

NEWS AND INFORMATION



September 2019



Instagram

SHIRE OF MERREDIN

#PUTYOUR WHEATBELT ON

Do you have a video, boomerang or photo that shows off your Wheatbelt? tag us in it [@shireofmerredin](#) on Instagram and use the [#PutYourWheatbeltOn](#) or message it to us for a chance to be featured in our upcoming marketing campaign. We want to see YOU, your mates, your place, how YOU live in the wheatbelt.

@shireofmerredin

SHOW US YOUR WHEATBELT

The Shire is running a video competition on Instagram and Facebook! We are looking for your best videos from around our beautiful Shire. The brief? Send us a video that shows off your Wheatbelt and [#PutYourWheatbeltOn](#). We want to put the Wheatbelt on show and celebrate what it means to come from Merredin. Make sure you use our hashtags, [#PutYourWheatbeltOn](#) [#innovatingtheWheatbelt](#) and tag us [@ShireofMerredin](#) for a chance to be featured in our upcoming marketing campaign!

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ARE YOU BUSH FIRE READY?

YOU CAN'T OUTFIGHT IT, OR OUTLAST IT.
SO TAKE 5 MINUTES
TO OUTSMART IT.

5 MINUTE
FIRE
CHAT



Are you bushfire ready? Have you prepared your property, do you know when to leave, where to go and which way to go? You can get more information on preparing you and your property for bushfires, storms and other emergency situations. More infor-

DUE
OCTOBER
31 2019

mation is available from the following website: <https://www.emergency.wa.gov.au/prepare>.

What is a 5 minute Fire Chat? Have you had the discussion with your friends and family of what you would do in the event of a fire? Bushfires are unpredictable and happen every year. The single biggest killer is indecision. To survive a bushfire you must be prepared to make your own decisions. Head to <https://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/firechat/Pages/default.htm> to have your 5 minute fire chat. What about your pets? An estimated 63% of households in Australia have at least one pet, one of the highest rates of pet ownership in the world! It is vital that you include your pets in your emergency plans. You can find out how at the DFES website under the 'safety information' tab.

Storm Safety: Storms can occur all year round and it is important to have yourself, family and property prepared. Residents can minimise this damage by taking a few steps to prepare for winter storms and stay Storm Safe. More information is available at this website address: <https://www.dfes.wa.gov.au/safetyinformation/storm/Pages/prepareforastorm.aspx>.

Legal Requirements: Each year the Shire releases its annual Fire Break Notice. It is the responsibility of all land owners/occupiers within the Shire to comply with the notice. Refer to the current Shire of Merredin's Fire Break Notice 2019/20 for legal requirements and advice to better prepare your property, available at our website.

Bushfire Information

Contacts

Chief Bush Fire Control Officer: Stephen Crook, 0429 411 429

Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer: John Flockart, 0428 469 018

Senior Ranger: Kim Friis, 0400 240 787

Harvest Ban Information Line: 90 412 999

In case Emergency: 000

Shire of Merredin

Phone: 90411 611

Website: <https://www.merredin.wa.gov.au/ranger-services.aspx>

Facebook: @ShireofMerredin

SMS emergency alerts:

Phone 90411 611 and speak to our Ranger Services.

ABC News:

Local Radio: ABC 720 (and in larger emergency situations ABC 24 TV) Website:

www.abc.net.au/news/emergency/state/wa


Bureau of Meteorology:

www.bom.gov.au

Department of Parks & Wildlife:

www.dpaw.wa.gov.au

#WheatbeltWildflowers

 CENTRAL WHEATBELT
VISITOR CENTRE

More wildflower wonder on Page 5!

WWW.MERREDIN.WA.GOV.AU for the latest news, information and services.



@ShireofMerredin

CAT & DOG REGISTRATION DUE



Dog and cat owners should make sure their annual registration is renewed by 31 October.

The registration period runs from 1 November to 31 October.


All dogs over the age of three months must be registered and wear both a registration tag and disc showing the owner's phone number and animals name.


Similarly, all cats six months and over must be registered and wear a registration tag.

As of 1 November 2015 all dogs and cats must also be microchipped prior to the renewal of their registration.

