

SHIRE OF MERREDIN COMMUNITY NEWS & INFORMATION



SUCCESS! \$179,250 FOR NORTH MERREDIN PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Shire of Merredin is pleased to report that it has been successful in securing \$179,250 from Lotterywest for the redevelopment of the North Merredin Primary School site - Stage 2.

L - R: Library Officers Pam Last and Wendy Porter together with Deputy CEO, Rebecca McCall and Community Liaison Officer, Adim Hajat, celebrate funding success.



This funding is a huge achievement and will go a long way towards ensuring the completion of this project which will include the refurbishment and fit-out of the old school library, ablutions, disability access, canteen area, classrooms 6, 7,8 and external items including painting, lighting, seating and CCTV.

Other areas that will be developed with this funding include a play area (0 -4 Years) with shade sails and the relocation of play equipment from Playgroup in addition to community and archive storage. The Shire is still awaiting the outcome of our application for a second, smaller grant due to be announced in August 2018 which will allow for the completion of the remaining redevelopment.

Works are expected to commence in November 2018 as the Shire is still waiting to hear on the success of other funding applications. Together with the successful CEACA funding to construct 26 x ILUs, the North Merredin Primary School site is set to be transformed in the very near future.

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Report It!

Spotted an issue around town? Report it to the Shire via the FREE Snap, Send, Solve app (compatible with iPhone and Google Play phones) and get it sorted ASAP. Just snap a photo, input the location and any details and send it through to us. We can then get right on resolving it.



July Council Meeting

The next Ordinary Council Meeting will be held at the Shire Administration Building in the Council Chambers on Tuesday, 17 July 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, 16 July 2018.



Cummins Theatre gets ready to 'Raise the Roof'

The Theatre has recently been successful in securing over \$120,000 over the next two years to help expand and redevelop its current theatre program through the 'Raise the Roof' fund.

"This is a very exciting time at the theatre and we are looking forward to seeing what will happen over the next two years with the addition of this funding," said Cummins Theatre Manager, Emma Davis.

The fund was announced in early 2018 by the State Government as an invitation only grants program that would support the expansion of annual performing arts programs delivered by performing arts venues in regional Western Australia. A total of up to \$1.2 million from the Royalties for Regions funded Creative Regions program was allocated for distribution through 'Raise the Roof' through the Department of Local Government, Sport & Cultural Industries.

The fund aims to raise the quality, scale and profile of the performing arts in regional centres, boost tourism and employment opportunities and increase the number of opportunities for communities to participate in arts and cultural activities in the regions.

The Cummins Theatre will be accessing the funds to appoint two new staff members to the small team at the venue.

"We were very fortunate to receive funding to support the appointment of two new staff who will assist in the marketing of the venue, expansion of our schools and seniors programs and assist the theatre to present its community driven events".

Another aim of the fund was to assist regional performing arts venues to better leverage investment and generate income.

"We hope that through these new appointments we can better serve the Wheatbelt region as a centre for arts and culture, expanding on our already existing programs and deliver more for the community. We have so much to offer here in Merredin and it will be exciting to see what we can achieve in the coming years."

A further \$20,000 per year over the next two years will also be set aside for artist residencies at the venue.

"The Cummins Theatre has had a number of exciting residencies in the past and this additional funding will enable regional artists to create new work here in Merredin and then take that work out into the world and take the name of Merredin with them."

To apply for the two roles, please visit the Shire of Merredin's website - www.merredin.wa.gov.au.

Community Forum - Massive Turnout

On Tuesday, 19 June Council held a Community Forum. These forums are generally conducted on a bi-annual basis and they are a great chance for Council to meet with the Merredin Shire community and get to the core of any topical issues or just simply to have a general chat about a range of topics.

Council was pleasantly surprised at the turnout to the forum however with around 30 members of the public wishing to speak with 8 Councillors and 6 members of staff on a wide range of topics. These topics included the swimming pool, roads, footpaths, excess speed past Merredin College, Cummins Theatre, the CRC, collection of firewood and a whole host of other topics.

It was a great result to have so many members of the public attend and the Shire would like to extend it's thanks to the attendees for taking time out of their busy lives to come along to the forum. Whilst Council is generally across most issues within the Shire, it can sometimes be difficult to be aware of everything. Discussion with members of the community also provides insight into certain issues from new or alternative angles that Council may not have considered.

An agenda item will go to Council at it's July meeting to note the various items for actioning as determined by the forum. A copy of the Community Forum notes is available for members of the public to view on the Shire website. Visit www.merredin.wa.gov.au.

A date has yet to be set for the next Community Forum so be sure to keep an eye out on social media and in upcoming issues of the Shire newsletter for advertisement of the next forum.

In the meantime, members of the public are quite welcome to write to Council or contact the Shire on social media at any time if you were unable to make the forum as Council is open to feedback from the public at any time on any topic.

