

COMMUNITY NEWS & INFORMATION

January 2019

Hines Hill Lakes WA

FUNDING TO FIGHT VEGETATION DECLINE GETS A BOOST

The WA State Government has announced that 111 successful projects around WA will share in \$7.75 million under the 2018 Community Stewardship Grants to help protect and enhance the environment.

Merredin was successful in obtaining \$24,624. This funding will go towards continuing to combat vegetation decline within the Shire of Merredin. The funded project aims to build on current momentum by encouraging landholders to revegetate beneficial areas as well as protecting significant patches of remnant vegetation.

The project involves providing devolved grants to participating landholders with a bio diverse mix of seedlings matched to the site's soil type as well as an amount for fencing of the revegetation and/or remnant vegetation.

Involved landholders will contribute by providing labour for planting the seedlings, erecting and maintaining any fencing and all site preparation.

EOIs were called for in December 2018 and remain open if community members are interested in re-vegetating parts of their rural properties. Contact Dylan Copeland, the Shire's NRM Consultant, on 0488 471 727 or email nrmo@icloud.com for further information or to participate.

FUNDING SECURED TO RESTORE WAR VETERAN HONOUR BOARDS

The Shire has been successful in applying to the Department of Veterans Affairs under their funding program, 'Community Commemorative Grants: Saluting their Service Commemorative Funding,' for the restoration of many of the district's honour boards. 'Honour Boards' and 'Rolls' were erected in many local schools, halls, churches and offices as a mean of acknowledging the commitment made by the community to the military forces post WWI, WWII, the Korean and Vietnamese Wars amongst others.

The criteria used for inclusion of names on an honour board were determined by those creating the board at the time and varied. Generally the boards only included those who were born in Merredin or the various small towns within the Shire district. Some included those who enlisted in Merredin and who were living and working in Merredin when they enlisted whilst others included veterans who became associated with the area after the war when the honour board was being created. In some cases an individual appears on more than one honour board.

As part of commemorating 100 years since the Armistice Day of WWI occurred, community members and the Shire have relocated some of the honour boards from around the district to the Merredin Regional Library for restoration works which will commence in the next few months. There are currently five known honour boards in the Merredin district. The Shire is committed to continuing to source additional external funding to fully restore all of the honour boards to their original condition. Should community members know of any other boards the Shire may not be aware of, please contact the Shire (on 9041 1611) so that we may also see to their restoration.

Thank you to the following who have consulted with the Shire and supported this project: the Hon Mia Davies MP, the Men's Shed, the Military Museum, the Merredin Military Cadets, the Tales of Times Past Senior Storytellers, Merredin College, Merredin CRC and the Historical Society.

LIBRARY HOURS REDUCED IN JAN

Just a reminder that the Library is operating on reduced hours until 25 January 2019. Their current opening hours are:

- Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday, 10.00am – 2.00pm
- Wednesday from 1.00pm - 5.00pm
- Saturday from 10.00am - 12.00pm
- **CLOSED** 26 January & 28 January for Australia Day

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

The next Ordinary Council Meeting will be held at the Shire Administration Building in the Council Chambers on Tuesday, 22 January 2019 at 3:00pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend. The Agenda will be available to view on Council's website on Monday, 21 January 2018.



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.



SELAMAT TINGGAL ADZ!



It is with heavy hearts that the community bids farewell to the Shire of Merredin's valued Community Liaison Officer, Adim (Adz) Hajat. Adim is returning to the Cocos Island with his family.

In just over a year Adim has successfully coordinated or assisted in delivering several memorable events in Merredin including Armistice Day, ANZAC Day, Gala Night and the International Food Festival amongst others. When he wasn't executing events Adim was wielding his big smile and getting to know the people of Merredin from the Men's Shed to the Library to many of the local farmers.

Never short of charisma or community spirit, Adim has devoted his time to helping everyone in any way that he could during his time in Merredin. He has spent countless hours committed to the community and bringing his skills to bear as an employee of the Shire of Merredin.

The Shire welcomes Hannah Martin to the team as the new Community Liaison Officer. Hannah joined the Shire as a member of the Cummins Theatre team last September before accepting the role of Community Liaison Officer in November. Hannah is looking forward to continuing Adim's efforts working with the community to keep delivering a thriving events program and supporting Merredin's many community groups and businesses.

