

SHIRE OF MERREDIN

NEWS AND INFORMATION

NEW SNAPCHAT FILTERS FOR THE SHIRE

We have a new series of Snapchat filters for the town sites of Burracoppin, Hines Hill and Muntadgin. As many users in town would already know, we have a geo-filter overlay for the town of Merredin. However, this does not cover the entire Shire. Over the course of the last two weeks, the Shire has utilised the #YourSayMerredin to informally engage the public's opinion of the designs. These new geo-filters are a free, location based service offered by the social media app Snapchat. Filters are fun illustrative overlays that users can place over their images taken while they are visiting our Shire. Of the 60 people who voted in the Facebook poll for the Hines Hill designs, 68% voted for the design below. Out of the 46 comments on the Facebook post, 35 people voted for the final Burracoppin design chosen below. The majority votes (7) went to the 'Cheers from Muntadgin' design. The geo-filter Facebook campaign reached a total of 2,179 people and tallied 565 engagements. We will keep the public updated on the success of our submission to the social media app and hopefully you will see these illustrations available to you soon!



CHEERS FROM MUNTADGIN



FESTA ITALIANA



**18-20 OCTOBER
MERREDIN, WA**

TICKETS ON SALE NOW



Scan me

Use your camera phone to scan the QR code and be taken straight to the ticketing page!



FORUM TO DEVELOP ROAD SAFETY STRATEGY

The Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries invite you to a community consultation forum to inform the development of WA's new road safety strategy. The Department are holding these forums as a way to engage with communities across the state and understand the road issues that are important to us locally. The road safety community forum will be held on the 29th of August and interested community members must register at www.imaginezero.rsc.wa.gov.au to receive details on the venue and time of community consultation.

WATER CORPORATION RESTRICTS ACCESS TO STANDPIPES

Water Corporation have implemented a new standpipe pricing structure as of the 1st of July. As a result, the Shire has to now restrict all public access to standpipes, so that we can retain the concessional rates provided by Water Corporation to the Shire.

What is changing?

Water Corporation have dictated that high flow rate Local Government owned fixed standpipes, that are accessible by the public, will now be charged at commercial rates. The standpipe that has been classified for commercial use, as outlined by Water Corporation, is located within the Depot at the Shire of Merredin, a 'step 15' standpipe. This means commercial water access is only during depot operating hours and cannot be accessed at any other time. Water Corporation is allowing the Shire to elect a standpipe of a meter size less than 20mm to be classified as a 'community standpipe,' and this can be used by the community for those requiring potable water, subject to fees and charges that have been reduced this financial year. The elected 'community standpipe' is located close to the intersection of Booran South Road and Bullshead Road.

Why are these changes happening?

Water Corporation are enforcing these changes as some customers have been accessing Local Government owned standpipes with concessional rates. These changes ensure that commercial customers will be paying the same rate across the state. The Shire is working on installing a swipe card system and standpipes will be available to fire brigades for emergency use only.



Fixed Regional Standpipes Fees and charges 2019/20



The fees and charges in this document relate to Fixed Standpipes owned by Local Governments in regional areas of Western Australia.

Users requiring over 49 kilolitres per day are subject to alternative pricing and must contact Water Corporation for more information.

Standpipe type	Description of charges	2019/20 charge
Local Authority Standpipe (Shire use only)	Service Charge: Not applicable. Cost of water: Non-residential step 1 tariff	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not applicable. \$2.597 per kilolitre (kL).
Community Use Standpipe (low flow) (Publicly available)	Service Charge: 20mm Service Charge only. Cost of water: Farmlands tariff (equivalent to Non-residential step 1).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$272.05 \$2.597 per kilolitre (kL).
Commercial Standpipe (high flow) (Publicly available)	Service Charge: Meter-based service charges (according to the size of the meter). Cost of water: Town based charges ranging from \$2.597 cents to \$8.562 per kilolitre, see Table B	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> See table A below Find your Town Class step on our website
Fire Standpipe (No public access)	Service Charge: Not applicable. Water Use Charge: Not applicable.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Not applicable.