Support for Merredin Youth Demolition Derby

Merredin's youth have been given approval by the Shire to utilise the former Lions Club shed to modify and construct two cars worthy of being entered into this year's Demolition Derby in Kellerberrin. The cars have kindly been donated by Eastern Districts Panel Beaters.

Local police officer, Ben Ferris, came up with the project idea and went to Merredin College to rustle up some enthusiasm to take part from the high school kids. Sixteen responded to the call with more than just a little bit of enthusiasm.

Ben himself has had considerable success in demolition derbies and other youth projects. The kids will be learning plenty of new skills thanks to this project including how to rebuild a car, modify it for safety, work together as a team and being involved with positive public relations.

This particular project is a great opportunity to re-engage with some of the kids in Merredin. Support has been provided by the Shire in terms of providing a facility to undertake this project and also the purchase and supply of tools and personal protective equipment.

The Demolition Derby Merredin youth contingent in Kellerberrin will share the stage with other drivers near and far. It is an opportunity to liaise with other youths, have new experiences and enjoy the valuable contribution of its participants.

Ben and the students will commence building the two cars from 19 July. The Derby is set to take place 18 August 2018.

TIP OPENING HOURS

Just a reminder to the community that the tip hours for the Landfill site have changed as of March 2018. They are now:

MONDAY - FRIDAY | 8:00am - 4:00pm

SATURDAY & SUNDAY | 10:00am - 3:00pm

The new hours have been updated on the Shire website and the Collection Calendar to be emailed out with the 2018/19 Rates Notices will have the updated hours. The signage at the tip entrance and at the T-road from Telfar Rd onto Goldfields/Chandler-Merredin Rd will be updated with the new hours in the coming weeks.



STREET LIGHTING

Did you know that Western Power has a great website where you can report faulty street lights within Merredin down to the exact pole?

Visit westernpower.com.au and from the 'Power Outages' button on the menu, select 'Report a Faulty Street Light'.



Solar Panels Installation

The Library and the Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre have recently had solar panels installed as part of the Shire's plans to make its in use assets more sustainable. The Shire Administration Building and the Leisure Centre have already had panels installed.

IM Alert - Online Food Safety Training

Did you know that the Shire of Merredin provides FREE and unlimited access to a great product that assists food handlers in gaining valuable skills and knowledge in food safety and hygiene?

This program is presented in an interactive, easy to follow and entertaining format that includes the ability for the user to print off an acknowledgement form and a certificate upon completion of the program that can be kept as a part of staff records. This training program assists food business managers in ensuring all staff are trained in this important area and thereby reduces any risk of food borne illness resulting from poor food handling practices.

It is recommended that all food handlers within a food business take part in this training. This is a great opportunity to provide all staff with training that would otherwise cost a business money and a great deal more in time.

To participate in the training please visit www.merredin.imalert.com.au.



(08) 9041 1611



www.merredin.wa.gov.au

JULY SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

Tonnes to do these holidays!
Check out what's on offer

MERREDIN REGIONAL
COMMUNITY & LEISURE CENTRE

belgravialeisure

Youth First Aid Course

Cost: FREE

Monday 2nd July 2018
5 - 9yrs 9.00am to 10.00am
9+ yrs 10.00am to 11.00am

PLEASE CONTACT THE MRCLC 9041 3033 OR EMAIL
MERREDIN@BELGRAVIALEISURE.COM.AU TO REGISTER
LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE

11 - 12pm
Starts
4 July

\$2 /
participant

CUMMINS KIDS

July Holiday Program

WEDNESDAY, 4 JULY
FUN WITH RICE
Enjoy all sorts of activities involving rice

FRIDAY, 6 JULY
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS
Join in making some musical instruments

WEDNESDAY, 11 JULY
AUSSIE ANIMALS
Try your hand at making & decorating some cardboard Aussie Animal favourites to celebrate NAIDOC week

FRIDAY, 13 JULY
GLEEFUL GLOOP
Make some colourful gooey slime!
Ages 6+ for Gleeeful Gloop

CUMMINS THEATRE

Bookings Essential
Book online through the CT website or visit the Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre

Pallet Furniture Workshop



12 July
1 - 4pm

This great workshop will teach you some fantastic skills and you'll get to construct some cool projects

To be held at the Leisure Centre. Need details? Call 9041 3033

MERREDIN REGIONAL
COMMUNITY & LEISURE CENTRE

belgravialeisure

School Holiday Program

JULY 2018

Tues, 3 July | PET ROCKS
Make fun pet rocks

10:30 - 11:30am / session
\$2 per participant

Thurs, 5 July | CLAY FUN
Make clay creatures or fun clay animals

Parental supervision required for all children under 10

Tues, 10 July | SAND PAINTING
Make fun pictures with coloured sand

Bookings essential

See you there, come dressed for fun!

Thurs, 12 July | NAIDOC CRAFT
Craft, boomerangs and other fun

Call 9041 1222 to book your place

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