The Shire wishes Adim and his family the very best in the next chapter of their lives. We hope that they will come back and visit Merredin in the near future.

TOTADGIN HALL/BRUCE ROCK-MERREDIN RD T-ROAD UPGRADES

On Monday, 14 January, major road works commenced to realign Totadgin Hall Rd to form a T-road intersection with the Bruce Rock-Merredin Rd (the latter remaining as the main road). These road works are being undertaken by Main Roads WA. Surveying work will be undertaken prior to construction.

"The upgrades will be a welcome improvement towards the safety of the intersection," said Mike Hudson, Executive Manager Engineering Services at the Shire of Merredin.

A traffic management plan will be utilised by Main Roads WA during the works period. Once the plan is known by the Shire it will be publicised on the Shire's Facebook page.

If members of the public have any queries, please contact the Shire on 9041 1611.

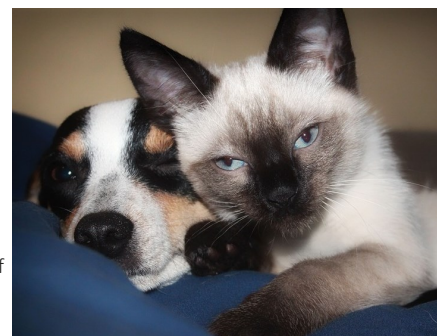


*Image source - Google Maps.

CAT & DOG 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 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 INSTALLMENT

Notice of 'due payment' for the final rates instalment (if paying by instalment) for ratepayers for the 2018/19 financial year will be issued 1 February 2019 with payment due by 8 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 - 8 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 2018/19 financial year.

Ratepayers with any queries regarding the above should contact Leticia Richards, Senior Finance Officer, on 9041 1611 during office hours.

CEACA ILUS & DOG PARK PROGRESS



Above: Work steadily progressing with the Independent Living Units

Below: Fencing is up and gates are going on at the Dog Park



19 FEB
COMMUNITY
FORUM

SHIRE OF MERREDIN
INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT

Join us for a chat
at the Shire of Merredin

No Agenda, no topic off limits. Come along and have a chat with your Councillors

6pm | Council Chambers
ALL WELCOME!

Questions? Contact Vanessa on 9041 1611

COMMUNITY FUNDING PROGRAM 2019/20 FINANCIAL YEAR

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

The application form is available on the Shire's website – www.merredin.wa.gov.au. Applications must be received by **4.00pm, 31 March 2019**.

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

Greg Powell
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Pool Party

AUSTRALIA DAY 26 JAN

Merredin District Olympic Swimming Pool
 12 - 6pm • **FREE** Entry
 Sausage Sizzle • Fun Activities

SHIRE OF MERREDIN
 INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT

AUSTRALIA DAY BREAKFAST

Free

Saturday 26 JANUARY 2019

Merredin CRC
 Cnr Barrack & Queen Streets

Commencing 8am

Supported by

If you would like to help out on the day as a volunteer, please contact the Merredin CRC on 9041 1041

CUMMINS THEATRE, MERREDIN PRESENTS

FRINGE WORLD FESTIVAL 2019

VARIETY GALA

Sample the delights of Perth's FRINGE WORLD Festival!

Featuring

CAM VENN SVEN HOPLA JON MADD

CUMMINS THEATRE, 31 BATES ST, MERREDIN
 8PM FRIDAY 1ST FEBRUARY 2019

Bookings: WWW.CUMMINSTHEATRE.COM.AU

Tickets: \$20 - General Admission, \$16.50 - Group Ticket (6+)

Proudly supported by Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

More information at: FRINGEWORLD.COM.AU/TOURS

CUMMINS THEATRE, MERREDIN PRESENTS

FRINGE WORLD FESTIVAL 2019

Circus SPECTACULAR

Sample the delights of Perth's FRINGE WORLD Festival!

Featuring

CAM VENN PIRATE MAN MICHAEL JON MADD

CUMMINS THEATRE, 31 BATES ST, MERREDIN
 12PM SATURDAY 2ND FEBRUARY 2019

Bookings: WWW.CUMMINSTHEATRE.COM.AU

Tickets: \$15 - General Admission, \$50 - Family Ticket

Proudly supported by Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

More information at: FRINGEWORLD.COM.AU/TOURS