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Friday, October 8th 2021

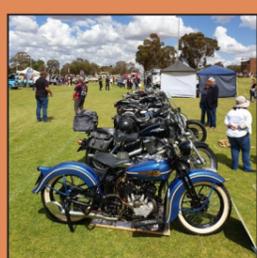
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Hon Mia DAVIES MLA
MEMBER FOR CENTRAL WHEATBELT
LEADER OF THE NATIONALS WA
LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION



THE NATIONALS
for Regional WA

Inaugural Gateway Merredin Draws Travelers from all over WA

By KOHDEE SWINWOOD

Hundreds of travelers from all around the state set their maps destination to Merredin for the inaugural Gateway Merredin Festival, held during the September long weekend from September 24 – 26. Campervans by the dozens rolled into town Friday morning, ready for a weekend of festivities, while four-wheel drives lined the streets, their owners making a quick stop at the Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre before heading to their accommodation.

The event kicked off on Friday with the community sausage sizzle which was generously cooked by the Merredin's Men Shed and served by local volunteers. Approximately 350 people took the opportunity to grab a snag and chat with mates down in the Bates Street Basecamp across from Cummins Theatre. An hour later, VIPs, sponsors, and special guests joined the celebrations for the

official opening on the steps of the Tivoli. Triple M Breakfast announcer Terry Siva hosted the evening, with Shire President Julie Flockart opening the formalities and Hon. Darren West MLC speaking on behalf of the Premier and State Government. Mick Hayden also attended the opening to perform a traditional Welcome to Country, complete with a didgeridoo performance by Michael Hayden.

Later that evening, the sensational Illumination was premiered on the TJ Middleton Building in front of huge crowd! There were several loud 'oos' and 'wows' echoing the Illumination Lounge, with people of all ages mesmerized by the moving pictures and creative storytelling created by Illuminart. Straight after, more than 160 people ushered into the historical Cummins Theatre for a

(Continued on page 3)



COVID-19 WA Statistics

As at 5th October 2021

Tested 1,781,052

Confirmed Cases 1,109

Recovered 1,085

Deaths 9

Active cases in WA 15

COVID-19 in Australia

Vaccinations 17,002,409 (66.2%)

Fully Vaccinated 11,766,864 (45.8%)

WA—Cases 1,109—Deaths 9

ACT—Cases 1129 —Deaths 8

NSW—Cases 65,279—Deaths 432

NT—Cases 212—Deaths 0

QLD—Cases 2,046—Deaths 7

SA—Cases 905—Deaths 4

TAS—Cases 236—Deaths 13

VIC—Cases 42,505—Deaths 873

We're all in this together.

Phone appointments available

We are open
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8.30am - 3pm Friday

91 Todd St, PO Box 818, Merredin
Phone: 08 9041 2900 or 08 9041 4151
Fax: 08 9041 4888
Email: admin.mmc@westnet.com.au
Facebook: Merredin Medical Centre

Merredin Medical Centre



Dr Jonathan Ruiz MD, VGDWH, MACEP, FPCEMAC



Dr Mirielsa Nufable-Ruiz MGGS, DPPS, DCH, VGDWH, FRACGP



Dr Alan Roustami MD, AMC



Donate your 10 cent refund to a community group

CWA of WA (Inc) – C10240442

Merredin College P&C Association - C10349064

Merredin Community Garden Group Inc. (MCGG) - C10358700

Merredin Community Resource Centre - C10242783

Merredin Districts Lawn Tennis Club - C10322072

Merredin Hockey Club - C10330862

Merredin Railways Tennis Club - C10336486

Merredin Repertory Club - C1032349

Merredin Show - C10360791

Nangeenan Hall - C10481734

Parnana Pikurtu Wildlife Sanctuary - C10305338

St Mary's PS - C10323720



Send your community groups scheme ID to admin2@merredincrc.com or phone 9041 1041 so it can go in the next Phoenix

THE PHOENIX

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5th & 19th November

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Doodlakine, Kellerberrin, Merredin,
Moorine Rock, Mukinbudin,
Narembeen, Nungarin, Southern Cross,
Tammin, Trayning & Westonia.



Emma Aitken – Thumbs up to the Merredin Shire for organising a fantastic Gateway Merredin weekend. There was something for everyone and it was great to have new and exciting things happening around town.



Jim Willcox—Thumbs Up to the Police Remembrance Day. A great service and afternoon tea.



Kevin Tengvall – Thumbs up to the Merredin Shire for putting on the inaugural Gateway to Merredin weekend, we thought it was a resounding success.



Lean Jones – Thumbs up to all involved with the Merredin Gateway weekend and to the Merredin CRC, once again for their tireless effort they put in. The billy tea was awesome.



Wendy Farrington – Thumbs up to our Merredin staff at the Commonwealth Bank who have helped me so much this past two weeks.

Have your Say

If you could give your teenage self one piece of advice, what would it be?

Natalie Warnock – Save money while you have no debt.

Tim Inglis – Hold on tight, it gets a little rough.

Kylie Garwood – Not everyone is a true friend.

Ashleigh Kendall – Stay in school and away from boys.

Grand Chandler – Work hard and party

Lesley Watson – Jump and the net will appear.

Kat Challis – The world is in your hands, live life to the fullest, love your Mum, do your best in whatever you do, be happy, stay safe, respect your elders because if it wasn't for them we all wouldn't be here today.

Anjoen Wells – Believe in yourself more.

Mukhtar HeDayat – Life is about progression and not perfection.

Nicholas Malaspina – Don't waste your time talking to others about ideas! Just show them your results.

Robyn Jetta Boyce – No dating till you've finished high school Rob! Then also no dating till you've finished uni Rob!!

Jess Spring – Work hard and buy a house young.

Josie Duffield – Not all your friends are really friends.



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Southern Cross Hardware & News

Tammin Post Office

Trayning Post Office

Two Dogs, Merredin

Wegners Rural, Nungarin

Westonia Co-op

Inaugural Gateway Merredin cont.

(Continued from page 1)

powerful performance by the Western Australian Youth Jazz Orchestra (WAYJO).

Festival goers were up bright and early on Saturday to hop on the Collgar Community Bus, ready for the Buy from the Bush Market and Kids Zone. Crowds rolled through the event zone continuously throughout the day, with others spreading themselves between the artist workshops, tours, public art mural and art trail, and at the Military and Railway Museums. At 2pm Swingin' at the Savoy entertained afternoon crowds with their glamorous and entertaining rendition of music from the Roaring 20's in front of the Cummins Theatre, before the Hutton and Northey Game Day tent was opened up for AFL fans to grab a seat in front of the big screen.

At 4pm food trucks served up a delicious array of foods at the Merredin Freightlines Street Eats, with burgers, fish and chips, different flavoured spuds, curries, and ice cream and slushies for dessert. After the excitement of the

AFL Grand Final, Cummins Theatre opened its doors for a rock'n'roll performance by The Australia AC/DC Experience. Attendees danced the night away to the classic hits such as 'TNT', 'Thunderstruck', 'It's a Long Way to the Top', and 'You Shook Me All Night Long.'

Sunday morning began with a Church service hosted by Merredin Churches Fraternal before a parade of military and vintage vehicles took place down the main street of Merredin. More than 20 vehicles joined the succession, lead by the Merredin Police, that eventually finished at the carpark across from Merredin Community Resource Centre (CRC). Here, the crowds were able to get up close and personal with the military vehicles (including a tank!), with kids taking the opportunity to jump in the vehicles and pose for photos.

Across the road, the Merredin CRC hosted a morning tea for more than 300 people, using the festival theme; Troops, Trains and Treasures, as inspiration behind the dishes. Attendees were able to grab a hot cuppa, grab plate of food, and relax on the grass by the roaring fire pits,

before heading over to the Merredin Fine Arts Gallery to view their poster trail.

Events on Sunday continued with the Water Colour Workshop with local artist Jessie Spring, a 'virtual' tour of the CBD hosted by the Railway Museum and a war themed movie night at the Cummins Theatre run by the Merredin Military Museum.

The Shire of Merredin would like to express their gratitude those who attended the Gateway Merredin festival, as well as the staff, community groups, and volunteers who gave their time over the weekend to ensure a smooth and successful event.

Thank you to the festival funding bodies, Department of Local Government, Sports and Cultural Industries and Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, and Lotterywest, for their support during the inaugural regional festival, as well as our Principal Sponsors Hutton and Northey Sales, Merredin Freightlines, and Collgar Wind Farm.

To the major sponsors, Great Southern Fuel Suppliers, Merredin Energy, MDN Electrical Contractors, Liberty Rural, McKenzie Family Funerals and Monumental Works, Eastway, and Risen Energy, we thank you also for your support during the inaugural year.

For those who would like to give their feedback on the event, please head to the below website. bit.ly/GatewayMerredinSurvey



7th September 2021**Perth Courthouse**

William Riley plead not guilty to charges of assaulting a public officer, unlawfully assault and thereby did bodily harm with circumstances of aggravation, being armed or pretending to be armed in a way that may cause fear, criminal damage or destruction of property, and unlawful wounding. The matter was adjourned to appear in Perth on the 5th October 2021.

8th September 2021**Moora Courthouse**

Braden Pitkethly appeared on charges of drove a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol and dangerous driving. He plead not guilty on charges of no authority to drive – alcohol offender, and common assault in circumstances of aggravation or racial aggravation. The matter was adjourned to appear in Moora on the 6th October 2021.

10th September 2021**Perth Courthouse**

Christopher Biggers appeared on charges of failed to comply with requirement as to provision of oral fluid or blood sample for testing analysis, and no authority to drive – suspended (other than fines suspension). The matter was adjourned to appear in Perth on the 22nd February 2022.

14th September 2021**Northam Courthouse**

Christopher Milosz appeared on charges of stealing, and possession of stolen or unlawfully obtained property. The matter was dismissed.

Perth Courthouse

Brodie Scorer appeared on charges of failing to comply with reporting obligations. The matter was adjourned to appear in Perth on the 5th October 2021.

Lindsay George was convicted of being armed in public, and breach of a conditional suspended imprisonment order and imprisoned for 3 months and 1 day. He received a global penalty for a number of other charges and was fined a total of \$1000.