Table A - Meter Based Size Charges Meter Size (mm)	2019/20
15-20mm	\$272.05
25mm	\$272.05
30mm	\$612.11
35-40mm	\$1,088.27
50mm	\$1,700.40
70-80mm	\$4,353.02
100mm	\$6,801.60
140-150mm	\$15,303.60
200mm	\$27,206.39
250mm	\$42,509.98
300mm	\$61,214.39
350mm	\$83,319.62

Table B - Charges by Town Class Step	2019/20
Step 1	\$2.597
Step 2	\$2.830
Step 3	\$3.078
Step 4	\$3.354
Step 5	\$3.653
Step 6	\$3.977
Step 7	\$4.332
Step 8	\$4.716
Step 9	\$5.136
Step 10	\$5.593
Step 11	\$6.089
Step 12	\$6.631
Step 13	\$7.221
Step 14	\$7.864
Step 15	\$8.562

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BON VOYAGE, KAREN!

If you have visited the Shire at the administration building, chances are you have been greeted by the smiling Karen Slater. A truly wonderful Customer Service Officer, Karen is off to gallivant across Australia with her husband. We wish her well in her retirement and miss her already!



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 to resolving it.

NEW STAFF PROFILE

Each month we will be featuring a different staff member in our newsletters so you can get to know the people who work hard everyday to make Merredin a better place to live, learn and play.



NAME: Lily Hoffmann, Media and Communications Officer

How long have you been working with the Shire of Merredin? A grand total of 3 weeks! I have just started as the Shires media advisor, after working with the Australian Broadcasting Corporation as a presenter and producer for the last two years.

When did you move to town? I moved to a farm in Burracoppin at the start of 2019, after commuting most weekends from Albany last year! It was a long drive, so I packed up and now call the Wheatbelt home. However, I am a South Aussie girl born and raised—carn the crows!

What do you love most about Merredin? The people. I have lived in a few different rural locations both over East and in WA and I have never come across a more friendly and welcoming community. The folks in Burracoppin particularly have taken me in like family, the CWA women and my netball team, everyone has just been so inviting and encouraging.

What are you most excited to do in your position at the Shire? The previous MCO did such a brilliant job at transitioning the Shire into the 'digital age.' I really want to maintain the standard she set for me and hopefully take things above and beyond! I really want to put Merredin on the map with a fantastic marketing presence for all of our services. I also want to put a greater emphasis on community engagement through our digital platforms.

If you have any ideas on how we can use our social media and marketing tools to improve Merredin, please contact me at media@merredin.wa.gov.au.

TRANSWA Pensioner Free Travel Charges

From January 2020, Transwa will manage annual Pensioner Free Travel entitlements digitally for WA Pensioner Concession Cardholders. Your travel entitlements will be the same, however Centrelink and the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) will no longer send WA Free Trip Vouchers with new concession card(s). To ensure you are ready for travel in 2020 register now.

How do I Register?

Call into the Visitor Centre to complete a registration form that Robyn or Carina will email to Transwa on your behalf, along with copies of both sides of your concession card.

How do I book my free travel?

Once the new digital system rolls out you can still book your free travel entitlements with the friendly staff at the Visitor Centre.



Government of Western Australia
Department of Water and Environmental Regulation

National On-Farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme

Farm water rebates available
for livestock farm water supply infrastructure

Rebates up to \$25 000 available

Are you eligible?

If you answer YES to these questions, you may be eligible to apply for a rebate.

Are you

- a property owner, share farmer or lease holder in the livestock industry?
- a pastoralist or commercial farmer of sheep, beef, dairy and/or general livestock?
- registered for GST and do you have an active ABN?
- able to purchase and install new water infrastructure for livestock welfare and/or to improve resilience against livestock water deficiency, on property in rural Western Australia?

