can be downloaded from <https://asbestosawareness.com.au/commercial-properties/commercial-downloads/>.

Designed for a broad audience including property owners, agents, managers, builders, contractors, subcontractors, tradespeople and workers, the Asbestos Management Handbook, Templates and Fact Sheets were developed in consultation with stakeholders from the building, property management and government sectors to improve compliance in the commercial and non-residential property sector.

The Handbook includes a comprehensive list of building types including commercial, industrial, government, recreational, agricultural, hospitality, health services and education facilities, religious, transport and tourism structures. It details the roles and responsibilities for the management of asbestos and ACM, provides examples of best practice and a comprehensive list and images to demonstrate ACMs commonly found in commercial and non-residential properties.

Importantly, the Handbook provides practical guidance on the steps required to adhere to regulations including how to develop and manage an Asbestos Management Plan, an Asbestos Register, the training requirements for workers, and it defines Asbestos Inspections, Surveys, Risk Assessments and the steps required when asbestos removal is in progress.

The Handbook provides a comprehensive list of the many various property types that may be affected by ACM while the Templates (available in Word and Excel) for developing an Asbestos Register, Asbestos Management Plan, Asbestos Removal Record, Workers Training Records, a Model Asbestos Policy and Model Asbestos Management procedures for Contractors and Builders, has simplified what has previously been considered (by some) to be a highly complex maze of information to navigate.

**When it comes to asbestos, Go Slow!
Asbestos – It's a NO GO!
Visit asbestosawareness.com.au –
To learn what you need to know!**

Lunchtime Escapes

Featuring International Singer

CASSANDRA KOTCHIE

Featuring songs from some of
your best loved musicals,
jazz classics, and opera favourites.

All tickets \$15 and include High Tea



Thursday February 15th 2018

Doors Open at 11am for High Tea - Show Starts at 12pm

Tickets available from Central Wheatbelt Visitors Centre or online

WWW.CUMMINSTHEATRE.COM.AU



Lunchtime Escapes: Cassandra Kotchie

Internationally acclaimed singer Cassandra Kotchie returns to Australia for an exclusive performance at the Cummins Theatre as part of the Lunchtime Escapes series of shows. Featuring music from operatic classics, well-loved musical theatre hits and some good old fashioned jazz; this is a once in a lifetime opportunity to see this versatile singer perform.

‘A natural actress with a sweet vocal timbre’

– The West Australian

‘I laughed and cried and sat entranced by her story’

– Theatre Australia

This performance is part of the Lunchtime Escapes series of concerts. All tickets are \$15 and includes a sumptuous high tea before the show of cakes, sandwiches, scones, and a selection of tea and coffee.

Doors open at 11:00am

Show commences at 12:00pm

Approximate running time is 55 minutes

Park Passes

Did you know the CWVC retails Park Passes? We have both the Annual All Parks Passes (\$92) and the Concession Annual All Parks Pass (\$58) which provides unlimited entry to all WA Parks for 12 months.

Pop into the CWVC before you head off on your next driving adventure and purchase a Park Pass and a free WA Park Guide and National Park brochures.



Transwa Bookings

Don't forget the CWVC is an online booking agent for Transwa rail and coach services.

Call us for timetables, bookings and enquiries on 9041 1666



2018/19 Community Funding Grant

NOW OPEN

Council invites requests for financial support through the Shire of Merredin's Community Funding Program.

The application form is available to download from the Shire website (www.merredin.wa.gov.au). Applications must be received by **4:00pm, 30 March 2018**.

For further information please contact Rebecca McCall, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, on 9041 1611 or email dceo@merredin.wa.gov.au.

GS Powell
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



(08) 9041 1611



www.merredin.wa.gov.au

Snap, Send, Solve

This great app is FREE and specifically designed to allow you to let us know instantly what the issue is and where it is. Watch the video on our Facebook page to find out how it works.

This app (compatible with iPhone and Google Play phones) allows you to take a photo, add your current location, some comments and send it through to the Shire - all on your mobile phone. Your snap and details arrive via email and is immediately allocated to an officer for actioning. It's a simple and easy way to report an issue and let us know about it so that we can resolve it quickly.



Changes to Library Hours

From 29 January 2018 the Merredin Regional Library will be trialling new opening hours. Due to low attendance numbers the library will only be open 1 night a week past 5pm. The new library hours will be:

Monday	10:00am – 5:00pm
Tuesday	10:00am – 5:00pm
Wednesday	10:00am – 5:00pm
Thursday	10:00am – 6:00pm
Friday	10:00am – 5:00pm
Saturday	10:00am – 12noon

Storytime in the Library

Storytime will once again be held during school terms, starting Tuesday, 13 February 2018 at 10:30am. The session is free and is open to all children under 4 years of age and their parents. Come along for stories, rhymes and activities.



Boomerang Bags

The Merredin Regional Library will be holding an information session in February to increase interest in members of the local community in creating Boomerang Bags ahead of the plastic bag ban due in July this year. Please contact the Library to register your interest - call 9041 1222 or email library@merredin.wa.gov.au.

Tender T2018048

Sale of Light Vehicles & Tractor

The Shire of Merredin invites tenders for 3 x vehicles and 1 x tractor for sale by public tender which are detailed as follows:

- ▶ **2016 Toyota Kluger GXL 2WD**
Colour - silver, Odometer - 46,000km
- ▶ **2016 Toyota Kluger GXL 2WD**
Colour - grey, Odometer - 35,000km
- ▶ **2016 Ford Falcon**
Colour - silver, Odometer - 32,500km
- ▶ **2013 CASE IH Farmall JX110 Tractor**
Colour - red

Further information can be found in the tender specifications available by contacting Vanessa Green on 9041 1611 or tenders@merredin.wa.gov.au.

Completed Tenders are to be marked "Private and Confidential – Tender T2018048", addressed to the Chief Executive Officer and can be posted to PO Box 42, Merredin WA 6415 or hand delivered to the Administration Office, Cnr King & Barrack Streets, Merredin during normal business hours. Completed Tenders are to be received by no later than **4:00pm, Friday, 16 February 2018**. No late tenders will be accepted.

GS Powell
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Restricted Burning Period:

18 September 2017 - 31 October 2017
17 February 2018 - 16 March 2018

Prohibited Burning Period:

1 November 2017 - 16 February 2018