Jeffrey Thomas was convicted of 2 counts of threatening to kill, 2 counts of criminal damage or destruction of property, having ready access to both weapons and illegal drugs, common assault in circumstances of aggravation or racial aggravation, possessing a prohibited drug, threatening to injure, endanger or harm any person and reckless driving to escape pursuit by police and received a 1 year 2 months imprisonment order. He was

convicted of reckless driving to escape pursuit by police and having no authority to drive – suspended (other than fines suspension) and had his licence suspended for 2 years and 9 months. He was convicted of disorderly behaviour in public and fined \$100, of possessing a prohibited drug (Cannabis) and fined \$100, of failing to comply with requirements of a Police Officer and fined \$50, of damaging property and fined \$500, of causing smoke or excessive noise or left a substance on the driving surface in a confiscation zone and fined \$500, of obstructing public officers and fined \$500 and of a breach of bail undertaking and fined \$100.

17th September 2021**Midland Courthouse**

Jayden Fanning plead not guilty on charges of without lawful excuse trespassed on a place, and stealing. The matter was adjourned to the 22nd October 2021.

20th September 2021**Perth Courthouse**

Marcus Hayden appeared on a charge of common assault. The matter was adjourned to appear in Perth on the 18th October 2021.

21st September 2021**Merredin Courthouse**

Sarah Archer was convicted of possessing drug paraphernalia in or on which there was a prohibited drug or plant. She was fined \$200 and ordered to pay costs of \$259.30.

Mila Bennett was convicted of no authority to drive (never held) and exceed speed limit between 20 and 29km/h. She was fined \$700 and ordered to pay costs of \$259.30.

Linda Besic plead not guilty on a charge of gains benefit by fraud. The matter was adjourned to appear in Merredin on the 7th December 2021.

Cassia Blaszkiewicz was convicted of no authority to drive – suspended (other than fines suspension). She was fined \$1000 and ordered to pay costs of \$259.30.

Gwynn Breese was convicted of exceeding speed limit between 10 and 19km/h. She was fined \$200.

Kyle Brown appeared on charges of reckless driving and no authority to drive (disqualified from holding or obtaining). He was remanded to appear in Perth on the 5th October 2021.

Scott Cunningham was convicted of no authority to drive – cancelled. He was remanded to appear in Merredin on the 19th October 2021.

Jai Done appeared on a charge of

failing to comply with reporting obligations. The matter was adjourned to appear in Bunbury on the 15th October 2021.

Tony Dunkin plead guilty to driving a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol, no authority to drive – cancelled, and used an unlicensed vehicle on a road. He was remanded to appear in Merredin on the 5th October 2021.

Ben Ell was convicted of exceeding 0.08g alcohol per 100ml of blood. He was fined \$1750 and ordered to pay costs of \$259.30.

Leigh Ferris was convicted of breaching a family violence restraining order, and assault occasioning bodily harm. He was fined \$300 and ordered to pay costs of \$134.50 and received a continuation of their suspended imprisonment order.

Tyrone Hayden appeared on charges of disorderly behaviour in public, re-enter licences premises within 24 hours, and criminal damage or destruction of property. He was remanded to appear in Merredin on the 19th October 2021.

Anna Jakopovic was convicted on two counts of assaulting a public officer. She received a 6 months community based order.

Sheaylee Jeanes appeared on two counts of no authority to drive (never held), and one count of reckless driving. The matter was adjourned to appear in Merredin on the 19th October 2021.

Michelle Krakouer was convicted of driving a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol. She was fined \$1700 and ordered to pay costs of \$259.30.

Melissa Lawrence appeared on two counts of assaulting a public officer, one count each of obstructing public officers, and being armed or pretending to be armed in a way that may cause fear. The matter was adjourned until 17th November 2021.

Thomas Lawrence was convicted of exceeding 0.08g alcohol per 100ml of blood and had his licence suspended for 8 months. He was convicted of no authority to drive (disqualified from holding or obtaining) and had his licence suspended for a further 9 months. He was also convicted of being involved in an incident where property was damaged, failed to stop as required to do so. He was fined a total of \$2500 and ordered to pay costs of \$259.30.

Damian Michael was convicted on a charge of no authority to drive – suspended (other than fines suspension). Had his licence suspended for 9 months, fined \$400

and was ordered to pay costs of \$259.30.

Jesse Munday was convicted of possessing drug paraphernalia in or on which there was a prohibited drug or plant, possessing a prohibited drug (cannabis), and cultivating a prohibited plant. He was fined a total of \$900 and ordered to pay costs of \$259.30.

Logan Olney-Kemp was convicted on a charge of no authority to drive (disqualified from holding or obtaining). Had his licence suspended for 9 months, fined \$1000 and was ordered to pay costs of \$259.30.

Kahukura Roberts was convicted of criminal damage or destruction of property, using an unlicensed vehicle on a road, being the driver of a vehicle involved in an incident where property was damaged, failed to stop as required to do so, and being the driver of a vehicle involved in an accident in which property was damaged failed to report accident to Police. He was fined a total of \$2450 and ordered to pay costs of \$473.20.

Pauline Smart was convicted of no authority to drive – suspended (other than fines suspension). Had her licence suspended for 9 months, find \$1000 and ordered to pay costs of \$259.30.

Tevita Taumalolo was convicted on two counts of disorderly behaviour in public, three counts of criminal damage of destruction of property, and one count of re-entering licensed premises within 24hrs. He was remanded to appear in Merredin on the 23rd November 2021.

Megan Watterson plead not guilty of with intent to defraud forges a record. The matter was adjourned to appear in Merredin on the 21st December 2021.

Paul Wiggan appeared on two charges of assaulting a public officer and one charge of obstructing public officers. The matter was adjourned until the 17th November 2021.

Sheldon Bennett was convicted on charges of possessed drug paraphernalia in or on which there was a prohibited drug or plant, and failed to comply with requirements made by a member of the police force. Had his licence suspended for 6 months, fine a total of \$700 and ordered to pay costs of \$259.30.

Perth Courthouse

Tom Wood plead not guilty to charges of common assault in circumstances of aggravation or racial aggravation, damaging property, assault occasioning bodily harm, and two counts of unlawfully assault and thereby did bodily harm with circumstances of aggravation.

My Thoughts

I wonder

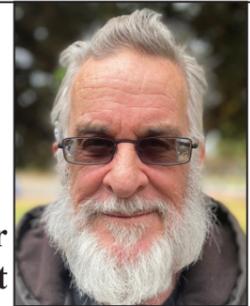
What counts as wealth I wonder in this world?

We toil for tokens made by kings and trade amongst ourselves for things while kings themselves just stare us down and tax the crop we've carefully sown and strut round in robes with flags unfurled.

And so to be a king what would I need?

the sure conviction I am so and that today's king is my foe and if the wind does blow my way I'll fly my flag and all will say he got there by his courage not by greed.

and whether by a vote or by decree we choose our rulers by their lies convince ourselves that they are wise



Peter Barrett

while deputies and bureaucrats keep us tame like dogs and cats and issue permits to be happy for a fee.

Eight billion human souls and more to come who knows how many earth can host or if our planet burns like toast because our precious things and token

system made the earth all broken Thinking we were smart when we were dumb.

The matter was adjourned to appear in Perth on the 19th October 2021.

22nd September 2021

Merredin Courthouse

Cameron Dickhart was found guilty of reckless driving speeding by 45km/h or more on a length of road to escape pursuit, no authority to drive – suspended (other than fines suspension), driver of vehicle failed to comply with a direction to stop, and failed to give information identifying the driver or person in charge of a vehicle. Had his licence suspended for 9 months, fined a total of \$2000 and ordered to pay costs of \$228.70.

Matthew Jetta appeared on charges of possession of stolen or unlawfully obtained property, without lawful excuses trespassed on a place, stealing, wilfully lit fire likely to injure or damage, possess a prohibited drug (cannabis), breach of bail (fail to appear soon after), and criminal damage or destruction of property. He plead guilty on charges

of possession of stolen or unlawfully obtained property, criminal damage or destruction of property, disorderly behaviour in public, fail to obey order given by an officer, assault occasioning bodily harm, two charges of stealing, and three charges of gains benefit by fraud. He was remanded to appear in Perth on the 8th October 2021.

Ralph Palmer was convicted on charges of reckless driving exceeded the speed limit by 45km/h or more on a length of road, possess a prohibited drug, and four charges of possessed drug paraphernalia in or on which there was a prohibited drug or plant. He was remanded to appear in Perth on the 19th October 2021.

28th September 2021

Northam Courthouse

Kerry Kordell Smith plead guilty on a charge of assault occasioning bodily harm. The matter was adjourned to appear in Northam on the 18th October 2021.

Police Report

By **SENIOR SERGEANT HEATH SOUTAR**

Merredin Police are continuing their efforts to combat incidents involving anti-social behaviour within the community. The latest incident, last Thursday evening, saw 7 persons charged with a total of 9 offences. Police were quick to get to the scene on the evening and arrest two of the main offenders, they have been bailed to appear in the Merredin Magistrates Court. As the result of further investigations, reviewing CCTV and talking to witnesses, a further 5 individuals were identified and charged. This incident, coupled with recent incidents at licenced premises and the resulting charges laid by Merredin Police shows that we will not tolerate this type of behaviour.

A male person was also arrested on Friday near the Merredin Train Station after complaints were received from the public about his unusual behaviour. Police responded quickly and were met by a torrent of abuse from the individual that saw the him spend some time in the Merredin Police Station cells. We want Merredin to be safe for all members of our community and anti-social behaviour will not be tolerated when in full view of the public and

in a public setting.

Merredin Police are continuing their efforts to ensure our roads are safe for all to use. It has been disappointing to find people thinking it is okay to drink and drive, we have been getting 3 to 4 alcohol effected drivers every week. Speeding drivers are also being targeted, on the weekend one driver lost their car after our radar had them travelling at 160 km per hour, they will also have a date with the magistrate.

We are planning a Public Open day at the Police Station on Saturday November 13 with an opportunity to view all the works we have had recently done. For those of you that have driven past the station you will see it has a new look and feel. On the day we will have tours of the station, demonstrations and it will be a very family friendly day. We would love to see as many people as possible attend.

Please call 131444 to contact Merredin Police, when we are in the office we will answer your call, after hours the number gets diverted to Perth, but please stay on the line and Police attendance can be organised. If you have an emergency, please ring 000.

Police Remembrance Day Ceremony

Merredin Police Station held their first ever 'stand-alone' Remembrance Day Ceremony outside of Merredin Police Station on Wednesday 29 September 2021.

The ceremony is held each year to acknowledge and recognise Police Officers who lost their lives, giving the ultimate sacrifice whilst performing their duties and serving the community.