Owners of unregistered cats and dogs can incur a \$200 on the spot fine and an infringement of \$200 for unchipped animals.


Completed application forms are available from the Shire's administration office and more information can be found at our website.






Changes to the Scheme

- ◆ The 'first and last mile' special RAV access arrangements have been finalised.
- ◆ HMMS will continue, however will revert to its original intent as a mass management scheme.



Access Update

- ◆ 1053 roads were endorsed under HMMS Road Lists for the 2018-19 harvest period.
- ◆ Onsite assessments are underway with the intent to add these endorsed roads to the relevant RAV Networks prior to the upcoming harvest period.
- ◆ This eliminates the need for future special access arrangements under HMMS.




Key Points

- ◆ No changes to the HMMS mass provisions.
- ◆ Apply for new RAV access early, allowing up to 12 weeks.
- ◆ HMMS access is now via RAV Networks or Restricted Local Access Permits.


Harvest Mass Management Scheme

What you need to know for 2019-2020 Harvest Period




Register for HMMS

- ◆ If you wish to participate in HMMS, continue to register your vehicles with a participating Grain Receiver.
- ◆ Familiarise yourself with the HMMS Business Rules, available on the Harvest Mass Management Scheme page of our website.
- ◆ DO NOT submit a HMMS Road List to Main Roads.



New RAV Access

- ◆ If there are additional roads you need, for an upcoming harvest period, which are not approved for RAV access and you did not apply for them under HMMS last season, you will need to apply to Main Roads to have the roads assessed via the standard RAV application process.



RAV Access Options

- ◆ Use a Category 1 RAV vehicle combination that is 20 m or less in length and 50 t or less in gross mass on any road.
- ◆ Use a RAV that is greater than a Category 1 RAV vehicle combination on approved RAV Network roads.

For more information about HMMS contact our Heavy Vehicle Help Desk on 138 486 or visit the Harvest Mass Management Scheme page on our website at www.mainroads.wa.gov.au

FUNDING OPPORTUNITY

Have you got a local infrastructure project that you want funded? The Federal Member for Durack, Melissa Price has announced a new grants program as part of a \$22.65 million national investment under Round 5 of the Stronger Communities Programme.

What is it? There is \$150,000 worth of grants money to fund up to 20 local small capital projects in the electorate of Durack.

How can I apply? You can apply for grants ranging from \$2,500 to \$20,000 for projects that demonstrate social benefits and will improve community participation. Head to melissapricemp.com.au, fill out an Expression of Interest form before **Friday 6 September 2019** to be eligible.





NEW STAFF PROFILE

Name: Jasmin Corby, Finance Support Officer

How long have you been working with the Shire of Merredin?

Just started in my position on Monday, so haven't been in this position very long. I've moved over here from Wongan Hills after completing a traineeship through the Shire of Wongan-Ballidu.

What do you love most about the Wheatbelt?

I love how peaceful and not expecting the communities are. In bigger towns/cities expectations to commute to visit friends are higher due to being closer, but out here those expectations practically don't exist in my world and I love it!

What are you most excited to do in your position at the Shire?

After working alongside my fellow colleagues the previous couple days and seeing the amount of knowledge available to me, I'm very excited to soak up every bit of that knowledge. New knowledge is always exciting.

DOG PARK GRAND OPENING

The Merredin Dog Park will officially open its doors to wagging tails on 12 October 2019 from 10am-12 noon.

Dog owners and park users alike will benefit from a new enclosed dog park on the corner of Coronation & Bates Streets Merredin, after the Shire acquired grant funding to assist with this project.

The new facility will enable dog owners to exercise their pets off-leash in one of two completely separate areas, one for large dogs and another for small dogs.

Enclosed dog parks have been well received in other local government areas where they have been trialled. This dog park will be a terrific community health initiative.

Enclosed dog parks give people space to socialise their dogs, which can result in less conflict in parks and happier dogs that are less likely to develop behavioural issues, such as excessive barking or digging.

The dog park features high perimeter fencing, a gate entry system, agility features, watering points, shade and different surfaces to cater for a range of dogs.