For further information or to apply online, visit: dwer.wa.gov.au/NOFEWIRS Or contact Rural Water Planning, Department of Water and Environmental Regulation, 7 Ellam Street, Victoria Park, WA 6100

Australian Government
Department of Agriculture and Water Resources

ruralwater@dwer.wa.gov.au | 1800 780 300

SELECT COMMITTEE INTO LOCAL GOVERNMENT



Our ref: LGI

8 July 2019

President Ken Hooper, and
Chief Executive Officer Greg Powell
Shire of Merredin
PO Box 42
MERREDIN WA 6415

Dear President and Chief Executive Officer

Parliamentary inquiry into Local Government

On 26 June 2019 the Select Committee into Local Government was established by the Legislative Council to inquire into how well the system of local government is functioning in Western Australia, with particular reference to –

- whether the *Local Government Act 1995* and related legislation is generally suitable in its scope, construction and application;
- the scope of activities of Local Governments;
- the role of the Department of State administering the *Local Government Act 1995* and related legislation;
- the role of Elected Members and Chief Executive Officers/employees and whether these are clearly defined, delineated, understood and accepted;
- the funding and financial management of Local Governments; and
- any other related matters the Select Committee identifies as worthy of examination and Report.

As part of its consultation process, the Committee invites you to provide a written submission on one or more of the above Terms of Reference. The Committee also requests that you circulate this invitation to your Councillors, staff and interested parties in your local government area (including any ratepayer or similar organisations), as well as local media outlets.

The closing date for submissions is **4:00pm on Friday, 23 August 2019**. Submissions received after that date are unlikely to be considered. If you are unable to present your submission by the closing date, please contact the Committee Clerk.

Submissions are confidential until the Committee releases them. You should not disclose your submission to others until the Committee authorises its public release.

It is normal practice for Legislative Council committees to authorise the publication of submissions at some stage during its inquiry. These submissions are then available to the public on request. Please note that your submission may be placed on the Internet by the Committee.

It is important that any request for the Committee to prohibit publication of all or part of the submission, or the identity of the author, be attached to the submission when it is lodged. Please state why you want it confidential. If you want part of the submission kept confidential please put that part on a separate page(s). The Committee will consider requests for confidentiality, but retains the power to publish any submission. The Legislative Council may also authorise publication.

The Committee may decide to hold hearings at a later date. If you wish to appear before the Committee, make that request when the submission is lodged.

Written information about the form and content of submissions can be obtained from the Committee Office or viewed on the Parliamentary website at: www.parliament.wa.gov.au. (Choose Quick Links/Make a submission to a committee.)

It would assist the Committee to process and consider your submission if it is typed on A4 paper. An electronic copy of any material would be appreciated. The preferred format is Word 2007 or later. For inquiries, or lodging submissions contact:

Mr Mark Warner, Committee Clerk
Select Committee into Local Government
Legislative Council
Parliament House, 4 Harvest Terrace
WEST PERTH WA 6005
Telephone: 9222 7410 Email: lgi@parliament.wa.gov.au.

Yours sincerely

Hon Simon O'Brien MLC
Chairman

CELEBRATION OF FARMING IN THE WHEATBELT

BURRACOPPIN, WA

21 SEPTEMBER 2019
12PM @ BURRACOPPIN FOOTBALL OVAL

CASH ONLY
ONLY \$5 ENTRY!
(Kids under 5 go free)

Prelim footy game screening
Kids activities
Live music and food vans
Stall holders
Novelty activities/ games
Fashions on the field
Bar open



Merredin Library presents

A morning with Scott Whitaker

Scott will talk about the history of the railway and the local hotels as well as sharing tips on researching for family, local and state history. If you are a fan of history and the railways this is a must for you.



Merredin Library

Monday 12 August 10.30am
RSVP: by 9 August for catering purposes
on 9041 1222 or
email: library@merredin.wa.gov.au
This is a free event. Light refreshments provided.