Local Police Officers were joined by colleagues from the Wheatbelt District Office and surrounding

Eastern Wheatbelt Police Stations. Local community stakeholders and members also attended the service and joined Police for an afternoon tea after the service.

Wreaths were laid, along with offerings symbolising Police values of Dty, Care, Integrity and Teamwork during the ceremony.

It is hoped the service can be held every year, with further members of the community attending to support their local Police officers.



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Send your LETTER TO THE EDITOR



By JANE PATRONI, Chairperson
Merredin Railway Museum

Our much anticipated event "Gateway Merredin – Troops, Trains and Treasures" was recently celebrated with great success. Designed to showcase the importance of Merredin as a central junction for the railways in the Wheatbelt, it did not disappoint.

We at the Railway Museum welcomed many visitors both local and from other destinations who were amazed at the size, variety and age of our collection. Whilst rail transport has been a given to the local residents, the cumulative effort of Railway employees manpowered during WW2 to provide a crucial service has, over the years, been poorly understood and recognised.

Friday's balmy Spring evening was a perfect kickstart to the weekend with a Sundowner on the southern platform, aptly named "Canapes with the Conductor." Local Repertory member Stewart Low was Conductor for the evening. He ably greeted the guests, punched their "tickets" and invited them to enjoy a welcome drink. Our members served the canapes and mingled with the guests during the evening.

Although Saturday threatened rain, we were delighted to welcome 50 plus people into our Refreshment Room to listen to an insightful talk by Rail Heritage President, Philippa Rogers, on her book "Troops, Trains and Trades" highlighting the hard and onerous duty of maintaining the mechanics of the rail system that was sadly outshone by the efforts of seemingly more gallant war time roles. The need for and the importance played by women employed at the Midland Workshops as part of the war effort has not been well known. Philippa's inclusion of local content was appreciated as she made reference to the Ordnance depot at Nungarin and the importance of the 2nd/1st Australian Field Hospital located on

the east side of Merredin. Over the weekend our guests enjoyed free entry and plenty of hospitality was provided in our Refreshment Room.

We enjoyed the opportunity to host a virtual heritage tour of the town precinct from the comfort of our Refreshment Room on both the Saturday and Sunday. This consisted of a visual presentation highlighting key historical locations within the town of Merredin with associated commentary. Expertly researched by *Debbie Morris* and produced by *Kirsty Rochford*, the "armchair tour" gave a snapshot explanation of many key historical locations around the town of Merredin. The history of many of the old buildings and features early life and business in Merredin were brought to life in this great production. We plan to repeat the "virtual historical tour" in the near future.

Deb Morris (Treasurer) and I are looking forward to representing the Merredin Railway Museum on Sunday 10 October 2021 at **RailFest in Bassendean**.

A Big "Thank You" to everyone who visited us during the Gateway Festival – Troops, Trains and Treasures. We look forward to seeing you soon!

Snippets from the past : Missing Goods, Parcels and Luggage from WAGR Weekly Notice No 20 (1 June 1974). 1 x carton of pies (Perth to Oasis Saveway Norseman); 3



Canapes with the Conductor



Railway Museum volunteers dressed in period costume for Canapes with the Conductor (1893 was the year the first train came through Merredin).

Tales from the Rails

RAIL WA 150 – 2021 Celebrating 150th Anniversary of Railways in Western Australia

cartons of wine (Kewdale to Sutton at Bridgetown); 1 x carton of soup (Kewdale to Adami @ Mukinbudin); 1 x carton E. R. cartons (Merredin to Coles Melbourne); 1 x carton of groceries (Kewdale to Norseman); 1

x carton of claret (Kewdale to West Kalgoorlie); carton of Nestles cream (Kewdale to Farmers Co-op Dumbleyung).

I'm sure the owners would be grateful of their return!!



Jane Patroni, Railway Museum and Philippa Rogers, Author of *Trains, Troops and Trades*

Tales from the Train

A modern take on travelling by train

By LADY RANTHAM

A few tales

Squeaker Edition: This morning we bagged a seat next to Earnest Japanese Student who had LadyBeard blasting from her earbuds and her rubber soled sneakers resting against the seat in front. We had the misfortune to jag the driver who thinks he's a Formula 1 driver and speeds up to the extent that the train rocks quite violently from side to side on the longer stretches. This caused EJS's sneakers to make a squeaking sound as we wobbled along the Cockburn track. Squeak. squeaksqueaksqueak SQUEAKSQUEAKSQUEAK squeak. ..

HBIIS (Handsome Businessman In Impractical Shoes) got a fit of the giggles. And I mean girly giggles! They would have better suited EJS! She left us at Murdoch and HBIIS shared my seat and left me with a private and slightly shame-faced smile at Betty's Jetty.

There is a woman sitting on my train who is mouthing the words to the song on her headphones. From intensive, but indirect and unobtrusive observation, I do believe it's the goat herder song from the Sound of Music. On this basis alone - I want to meet this woman. We have stuff in common. We should be friends. She should come to our next Singstar night. But how awkward would it be to have some random woman that

you've clocked staring with acute intensity at you who then tries to introduce herself and suggest you're her kind of crazy and that you should so go to her house, where there are other crazy people. In the interests of not getting arrested and having my smartrider revoked, might let this one go. Let it goooooo.....

Tales of how to traumatise small annoying children on the train.

1. Take a sip from water bottle, containing ginger infused peppermint tea.
2. When smelly, obnoxious child offers his opinion that you have filled a bottle with your own urine....
3. Congratulate child on the astuteness of his observational skills in a delightedly surprised voice.
4. Wait for stunned silence.
5. Add (defensively) that it HAS been filtered!
6. Leave train with dignity.
7. Wait for next train to actually reach your destination.

You know you're an introvert when you get disproportionately vexed when some witless tart *steals* the downtime headspace of your homeward commute with her ceaseless wittering.

Not that I'm bitter at all.

There is someone reading a book called Deer Hunting with Jesus on my train!!!

Nungarin Harvest Festival—Another Great Weekend

By TRACY SCOTT

Another great weekend has come and gone! Friday 1 October saw a lovely crowd gathered at the Nungarin Community Recreation Centre for a BBQ tea and to play Bogan Bingo. All who participated had a great time. This was a new joint venture between the Shire of Nungarin and the Nungarin Heritage Machinery & Army Museum (which is well worth a visit if you haven't seen it yet). A big thank you to Natalie Veal who organised all of the food, kept the kitchen running smoothly and, along with the Curtin Uni students who did the barbecuing and the big clean up afterwards.

Saturday afternoon saw everyone heading to the Mangowine Homestead for the annual Mangowine Concert. Pre-concert entertainment was again provided by The Eastern Line, a very popular and talented local group from Mukinbudin.

The main concert entertainment was music by The Motown All-Stars and the sounds of The Bee Gees – all provided by VIP Entertainment. Just under 800 people enjoyed the concert in a lovely setting on a cool breezy night.

Sunday was Market Day, with the main street, hall and mall filled with regular and new stallholders and buyers browsing and looking for a bargain. At 10.30am Valda Knott and Ross Robartson conducted the "Blessing of the Header" service in the hope of a good harvest. The Museum's very old horse drawn Sunshine Harvester once again played its part in the service.

Gary Coumbe, Chairperson of the Mangowine Concert Committee, would like to thank all those who attended the concert, as well as the Committee, Curtin Uni Student Volunteers who helped out for the weekend along with the Nungarin locals and the caravanners staying at Mangowine and the Nungarin Caravan Park.

A BIG THANK YOU to our sponsors (without whom the concert

would not have been possible): AFGRI (formerly Ag Implements Merredin, Agvise Management Consultants, Bankwest Business Merredin, Byfields Accountants, CBH Merredin, Cocky's Ag, Comfortstyle Merredin, Elders Merredin, Geraghty's of Mukinbudin, Go Mad Merredin, Great Eastern Freightlines, Great Southern Fuels, Karni Engineering, K & S Creagh, Liberty Fuels Merredin, McKenzie Family Funerals, Merredin Crane Hire, Merredin Rural Supplies, Merredin Panel & Paint, Merredin Harvest Fresh Food, Merredin IGA, Merredin Tourist Park, Mia Davies MLA, Mukinbudin IGA, Mukinbudin Community Bank, Nextra Merredin, Nextra Ellenbrook, Nutrien Ag Solutions, Ron Bateman & Co, Ross's Diesel, RSM Merredin, Scott & Ann Dixon Doodlakine, Shire of Nungarin, Sippes of Mukinbudin, Spreadit – DW & AM Mottershead, Waugh Miller McQueen Dowerin, Wegner's Rural, Wheatbelt Liquid Waste.

Also a huge thanks to our "in-kind" supporters: St John Ambulance Kununoppin Sub Centre, Nola Bennett, Aimee Coumbe, Geoff Dayman, Jarid McLachlan, Emily Alberti, Janae de Lacy, Lorraine & Vanessa Seward, Mukinbudin Christian Team (Catering), Bob Mitchell (Mangowine Caretaker), The Woolshed Hotel Nungarin, Nungarin Community Resource Centre, Curtin Volunteers, Wheatbelt Visitors Centre, Tania Sprigg, Mangowine Volunteers & Helpers and all campers at Mangowine who helped with set up

and clean up.

Overall, another great weekend in Nungarin. We have received many complimentary comments on the wonderful organisation of the weekend by our small band of dedicated local volunteers.

Special thanks to the Curtin Uni Student Volunteers who do such a great job helping out wherever needed.

Don't miss it next year! Mark the date in your calendar for 2022 – Friday 30 September to Sunday 2nd October.



Market Day on Sunday



Bee Gees



The Eastern Line



The Motown All Stars

MERREDIN MARKETS

NEW DATE: FRIDAY 19TH NOVEMBER 2021

Due to other wheatbelt events we have change our November market date

19 November 2021
Event start from 5PM

CNR Barrack & Queen Streets, Merredin



Merredin Community Resource Centre



COLLGAR WIND FARM



MERREDIN MEN'S SHED



MERREDIN SHOW

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Merredin CRC - 110 Barrack Street

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Merredin Community Resource Centre

9041 1041

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International Beatles Tribute

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7:30PM
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From the History Room

By ANITA METCALF

The following snippets appeared in the local OCTOBER newspapers of the time.

27th, 1911: Some five or six weeks ago Merredin was presented with a policeman, and not before he was needed. At present, the only convenience he has is a tent about 10 by 12 as a lock-up, another the same size as a station and dwelling. He has a horse and a railing fence to stop it running away.