Majority of the funding for this project has come from the Shire of Merredin, Collgar and Lotterywest. The Shire would like to thank the Merredin Men's Shed and Avon Youth for their assistance in the construction of the Dog Park equipment.

All dogs entering into this area are required to be compliant with the *Dog Act 1976* that requires dogs to be registered and chipped. Failure to do so may result in penalties. All dogs outside the perimeter **MUST** be leashed.



NEW WILDFLOWERS

Need help identifying species on your wildflower hunt? We've got you covered! The Central Wheatbelt Visitors Centre has a large range of guides to choose from depending on your budget, ranging in price from \$6.95 to \$60. During wildflower season the Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre will be open 7 days.

#wheatbeltwildflowers

Have you seen any wildflowers out and about? Maybe some stunning orchids or fields of everlastings? Keep us updated with your sightings so we can pass the information on to those who come and visit our town. We would also love to see your images so be sure to use our hashtag #wheatbeltwildflowers and tag @centralwheatbeltvisitorcentre on Instagram and Facebook!

WATER TOWER SURVEY

A survey is now available on our website and social media channels as a way for the community to provide feedback on the future of the Merredin Water Tower tank. This survey will be available to fill out until the 20th of September 2019. If you do not have access to a computer, this survey will be available to fill out at the Library. We will then collate this information and share the results at the town hall meeting, where people who do not have access to our digital services can have a chance to provide feedback in the form of a hard copy survey.

We look forward to hearing from you!



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TIMELINE



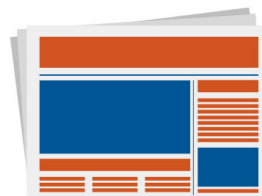
UPDATE COMMUNITY ON ENGAGEMENT PLANS: WHO, WHAT, WHERE AND WHEN

Announce the details of a town hall meeting via flyers, public noticeboard, digital and social outlets and local news outlets.



MEETING AT CUMMINS THEATRE

The Town meeting will be hosted by the Shire president and will provide the community with a forum to express their ideas and proposals on the future of the water tower. Hard copies of the inspection findings report will be available and a ballot will be taken.



PUBLISH INSPECTION FINDINGS AND UPDATE ON PROGRESS

Distribute media release and notify the community on our intention to engage in a feedback process.



ROLL OUT DIGITAL SURVEY

Prior to the town hall meeting, roll out a digital survey on our online platforms that will close on the 20th of September. These results will be shared with the public at the meeting and published on our website.



RESULTS WILL BE SHARED WITH THE PUBLIC

The result of the Town Hall meeting and community feedback will be tallied and shared with the public via media platforms and noticeboards.



GAMES DAY

COME ALONG AND PLAY SOME GAMES, WIN TICKETS AND 'BUY' YOUR PRIZES. JUST LIKE TIMEZONE!

MONDAY 7 OCTOBER
 REC CENTRE
 12PM-3PM
 WIN TICKETS FOR PRIZES

SHOOTING HOOPS, BOARD GAMES, PARTY GAMES, MARIO KART, WELLNESS CORNER AND SO MUCH MORE!



FESTA ITALIANA

18-20 OCTOBER
 MERREDIN, WA



Festa Italiana is only 1 month away! Be sure to get tickets to our 3 course Italian dinner.



Events September 2019

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
						1
2 10am: Tales of Times Past Senior Storytellers	3	4	5	6 9am: Morning Melodies@Cummins	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 9am: Isaiah@Cummins	15
16	17 3pm: Council Meeting	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						



Morning Melodies Concert Series

Cummins Theatre
Friday 6th September 2019

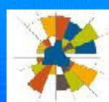
Featuring singing/songwriter - Alli Butler

Come along and join us for our Morning Melodies concert. Catch up with old friends or make some new friends as you chat over morning tea at 10:30am then sit back and enjoy a concert from 11am – 12pm.

Book your ticket at the theatre or in person at the Central Wheatbelt Visitors Centre.
Door sales available

\$15 includes morning tea

*bookings in advance preferred for catering purposes.



CUMMINS THEATRE

RAMELIUS
RESOURCES 

FESTA ITALIANA

18-20 OCTOBER
MERREDIN, WA



COOKING WORKSHOP

Come and learn
how to make
traditional Italian
biscuits and
mini pizzas.