11th, 1928: Opening of the Cummins Theatre. The most up-to-date country theatre in W.A. It has seating accommodation for 700 on the floor and 300 in the circle and is equipped with the latest Krupp-Ernemann projector, one of the finest picture machines in WA. The full lighting is 100,000 candle power and the coloured lights have the same dimming effects as Hoyts in Perth.

7th, 1966: With the recent passing of Mr W.T. Stone, Muntadgin has lost its first early settler. Mr Stone came from England in 1910 and worked for a government boring

gang looking for water in the district. 2 years later he took up farming with his brother-in-law, Mick Bailey, until 1940 when the farm sold. Mr Stone took over the store at Muntadgin until a few years before his death.

26th, 1978: Coles Variety Store Specials: Party Lollies 47cents; Men's Sports Shirts \$4.48; Baby Shampoo 99cents; Enid Blyton Books 57cents and Girl's Skirts \$3.56.

14th, 1987: The man who discovered the Yilgarn goldfield, Richard Greaves, was honoured at a ceremony in Perth last month, 100 years after he pegged the first lease. Richard died in 1916 aged 62.

17th & 18th: The Mukinbudin Drive-In reopened with new owners and the double feature of Footrot Flats & Crocodile Dundee.

1st 1988: Random Breath Testing was introduced in W.A. on an 18 month trial basis.



St Mary's Primary School Fair
 South Ave, Merredin
 16th October 10am-2pm

St Mary's
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MERREDIN

- Market Stalls ▪ Cake Stall ▪ Men's Shed Train ▪ Clown ▪ Second hand Toy Stall ▪
- Money SandPit ▪ Food ▪ Fire Brigade Obstacle Course ▪ St John Ambulance ▪
- Silent Auction ▪ Book Stall ▪ Plant Stall ▪ Wine Wheel ▪ Cupcake Decorating ▪
- Show Bags ▪ Mystery Bags ▪ Colouring-in Station ▪ Helicopter Ball Drop ▪

Narembeen Shire President, Cr Rhonda Cole Awarded Eminent Service Award

By DAVID BLURTON, Shire of Narembeen CEO

At the WA Local Government Association Conference held in Perth, Narembeen's Shire President, Cr Rhonda Cole was awarded the 2021 Eminent Service Award for her outstanding contribution to Local Government.

The excerpt from the Awards presentation reads as follows:

"Rhonda Cole has provided exceptional leadership and guidance to the Narembeen community for 16 years, since her election to the Shire in 2005.

Rhonda was Deputy Shire President from 2009 until, 2011, Shire President from 2011 until 2013 and was again elected President in 2015, a position she continues to hold.

Rhonda has driven many exciting economic development projects in the community, including the construction of the Narembeen Recreation Centre, the Narembeen Lesser Hall Interpretation, the Narembeen Community Precinct Extension, the Narembeen Aquatic Centre Redevelopment, the construction of the Narembeen Emergency Services Facility and the development of the Narembeen Men's Shed.

She represents the Shire on the Go Narembeen Progress Association, RoeROC, the Eastern Wheatbelt

Declared Animal Group, the Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network and the Development Assessment Panel—Wheatbelt.

Rhonda is passionate about the delivery of high quality services, facilities and infrastructure within the region, and is highly respected amongst Councillors and community members.

She mentors new and existing Councillors and dedicates extensive hours to the improvement of opportunities for everyone within the community.

Rhonda is President of the WA Local Government Association's Great Eastern Country Zone, a delegate to the Wheatbelt South Regional Road Group—Roe Subgroup and is the WA Local Government Association Deputy State Councillor."

Cr Rhonda Cole has given so much of her personal and professional time to better the Narembeen community, she is a very deserving recipient of the Eminent Service Award.

Cr Cole also accepted an award on behalf of the Shire of Narembeen for the 2021 Local Government Road Safety Awards—Category C: Safe System Approach for Local Road Safety Partnerships for the Narembeen CRC's SOCK "Save Our Country Kids" initiative. Well done to everyone involved in this important program.



Narembeen Shire President, Cr Rhonda Cole

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2021 BACK TO THE BUSH VETERAN'S REUNION

FAMILY FUN & MARKET DAY

SATURDAY - 6th - NOVEMBER

Johnson Street, Bruce Rock
8.30 am - 12 midday
Market Stalls - Food - Drinks

**AIRBORN AMUSEMENTS | POP MAGIC
VORTEX GAMING
SPORTSFUN INFLATABLES & MORE!**

MARKET STALL HOLDERS WANTED!
Booking forms are to be returned to the Bruce Rock CRC by 4.00 pm on Wednesday, 27 October 2021
For more information or to request a Market Stall booking form,
please contact the Bruce Rock CRC on 08 9061 1687 or roctel@wn.com.au

Proudly Supported By...

Nangeenan Natter

By **JULIE TOWNROW**,
Nangeenan Progress Association

The sunshine is a welcome change from the cold devastation of the past few weeks, as so many count the cost of all the frost events in the region. The heartbreak of a year's work, dashed in a few weeks, I am reminded of the Pioneering spirit of our forefathers and the hardship they suffered to bring to us, the strength and tenacity to be great producers and keepers of our pioneering spirit still held dear today. The adaptability and resourcefulness of our community is as always admirable and people's ability to just get on with it, is what makes country folk, who we are.

Looking at the Hall, I sometimes think it is one step forward, one step back and the going is very slow at the moment however, I did meet with Shire EHO on site to discuss some of our plans moving forward and it was pleasing to learn that the Zoning will suit much of what we want to do without the need to make alterations to the Town Planning Scheme .

The Power supply to the South

West corner of the block is in progress but there are a couple of little issues with the water supply, a point overlooked by the Shire was the water rates that remained unpaid which required further negotiation to get this sorted to allow to have the Caveat removed to finalise the Land Transfer.

It came to light also that the water meter is not compliant, having been tampered with to connect water to reticulation piping rather than regulation supply of water. Hoping to leave this matter on the table for the moment until the plumbing needs to be done to meet building standards of today.

Fire burning restriction came into place on the 16th of September and the weed mass was too green to burn, so we now have a problem with seed set and an overburden of small weeds. Hoping to have someone with a little bucket on a machine that could "scrape off" this overburden to make walking around the site clear and safe.

Hoping to organise an Auction Day late in October with a combination of activities for families. While we are still unable to have public

access into the hall, there are many treasures that need to be parted with at the Auction, which would result in some funds to repair bank account.

Further clearing in the Hall has revealed considerable degradation of the floor and underfloor footings. To see the beautiful floorboards decimated by white ants and lack of respect for the originality of the floor which served as a great dancing floor in the past is very sad.

As we uncover more information about the history of the Hall, I personally love the story that the Late Mr Peter Rutter was the person responsible for 'polishing the floor' before each Saturday night dance, a job he took very seriously. He would attach a mat covered sleeper to the back of his motor bike, apply the sawdust and oil and ride his bike around the hall to provide a highly polished surface ready for Dance Night - very innovative.

There are still challenges around the supply of material to replace the roof, possibly due to the many roof repairs from cyclone Seroja.

It was disheartening to discover that the Nangeenan School building, which has stood on the North Merredin School site for many years has been demolished. This class room stood at the North Eastern corner of the school. Ironically this room was the Special Education class staffed by Ms Lorelle Brown assisted by Ms Rhonda Teasdale who spent much time with our daughter Susanne, who is profoundly deaf. Hopefully in the future we may be able to do something to replicate the School building in its original location.

Some people we are aware attended the Nangeenan School: Peter Rutter, Cahill twins, Snell boys, Laurel Innes, Joan Rutter, Nellie Nice, Harry Nice, Bruce and David Whitwell, the Forsythe boys and renowned Botanist and long time driver of her green holden FX ute, Margaret Mills.



Can you help to identify some of the people in this 1932 Nangeenan School photo, please contact Julie Townrow 0429 411 377

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MERREDIN SHOW

2nd April 2022

New Look for Merredin CRC

By **DEBBIE MORRIS, Manager Merredin CRC**

Merredin CRC has been increasing their services, facilities and community events and projects over the past year which has meant there was a need to increase staffing levels and offer better access to customers and community members within the CRC.

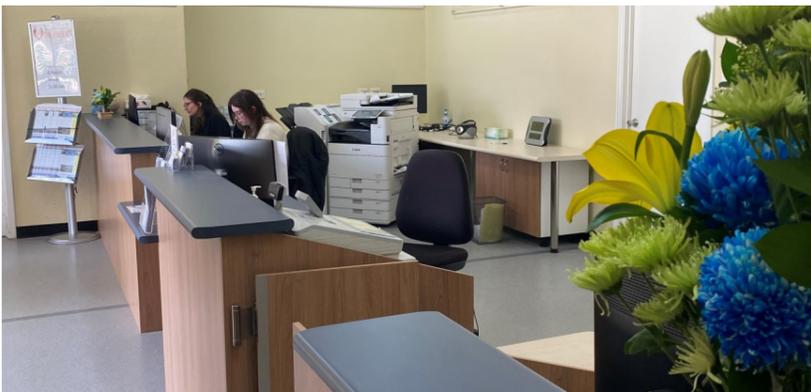
The CRC Committee and Staff are very pleased with the installation of a new reception desk which, along with the employment of two new staff, enables more effective and efficient customer service with four staff available at the new desk.

Over the past year with WA residents travelling around our great state, there have been an abundance of caravanners visiting or travelling

through Merredin. Staff are amazed at the number of vans parking in the carpark opposite the CRC who often pop in to find out information or use some of our services.

There has also been quite a big increase in the number of people coming into the CRC with enquiries and needing assistance with government online services, which also necessitated a better way of handling the busier customer service demand. The role of our CRC can be likened to that of a Citizen Advice Bureau.

Merredin CRC is very appreciative of the support by the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development through the Community Resource Centre Technology and Innovation Grant.



Kellerberrin and Districts
Agricultural Society

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100TH
**KELLERBERRIN
AND DISTRICTS
SHOW**

Saturday 16th October 2021




Gates open at 10.00am. Official opening of the 100th show at 12.00pm and new shed at 2.00pm. Lots of fun to be had with dodgem cars, sizzler, bouncy castles, BMX bike stunts, roaming entertainers, petting zoo and fireworks. \$50 wristbands for endless rides. Blue Shaddy and Full Noise will be entertaining us after the fireworks.

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Ramelius Resources to Inject Money into Narembeen Community

By DAVID BLURTON, Shire of Narembeen CEO

The Shire of Narembeen with the support of local gold miner Ramelius Resources Limited (ASX: RMS) has established the Ramelius Resources & Shire of Narembeen Community Benefit Fund. The purpose of the fund is to provide grants to Narembeen community groups for programs and/or community infrastructure.

The Community Benefit Fund Advisory Group has been established with membership comprising of the Shire President or his or her nominee, the Mine Manager of the Tampia Gold Mine or his or her nominee and a Go Narembeen representative who acts as a community member. The Shire of Narembeen will facilitate the program by providing administrative management and support.

Cr Rhonda Cole, Shire President said "the fund represents a great partnership between the Shire of

Narembeen, Ramelius Resources and the Go Narembeen Progress Association to support local projects and events."

Projects should provide long term benefits to the community and involve local participation through volunteers. Projects may be jointly funded through other funding streams.

Mark Zepfner, Managing Director, Ramelius Resources Limited said "Ramelius recognises that financial and in-kind contributions are a critical aspect of community investment and support. Our community investments are carefully considered to ensure they create a positive impact on the communities we operate in and their members, as well as aligning with our business priorities".

There will be two grant rounds per year and the first grant round opens on 1 October 2021 and closes on 31 October 2021.



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TA5747836

COVID-19 vaccinations: workplace rights and obligations

FAIR WORK OMBUDSMAN

Published 9 April 2021 | Updated 20 September 2021

While the Australian Government's policy is that receiving a vaccination is free and voluntary, it aims to have as many Australians vaccinated as possible.

With Australia's vaccine rollout continuing and the increasing availability of COVID-19 vaccinations, employers and employees are encouraged to work together to find solutions that suit their individual needs and workplaces. A collaborative approach in the workplace that includes discussing, planning and facilitating COVID-19 vaccinations is an important part of Australia's vaccine rollout, because having a vaccine is one of the best ways to protect ourselves and our community against COVID-19.

Employers can support their employees by:

- providing leave or paid time off for employees to get vaccinated
- helping to ensure employees have

access to reliable and up-to-date information about the effectiveness of vaccinations –Learn about COVID-19 vaccines on the Department of Health's website

- where employees do not wish to be vaccinated, or don't yet have access to vaccinations, exploring other options including alternative work arrangements.

In some cases, employers may be able to require their employees to be vaccinated against COVID-19.

Employers should exercise caution if they're considering making COVID-19 vaccinations mandatory in their workplace and get their own legal advice.



Library Musings

By **WENDY PORTER, Merredin Librarian**

The Merredin Library had a visit from Red the Super Reading Roo this week, surprising the children who were in the library to do some shadow painting. Red is part of the 'Paint the Town ReAD' initiative that promotes the importance of early literacy. 'Paint the Town ReAD' promotes the message 'Talk, Read, Sing, Rhyme, Draw and Play with your child every day from birth' so they will be ready to learn at school. Come to the Merredin Library to learn more.

Here are some of the new items added to stock.

Have you heard ABBA is making a comeback? 'The very best of ABBA' contains the words and music of ABBA's pure gold hits, including Mamma Mia, Waterloo, Take a chance on me and Dancing Queen to name a few.

For a town that is often quite far from water (depending upon how much rain the Wheatbelt has received) Merredin seems to have

quite a lot of fishermen. 'The complete fishing manual' by Henry Gilbey has helpful tips about tackle, baits and lures, techniques coarse, game and sea fishing. You can even learn what to wear. Also included is a directory of fish species with information on anatomy, habitat, behaviour and the best methods for catching them.

'Argyle' by Stuart Kels is the story of Australian Diamonds. This book is based on in-depth research and interviews with characters such as Alan King Jones, Bill Leslie and Ewen Tyler and details the challenges of realizing a diamond mining venture in a remote region of Western Australia.

Remember to let library staff know what you are looking for. If it isn't in the Merredin Library – don't panic. Staff maybe able to borrow the item from another library for you. Library staff are always happy to help. And don't forget to ask how to access the FREE e-resources from home.

See you soon.

Dorcas Clothing's 7th Birthday

By **ROSEMARY SMOKER**

On Saturday the 2nd of October, Dorcas Clothing celebrated its 7th birthday. They held a free sausage sizzle between 9am and 12 noon and ran a raffle with the winning ticket being a free room at the Morning Sun Motel in Narembeen.

There are seven workers in Narembeen. Two, being Rosemary Smoker and Betty Ogilvie have been there since the very beginning. There are also 11 workers at the Narrogin Shop.

People are very generous with donations of clothing and goods and there are also some wonderful people who donate money, so that shelving, coat hangers and racks can be purchased.

To date, Dorcas has been able to donate \$425,000 to charities, services and local community groups. Some of these include Crest Children's Home, Fred Hollows Foundation, RFDS, Diabetes WA, Mission Australia, Beyond Blue, Pregnancy Problem House and Shalom House, to name only a few. Locally, Dorcas has been able to support the Kulin Arts Council,

Senior Citizens, Narembeen Bowling Club, Narembeen School, Narembeen Hockey Club, Narrogin Men's Shed and the Narembeen Men's Shed. This is only a small number of the organisations that Dorcas Clothing has been able to assist.



Lisa, Annette Main, Rosemary Smoker and Anna Duffy

Take Charge of Button Batteries

By **BOUYDEN McKENZIE, Senior Regional Officer, Department of Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety**

Children's toys that light up and make noise are supposed to be fun, but lurking within many of these devices are a hidden danger – button batteries.

If young children gain access to just one button battery and ingest it, they may suffer internal burn injuries, which can result in serious illness and even death. That's why it's crucial for button batteries to be properly and adequately secured within the devices they power.

Ahead of the Perth Royal Show, which is attended by people from many regions of Western Australia, our Product Safety Officers inspected over 100 show bags to ensure the contents would be safe for children. While the vast majority of the 800 toys were deemed safe, the team discovered a torch contained button batteries that fell out of the device's plastic case following a drop test. As a result, the torch has now been withdrawn from sale.

Halloween is another occasion when novelty items and costumes powered by button batteries appear on shop shelves, so Consumer Protection is urging parents and carers of children to be alert to the dangers and report any non-compliant items they find to us.

New safety regulations introduced in December 2020 should go a long way towards improving the safety of button batteries and help prevent injury to children. In Australia, one child a month is seriously injured after swallowing or inserting a button battery, with some of them sustaining lifelong injuries.

Manufacturers will have until 22 June 2022 to comply with the new regulations, which require: products to have secure battery compartments to prevent children from gaining access to the batteries; manufacturers to undertake compliance testing to demonstrate batteries are secure; higher risk batteries to be supplied in child-resistant packaging; and additional warnings and emergency advice on packaging and instructions.

Parents and carers of children are urged to supervise children using any battery-operated items and check all devices contain secure battery compartments.

If you suspect your child has swallowed or inserted a button battery, call the Poisons Information Centre immediately on 13 11 26, or contact 000 if your child is having any difficulty breathing.

Toys or other products with unsecured button battery covers can be reported to Consumer Protection at consumer@dmirs.wa.gov.au or 1300 30 40 54.

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Morning Tea provided

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Merredin CRC**

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Good Things
Foundation Australia

Campfire Country Weekend

By **PETER & AUDIENE McCRAE**

On the weekend of the 10th, 11th and 12th September 2021, David and Therese, better known as “Campfire Country”, a musical duo specialising in country music, visited Merredin to hold a country music weekend with supporting artists, held in our magnificent Cummins Theatre.

Showing off the wonderful venue with a fantastic dancefloor to many travellers from Albany, Busselton, Bunbury, Kojonup, Narrogin, Mandurah, Geraldton, and Perth, they were truly amazed by the asset we have here in Merredin. The group of avid followers were mainly caravanners who follow Campfire Country around WA to enjoy their great music, not only to listen to but to show off their old-time dance skills.

During the weekend, there was a great variety of artists including our local talent from Merredin ‘A Chaired Taste’, Justin Freind and Don and Rhonda Perrin from Westonia. Local and visiting boot scooters also performed.

Three major raffles were held throughout the weekend, with a special thank you to local businesses

and individuals who donated all the fantastic prizes.

A big thank you to the local ladies who made scones for morning tea, the Nukarni CWA who catered for lunch and afternoon tea, plus additional food donations.

Thank you also to the Merredin Shire for the use of the venue, the Merredin Repertory Club who voluntarily ran the bar and the 2 MC’s Jeanette and Victor who kept the program running smoothly throughout the weekend.

On Sunday morning, there was an open invitation to attend the Merredin Men’s Shed for a sausage sizzle breakfast before all heading back home. Thank you to the Men’s Shed for the use of their venue and help with the cooking and to the Merredin CRC for the loan of extra chairs.

There were too many helpers volunteering behind the scenes to name them all but a big thank you to each and everyone who helped in any way and whose efforts helped to make this a successful weekend. A big thankyou to the Cummins Theatre staff, in particular Justin Freind, the former manager who was

instrumental in presenting a first-class venue.

Due to the success of the weekend, \$2,876 will be donated to the local St John Ambulance, which is a vital and necessary service to our community.

The town of Merredin benefited greatly by the injection of funds from the travelling supporters including accommodation, shopping, food, fuel and tourism.

We appreciate the support and guidance David and Therese gave us to ensure an enjoyable weekend was had by all, along with the positive feedback received; there are already plans to host another similar weekend on September 9-11th 2022. We hope to see you all there!



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Merredin

NEW OPEN HOURS

9am - 1pm

Monday - Friday



Australian Government
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About National Carers Week

National Carers Week is an opportunity to recognise, celebrate, and raise awareness among all Australians about the diversity of Australia's 2.65 million carers and their caring roles. National Carers Week runs from October 10 - 16 2021.



Having fun at the Merredin Community Garden

By GILLIAN OVANS

Over the past month the Garden Group have watched Meridian Regional Arts create some awesome sculptures, some of which are now displayed in the community garden.

Rain Rodenburg ran a Food Sensations workshop over three weeks, which even us experienced “family meal providers” and members of the Men’s Shed learned a thing or two about healthy eating. Thank you Rain, we enjoyed collecting produce from the garden and then creating healthy meals together including delicious desserts. One of Garden Group’s aims is to regularly hold events similar to the Food Sensations workshop at the community garden in the future.

Last Saturday with the help of the Curtin University students we weeded along the grape vine fence ready to add some more grapevines interspersed with colourful geraniums. These students as well as

students helping previously are always enthusiastic to help in the community garden. We hope they revisit the community garden in the future someday.