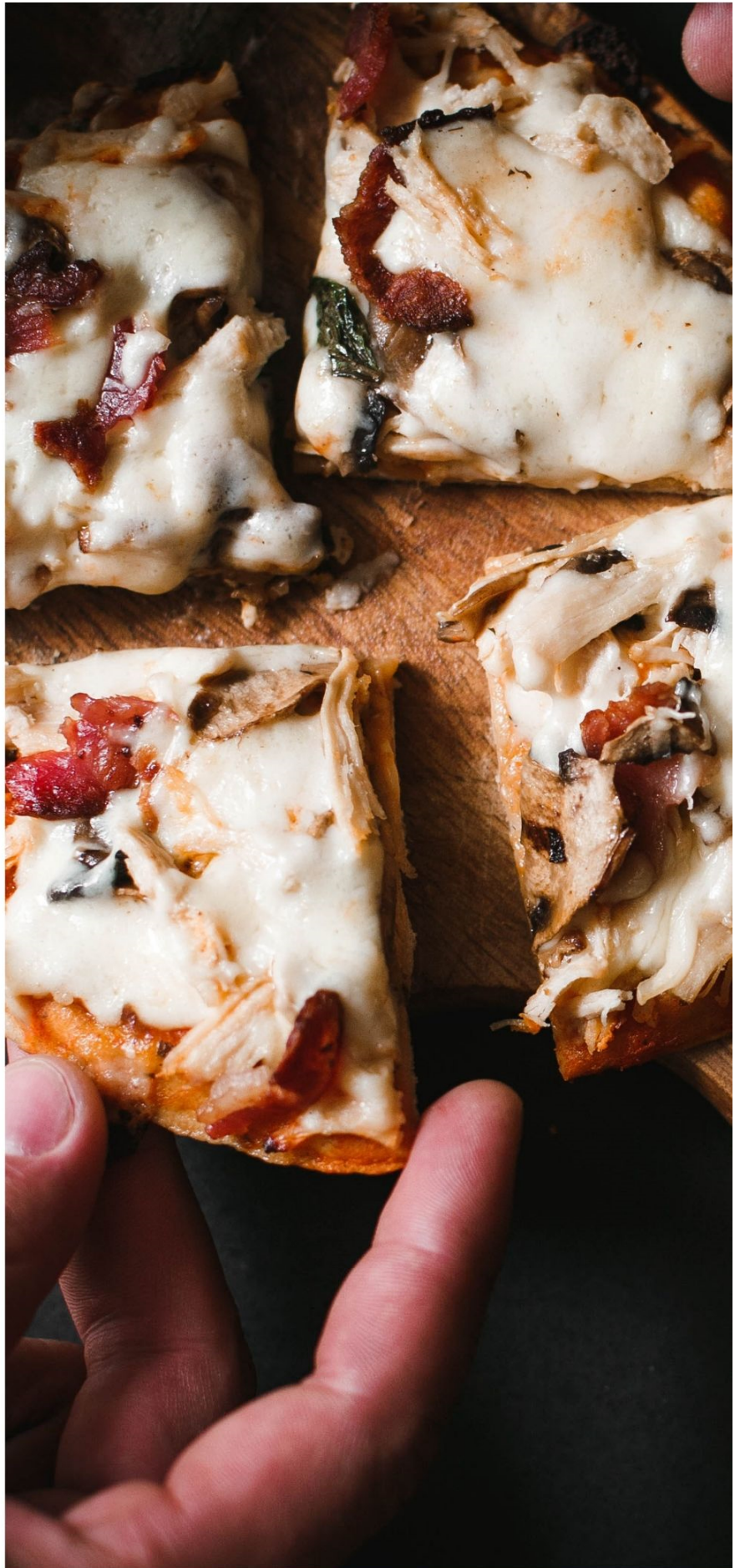


**WEDNESDAY 9
OCTOBER 11AM-1PM**

AT THE REC CENTRE

ALL AGES WELCOME*

*kids under 10 must be supervised by a responsible adult



SHIRE OF
MERREDIN
INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT



COLLGAR
WIND FARM