Julie Nicoletti was busy catering for the Edith Cowan University students over three nights, a bit of a challenge cooking for the non-gluten students, vegetarians and vegans, but Julie worked it all out and the students thought she was “amazing”.

With the warmer weather starting and some additional rain, the plants in the garden are growing fast, colour everywhere. Remember, if you are a member you can come down and pick a bit produce anytime. The stone curlew that was checking out the garden last month did find a mate, he was a big handsome bloke, but they must have decided it was a bit too busy to set up home at the community garden and moved on.



Julie Nicoletti picking Globe Artichokes



Mal Harper growing broad beans



Merredin Garden Group Member Gillian Ovans with Edith Cowan University students



Rain Rodenburg at Food Sensations Workshop



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CUNDERDIN SPORTS OVAL
 EVENT STARTS AT 7PM

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Coffee, hot chocolate & tea station - support the Youth Council to raise funds for their leadership camp.

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Southern Cross Car & Bike

By **KERRY FAIRLESS**

The Southern Cross Car & Bike Show was a great family day on Sunday 26th of September.

Cars & Bikes travelled from as far as Esperance, Ora Banda, Kalgoorlie, Merredin, Mandurah and Perth for the event.

The event was well supported by the locals and visitors, with a few unusual vehicles on display. We had a restored Daimler Ferret Scout Armoured Car, Auzzie Apocalypse Jet Boat, Sprint Car and a Goldfields

Harley Davidson Sand Drag Bike. Then there were all the beautifully well-kept cars and bikes on display for everyone to admire.

There were market and swap meet stalls as well as food vans in attendance.

L'il Louie, Old Macdonald's Farm, Air Born Amusements, West Coast Remote Control Trucks, RaceKraft Simulators, Facepainting Fairies and Bootscooting Betty and her Outback friends were there to keep the kids entertained.



Merredin CRC
SENIORS LUNCHEON
 with
ELTON JOHN
 9TH NOVEMBER 2021
 11.30AM
 CUMMINS THEATRE

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 E merredin@crc.net.au



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Collgar Community Fund**

Find out more about the Collgar Community Fund by
visiting www.collgarwindfarm.com.au

Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p>9 Oct</p> <p>Merredin Seventh Day Adventist Church - Sabbath School 9:30am and Church 11am 0429 770 331. St Mary's Catholic Church - Mass 6:30pm. Father Andrew Bowron 9041 1118. Merredin Fine Arts Society 9am-12pm Check out their Facebook page for further details</p> <p>Tammin Tammin Markets 9am-12pm</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Merredin Merredin Church of Christ 10am. Uniting Church 10am 0428 125 613. St Mary's Catholic Church Mass 10:30am 9041 1118. All Saints Morning Prayer at 10am Community Garden. 8:30am 0427 701 655.</p> <p>Kellerberrin People's Baptist Church 11am 0435 284 796. St Joseph's Catholic Church - Mass 8am. 9041 1118.</p> <p>Tammin Tammin Markets 9am-12pm</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Merredin "A Choired Taste a fabulous singing group". No audition required, 7pm - 9pm at the meeting room rear of Merredin Library 22 Coronation street 0487 351 167. Bootscooting, 7pm at Cummins Theatre 9041 3005.</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Merredin Seniors Gentle Gym 2pm Senior Centre. Zumba! By Sharee Cook, 6pm - 7pm at the Cummins Theatre, call 0458 429 072. Narembreen Rhyme Time Ages 0-3 at the library 10.30am</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Merredin Seniors Craft Group Senior Centre 10am.</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Merredin Community Garden. 8:30am 0427 701 655. Senior Centre morning tea 10am. Online Shopping assistance Merredin CRC 2pm - 4pm. 9041 1041. Men's Shed 2pm - 5pm 0427831024 Merredin Fine Arts Society 9am-2pm Check out their Facebook page for further details</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Merredin Kids Club - K - Year 6, 3:15pm - 5pm at the Church of Christ 17 Throssell Rd. Games, songs, stories, crafts & More! Afternoon tea provided, gold coin donation. Beverley WBN We Shine at Beverley Town Hall & Cornerstone https://wheatbeltbusinessnetwork.com.au/event/we-shine/</p>
<p>16</p> <p>Merredin Seventh Day Adventist Church - Sabbath School 9:30am and Church 11am 0429 770 331. St Mary's Catholic Church - Mass 6:30pm. Father Andrew Bowron 9041 1118. Merredin Fine Arts Society 9am-12pm Check out their Facebook page for further details Vault Boutique Pop-Up Shop - women's fashion 9am-3pm 104 Barrack Street</p>	<p>17</p> <p>Merredin Merredin Church of Christ 10am. Uniting Church 10am 0428 125 613. St Mary's Catholic Church Mass 10:30am 9041 1118. All Saints Morning Prayer at 10am Community Garden. 8:30am 0427 701 655. "A Choired Taste" 1pm workshop with Bill McCallister. 3.30pm Committee Meeting achairedtastemdn@gmail.com</p> <p>Kellerberrin People's Baptist Church 11am 0435 284 796. St Joseph's Catholic Church - Mass 8am. 9041 1118.</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Merredin Bootscooting, 7pm at Cummins Theatre 9041 3005. Narembreen Seniors Movie</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Merredin Zumba! By Sharee Cook, 6pm - 7pm at the Cummins Theatre, call 0458 429 072. Get Online Week - FREE EVENT - learn about QR Codes, morning tea included Register at Merredin CRC, 90411041</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Merredin Seniors Craft Group Senior Centre 10am. Seniors Gentle Gym 2pm Senior Centre. Kellerberrin Skatepark Workshop 3-6pm Free event Call CRC 90454991 to register Narembreen Coffee Club 10.30am at the CRC</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Merredin Community Garden. 8:30am 0427 701 655. Senior Centre morning tea 10am. Online Shopping assistance Merredin CRC 2pm - 4pm 9041 1041. Men's Shed 2pm-5pm 0427 831 024. Merredin Fine Arts Society 9am-2pm Check out their Facebook page for further details</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Merredin Kids Club - K - Year 6, 3:15pm - 5pm at the Church of Christ 17 Throssell Rd. Games, songs, stories, crafts & More! Afternoon tea provided, gold coin donation.</p>
<p>23</p> <p>Merredin Seventh Day Adventist Church - Sabbath School 9:30am and Church 11am 0429 770 331. St Mary's Catholic Church - Mass 6:30pm. Father Andrew Bowron 9041 1118. Merredin Fine Arts Society 9am-12pm Check out their Facebook page for further details</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Merredin Merredin Church of Christ 10am. Uniting Church 10am 0428 125 613. St Mary's Catholic Church Mass 10:30am 9041 1118. All Saints Morning Prayer at 10am Community Garden. 8:30am 0427 701 655.</p> <p>Kellerberrin People's Baptist Church 11am 0435 284 796. St Joseph's Catholic Church - Mass 8am. 9041 1118.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Merredin "A Choired Taste a fabulous singing group". No audition required, 7pm - 9pm at the meeting room rear of Merredin Library 22 Coronation street 0487 351 167. Bootscooting, 7pm at Cummins Theatre 9041 3005.</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Merredin Seniors Gentle Gym 2pm Senior Centre. Zumba! By Sharee Cook, 6pm - 7pm at the Cummins Theatre, call 0458 429 072.</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Merredin Seniors Craft Group Senior Centre 10am.</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Merredin Community Garden. 8:30am 0427 701 655. Senior Centre morning tea 10am. Online Shopping assistance Merredin CRC 2pm - 4pm. 9041 1041. Men's Shed 2pm - 5pm 0427 831 024. Merredin Fine Arts Society 9am-2pm Check out their Facebook page for further details Beatles & Rolling Stones Cummins Theatre 7.30pm. Tickets from Visitors Centre or www.cumminstheatre.com.au</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Merredin Kids Club - K - Year 6, 3:15pm - 5pm at the Church of Christ 17 Throssell Rd. Games, songs, stories, crafts & More! Afternoon tea provided, gold coin donation. Narembreen Story Time Ages 1-5 at the library 10.30am Cunderdin Cunderdin Stargazing FREE community event - limited space available. Register at www.tybooking.com/BRYEQ</p>
<p>If you would like your community notice included. Email it to admin2@merredincrc.com</p>						

The Myth That Men Don't Talk

By OWEN AND THE TEAM, The Regional Men's Health Initiative

One of the things that never ceases to amaze me in the job we do, is that given the right circumstances (a safe place) blokes will disclose their issues and tell their story. Every bloke that I have met has a story and/or issues and is willing to talk.

Blokes do talk but we need to acknowledge the differences between how the genders go about this. There are also some other factors that need to be considered in how we go about talking with blokes. The differences are real and we need to recognise some of the communication disparities between blokes and ladies:

Blokes only talk one third as much as ladies in a day (approx. 7,000 to 21,000 words). The majority of females think and speak in a narrative way whereas blokes prefer

dot points.

Single word responses to questions like - yes, no, good, bad and grunting are considered responses by blokes.

Much of the additional talk that ladies do is around describing emotions and feelings. Therefore, in comparison to blokes, they have a sort of 'match fitness' around the ability to discuss emotion that we as blokes lack.

In much the same way that the Inuit people have around 180 words to describe snow (because of its cultural and safety implications), the ladies in our life tend to operate with a larger word bank to deal with discussions around emotion and feelings.

Blokes find it uncomfortable to talk about their emotions. We have been conditioned not to and are hard wired differently, often focusing on problem solving, providing and

protecting, rather than how we feel, let alone talking about it.

To have a more productive outcome when having 'that talk', some other factors to consider include:

Choosing the right environment to communicate is essential. This is not when we are distressed and out of control, but when we have calmed down. Also, avoid being under the influence of alcohol (this can act as a 'mood enhancer' and alter our state of mind).

Timing is an important factor to consider. Agree on a designated time to talk, avoid times when you are preoccupied with other tasks, when there is a chance of being interrupted or when there are a lot of things happening.

Be prepared to listen. The most important part of talking is *listening* (I think this is an oxymoron!) Having respect, connection and

empathy with whom we are talking to will give us more of an opportunity to become an active listener.

Getting help with having 'that talk' with your bloke. Don't be afraid to seek help in having a talk with your dad, husband, son or mate i.e., use an independent person, your GP or a counsellor.

Considering the above factors and 'giving permission' to blokes that it's okay to talk about things that cause us discomfort or pain may assist with blokes opening up more. Sometimes this does take time.

From little things big things grow (just like this year's crop), blokes do talk, so sow the seed towards a meaningful conversation. It is a myth 'that men don't talk' they will, just not always in the way we expect.

Email: menshealth@4blokes.com.au
www.regionalmenshealth.com.au

Western Australians save 765 Million 10c Containers from landfill

Western Australians have saved 765 million 10 cent containers from landfill during the first year of operation of the State's container deposit scheme.

Since Containers for Change launched on October 1 2020, it has become the most recognised recycling program in WA, injecting more than \$122 million into the economy through refunds and handling fees for refund point operators.

\$2.5 million has been raised for community organisations and charities, with more than 800 WA schools using Containers for Change to raise funds for activities and resources.

More than 730 jobs have been created through the State's refund points and with 253 refund points across the State, Containers for the Change is now the most accessible container deposit scheme in Australia.

The anniversary comes as Containers for Change continues to develop and grow partnerships with local governments, venues, events and organisations across WA in order to expand the collection network and change recycling behaviour.

Key partnerships to date include the Perth Scorchers, Fremantle Dockers, Perth Royal Show, RAC Arena, AQWA, Perth Zoo, Perth Airport, Dowerin Field Days, WA Day

celebrations and the Ord Valley Muster.

All 10c containers accepted at a Containers for Change refund point are recycled and turned into new containers or other items. People can either keep their 10c per container refund or donate it to a charity or community group of their choice.

Comments attributed to Acting Environment Minister Stephen Dawson

"When Containers for Change launched a year ago, an estimated 70 per cent of 10c containers were going to landfill, but now as many as 60 per cent of 10c containers are being recycled. This is a fantastic achievement.

"By returning 765 million 10c containers to Containers for Change refund points Western Australians have fully realised the potential of each container, ensuring they can be re-used again and again.

Further information about Containers for Change can be found at: www.containersforchange.com.au



WA MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

Mental Health Week is celebrated each year in October around World Mental Health Day on October 10.

Coordinated by the Western Australian Association for Mental Health, with support from the WA Mental Health Commission, Mental Health Week provides a prime opportunity to address and highlight the important connection between social determinants and mental health; and promote effective prevention strategies to keep people mentally healthy.

Given how critical the early years are for lifelong brain development and functioning, learning, and wellbeing, the theme for Mental Health Week 2021 in Western Australia will be: **Mental health starts with our children.**

The theme recognises how a person's mental health reflects the interaction of a lifetime of individual and lifestyle factors with a range of environmental, community and family risk factors.

For both children and adults, taking care of basic needs for shelter, food, warmth and rest are essential to mental wellbeing.

Mental Health Week will run 9-16 October 2021 and foster the creation, curation, and organisation of a range of resources, activities, events, factsheets, tips, and strategies in the lead up to, and during, the week.

We will garner positive, helpful interactions, self-care tips, and behavioural strategies while incorporating fun, creative expression and light-hearted elements along the way, which will promote dancing, playing, talking, reading, journaling and drawing.

f @MentalHealthWeekWA #mhw2021

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The old saying of "They don't make them like they used to" is very much on point with this huge family home. Built in 1979 by the late Mr Zoite for his father in law Mr Inferrera the house has a real Italian flavour. Built to a plan not built to a budget with everything big and spacious. Pull into the double driveways with double garage parking. Tiled front porch and tiled entry foyer. Large kitchen/living room, formal dining, formal lounge, 4 x large bedrooms, 1 x bathroom, internal laundry with workers shower and second WC. Ducted evap A/C Cooling, tile fire heating, Solar HWS. Concrete back veranda, paved patio yard area and 6m x 4m workshop shed. Rear cool room behind the garage needs servicing. Olive, citrus and fig trees to rear. Cowan Way is a quiet and safe family friendly street all private owned.

All inquiries to exclusive selling agents Elders Real Estate (Team SOLD) phone local specialists Will Morris 0448 415 537 and Jacqui Burton 0498 457 539.



4



Beds

1



Bath

2



Parking

Elders**95 Bates Street, MERREDIN****From \$400,000 - WEB ID 23156170**

Low maintenance brick home. Fitted with a 6kw Solar PV System, Solar Hot Water System and Rainmaker Tanks. Beautiful gardens and a brick paved courtyard for outdoor entertaining. Situated in one of the best streets in town with powered lock up shed, and room for a caravan. Bedrooms are spacious with built-in robes and a large walk-in robe and ensuite for the master bedroom, which opens onto a courtyard. Double garage with drive through access. At the rear of the house is a separate dwelling suitable as a studio or guest accommodation with its own toilet and laundry basin.

**13 Pioneer Road, MERREDIN****\$110,000 - WEB ID 23268667**

As an unfinished project with loads of potential this home will suit the DIY home handy man. With a lovely new kitchen and new bathroom vanity and glass shower screen (to be installed) the rest of the home is a blank canvas. The lounge has a cosy wood fire, and there are three good sized bedrooms with ducted evaporative air con throughout. For the entertainer there is a large family/games room at the rear of the home with an outdoor entertaining area covering the full width of the house. There is also a well laid out shed with many added features.

**33 South Avenue, MERREDIN****From \$300,000 - WEB ID 23154786**

This beautiful 1930's home has old world charm with a modern touch. The master bedroom has a walk through dressing room with built in robes and leads to the private ensuite. Bedrooms two and three are perfect for the kids. The fourth bedroom is a bit larger and has a smaller room attached with a built-in desk and robes. The modern galley style kitchen overlooks the formal dining room with open fireplace. Low maintenance gardens surround the home. There is side access and a 6m x 9m garaport. The house has reverse cycle split systems and ducted evaporative air conditioning.

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28 Farrell St, Bruce Rock - 3 x 1 x 1 - \$320pw - Avail Now
 1 Westral St, Bruce Rock - 3 x 1 x 1 - \$250pw - Avail Now
 41 Butcher St, Bruce Rock - 4 x 1.5 x 1 - \$320pw - Avail Now
 2/158 Lamond St, Kununoppin - 2 x 1 x 1 - POA - Avail 22/10/2021

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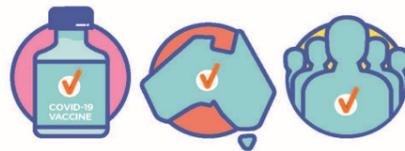
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We are working to make sure everyone in Australia has access to safe, effective and free COVID-19 vaccines. Vaccines will give us the protection to go about our everyday lives.

To keep up to date with the latest progress, and to ensure your information is reliable, visit health.gov.au/covid19-vaccines



October is 'Planting Month' in the Garden

October is "planting month"! Conditions are optimal nationally for everything from seeds and seedlings of flowers and veggies through to lawns, evergreen trees and shrubs and potted deciduous plants in full leaf

Longer, warmer days mean plenty of time outdoors in the garden. Mid spring is the perfect planting time in all parts of Australia – the soil is warm, temperatures are not too high and there's often good rainfall to encourage good plant growth. The lawn mower usually gets a good workout this month, following fertilising last month.

While the garden's going well, so too are the weeds! It's important to get on top of them now, before they take over completely. Remember when outside to wear a hat and slop on the SPF 30+ sunscreen to protect against damaging UV rays. Don't let mild days fool you into thinking you won't get sunburn.

• **Seasonal flowers:**

Bloomer pots of spring flowering annuals can still be planted out this month for patches of instant impact colour – pansies, violas, Iceland poppies, cinerarias, calendulas are just a few. Plant seedlings of bedding begonias, marigolds, impatiens, petunias and nasturtiums.

• **Woody and perennial herbs:**

"Hard" herbs - rosemary, sage, thyme, bay laurel, oregano, mint* – can be planted now. "Soft" herbs – parsley, basil, coriander, chives, tarra-

gon – may also go in now.

*Mint should be grown in a pot to stop it becoming invasive.

• **Spring & summer vegetables:**

Keep sowing and planting all the salad favourites as well as beetroot, beans, peas, and Asian greens. Tomato seeds may be sown in trays in cooler areas, and seedlings transplanted in warm regions.

• **The Vegetable Patch**

Harvest now!

What to plant now:

Asian greens	Beetroot
Broad bean	Carrot
Celery	French bean
Lettuce	Leek
Onion	Dwarf pea
Climbing pea	Potato tubers
Pumpkin	Silver beet
Spring/Green onion	Sweet corn
Tomato*	Zucchini



Horoscopes

ARIES 21 March—19 April
 This week you may need to move outside of your comfort zone and take the initiative to get things done. There may be new developments in current relationships, or you might reconnect with someone from the past.

TAURUS 20 April—20 May
 On a personal note, you may find strength when dealing with a difficult relationship if you are willing to make your feelings clear and find solutions that will bring you comfort and security. At work, new projects are on the horizon.

GEMINI 21 May—20 June
 It is time to account for your actions and deliver news that you have spent time researching. It is an exciting time with children, a partner or for a creative venture. In love, it is time to take the lead.

CANCER 21 June—22 July
 This week sees exciting changes at home and with the family, and possibly with colleagues at work. It is going to be a fast-paced period with some stress and tension involved, but the weekend will be a good opportunity to relax with family.

LEO 23 July—22 August
 It is an exciting time for you now with travel and meetings. You will find yourself reminiscing with those close to you and may start an exciting project with a family member. It is a great time to try new things and enjoy the simpler side of life.

VIRGO 23 August—22 September
 This week is the best time to resolve outstanding issues, particularly with your finances. It will be up to you to calmly lead those around you to make the most of creativity, connections and relationships to get a job done.

LIBRA 23 September—22 October
 It is a period of hope and confidence for you and the perfect time to get out and about, meet new people and explore the world around you. Life has a lot in store for you this week but with your new found optimism you will breeze through any challenges.

SCORPIO 23 October—21 November
 It is time to make alliances with like-minded colleagues to work quietly behind the scenes until better opportunities present themselves. You may be pushed into a stressful situation, but it is important to remain calm and keep your impulses in check.

SAGITTARIUS 22 November—21 December
 This week the planet of love, Venus, moves into your sign. There will be developments in your social life and could involve reconnecting with people from the past and planning to do things with them in the future.

CAPRICORN 22 December—19 January
 You are coming into a period that will feel as if no progress is being made, but you have worked hard to lay the groundwork and action will be taken based on the information you have gathered.

AQUARIUS 20 January—18 February
 After much hard work you will begin to see results on a path you want to take over the next year. Sometimes it will feel like not much is happening, but big changes are taking place. You will make a new friend who you feel an immediate connection to.

PISCES 19 February—20 March
 Your professional life is developing positively, and you will connect with people who are willing to back you up. Things from your past may resurface giving you a new perspective. You may be entering a time of seclusion, but you will maintain a strong connection with those close to you.

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Catholic Homes has been providing aged care for over 50 years in Western Australia and are looking for people to join our Home Care team.

We are looking for caring and passionate staff to provide transport, domestic, meal preparation, shopping, personal care, respite and social support. A Cert. III in Aged Care or similar experience would be great, but we'd also love to hear from anyone interested in a career in home care as we can offer on-the-job training and buddy shifts. You must have a reliable car, current driver's license and police clearance.

We pay casual rates with fuel and travel allowances. Work as little or often as you like. We're flexible and family friendly.

If you would like to discuss call 1300 244 000 or email your CV to homecare@catholichomes.com



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We are looking for talented & enthusiastic people to join us at our Bruce Rock site.

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Apprentices	Mechanical Trade Assistants
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Local applications encouraged. Perth based candidates also welcomed (accommodation and meals provided).

If you have the right attitude and want to join a great team with great pay rates, please express your interest by sending your resume to Jenny hr@brucerockengineering.com.au or (08) 6169 1688



Super Choice Rules will Change from 1 November

From 1 November 2021, if you have new employees start, you may have an extra step to take to comply with choice of fund rules if they don't choose a super fund. You may now need to request their 'stapled super fund' details from us.

A stapled super fund is an existing super account which is linked, or 'stapled', to an individual employee so that it follows them as they change jobs.

If you don't meet your choice of super fund obligations, additional penalties may apply.

The change aims to reduce account fees by stopping new super accounts from being opened every time an employee starts a new job.

You may need to request stapled super fund details when:

- your new employee starts on or after 1 November 2021
- you need to make super guarantee payments for that employee, and

- your employee is eligible to choose a super fund but doesn't.

You don't need to offer a choice of super fund to some employees, but you may still need to request their stapled super fund details.

This includes employees that are either:

- temporary residents
- covered by an enterprise agreement or workplace determination made before 1 January 2021.

Step 1: Offer your eligible employees a choice of super fund.

Step 2: Request stapled super fund details.

Step 3: Pay super into a default fund.

To find out more about the new stapled super fund rules ato.gov.au/stapledsuperfund

Public Notice

Merredin CRC AGM will be held on Wednesday 27th October 2021, 5.30pm at CRC. All welcome.

Merredin Golf Club AGM, Wednesday 20th October 2021 commencing at 7.30pm at the Merredin Recreation & Leisure Centre. Old and new members welcome.

Merredin Museum and Historical Society AGM will be held on Thursday 28th October 2021, 5.30pm at Railway Museum. All welcome.

Merredin Sports Council AGM will be held on Tuesday 26th October 2021, 7pm at Merredin Recreation Centre. All sports to have delegates in attendance.

Merrittville Retirement Village AGM will be held on Monday 18th October 2021, 5pm at Merrittville Hall. All welcome.

ASSOCIATIONS ONLINE

Associations Online is an online portal for incorporated associations that lets associations in Western Australia manage their registration, obligations, submit applications and manage their contact information 24/7 without needing to print and post paper forms.

All previous users of the old system (users enrolled before 1 July 2016) and new users will need to enrol / create a new login and password. Users will begin using the portal once they have confirmed their enrolment.

The Commissioner for Consumer Protection has issued the following general information to guide incorporated associations and clubs:

- Keep up-to-date with advice issued by the Department of Health about measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 coronavirus and respond accordingly.
- Review the need to hold non-essential meetings at this time and consider whether non-urgent business could be dealt with at a future date instead.
- Where an association's rules (also referred to as a constitution) permit:
- hold meetings by electronic means; and/or limiting the number of attendees present using proxy provisions to nominate people to attend and vote on their behalf
- Where a meeting cannot be postponed, ensure that the meeting venue is large enough for members to attend safely in accordance with the social distancing guidelines.
- Ensure members are kept informed of any measures being implemented that may impact on them, including any proposed actions to delay or change the timeframes or formats of meetings.

Current legislative requirements remain in force, however if an incorporated association is unable to meet its obligations under the Act because of the COVID-19 coronavirus, then Consumer Protection will take these circumstances into consideration.

WTF 8th—21st October 2021

Date/Planet	Sun ☉	Moon ☾	Mercury ♀	Venus ♀	Mars ♂	Jupiter ♃	Saturn ♄	Uranus ♅
Fri 8	05:35am-06:13pm	07:26am-08:18pm 5%	05:32am-06:26pm 0%	07:47am-09:54pm 59%	05:38am-06:11pm 99%	01:58pm-03:18am	12:44pm-02:26am	08:20pm-07:05am
Sat 9	05:34am-06:14pm	08:09am-09:29pm 13%	05:26am-06:16pm 0%	07:47am-09:55pm 58%	05:33am-06:09pm 99%	01:54pm-03:14am	12:40pm-02:23am	08:16pm-07:01am
Sun 10	05:33am-06:14pm	09:00am-10:41pm 22%	05:20am-06:06pm 0%	07:47am-09:57pm 58%	05:33am-06:09pm 99%	01:50pm-03:10am	12:36pm-02:19am	08:11pm-06:57am
Mon 11	05:32am-06:15pm	09:56am-11:49pm 33%	05:15am-05:57pm 1%	07:47am-09:58pm 57%	05:31am-06:08pm 99%	01:46pm-03:06am	12:32pm-02:15am	08:07pm-06:53am
Tue 12	05:31am-06:16pm	10:59am-12:52am 45%	05:09am-05:48pm 2%	07:47am-10:00pm 57%	05:29am-06:07pm 99%	01:42pm-03:02am	12:28pm-02:11am	08:03pm-06:49am
Wed 13	05:29am-06:16pm	12:04pm-01:47am 56%	05:04am-05:39pm 4%	07:47am-10:01pm 57%	05:27am-06:06pm 99%	01:38pm-02:58am	12:24pm-02:07am	07:59pm-06:44am
Thu 14	05:28am-06:17pm	12:04pm-02:34am 67%	05:00am-05:31pm 7%	07:47am-10:03pm 56%	05:25am-06:05pm 99%	01:34pm-02:54am	12:20pm-02:03am	07:55pm-06:40am
Fri 15	05:27am-06:18pm	01:08pm-03:13am 77%	04:55am-05:24pm 10%	07:46am-10:04pm 56%	05:23am-06:05pm 99%	01:30pm-02:50am	12:16pm-01:59am	07:51pm-06:36am
Sat 16	05:26am-06:18pm	02:12pm-03:48am 85%	04:51am-05:18pm 14%	07:46am-10:05pm 55%	05:21am-06:04pm 99%	01:26pm-02:46am	12:12pm-01:55am	07:47pm-06:32am
Sun 17	05:25am-06:19pm	03:12pm-04:19am 92%	04:48am-05:12pm 18%	07:47am-10:07pm 55%	05:18am-06:03pm 99%	01:22pm-02:42am	12:08pm-01:51am	07:43pm-06:28am
Mon 18	05:24am-06:20pm	04:11pm-04:48am 96%	04:45am-05:07pm 23%	07:47am-10:08pm 54%	05:16am-06:02pm 99%	01:18pm-02:38am	12:05pm-01:47am	07:39pm-06:24am
Tue 19	05:23am-06:21pm	05:08pm-05:16am 99%	04:42am-05:03pm 27%	07:47am-10:09pm 54%	05:14am-06:01pm 99%	01:14pm-02:34am	12:01pm-01:43am	07:35pm-06:20am
Wed 20	05:21am-06:21pm	06:04pm-05:44am 99%	04:40am-05:00pm 32%	07:47am-10:10pm 53%	05:12am-06:00pm 99%	01:10pm-02:30am	11:53am-01:40am	07:30pm-06:16am
Thu 21	05:20am-06:22pm	07:00pm-06:13am 98%	04:38am-04:58pm 37%	07:47am-10:12pm 53%	05:10am-06:00pm 99%	01:06pm-02:26am	11:49am-01:36am	07:26pm-06:12am

By PETER BARRETT

Another great fortnight of Celestial Sightseeing rewards us yet again as the moon waxes to fullness on the 20th. Tomorrow (Saturday 9th) night it will be very close to Venus, then a rendezvous with Antares the bright red star in the middle of the scorpion's body Sunday night. On Thursday 14th expect the Moon and Saturn to be paired close and then a nice conjunction with Jupiter the following night. Meanwhile Venus has now moved up next to Antares for an attractive photo opportunity.

By the end of this fortnight Mercury has completed its inferior conjunction and beginning to show itself just before dawn. Mars is demonstrating no such eagerness to

reveal itself and remains obscured behind the sun. The Geminids meteor shower becomes active and peaks towards the end of the fortnight.

At this time of year Vega becomes prominent in the far Northern sky in the evening. This star is a rather more dominant feature for those in the Northern Hemisphere where it passes directly overhead in places like England and the northern United States. You would therefore not be surprised to learn that it is one the most thoroughly studied stars in the sky, with a very long history of close observation. The name is Arabic and means "falling" or "descending". It has been found to be about 25 light years from the sun, and therefore part of our local stellar

neighbourhood, and indeed it has been found to have a blue rather than a red shift, meaning that it is approaching us rather than receding from us. The earth's gyroscopic precession means that Vega occupied the position of Pole Star about 12,000 years ago and we can expect it to return to that status in the year 13727. Astronomers consider Vega to be quite young, only one tenth the age of the sun, but they also have noticed it is three times the size, and therefore not expected to outlast it,

likely expanding to red supergiant size in just a few billion years. Other peculiarities have been detected. Vega appears to spin quite rapidly and therefore bulges out at its equator. We see it pole-on surrounded by a large orbiting belt of dust. A few hot Jupiter-size planets have also been detected. Through a pair of binoculars it appears as a bright blue star in the constellation of Lyra the harp, a pretty part of the sky and another excellent reason to keep looking up.

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wheatbelt
natural resource
management



Feral animal control is a win-win for farmers and the Wheatbelt's Wild Things

As part of our "Where The Wild Things Are" project, we're on the lookout for Wheatbelt farmers that want to protect their remnant eucalypt woodlands. Get in touch to see how we can work together to protect the unique Wheatbelt environment while taking steps to increase farm outputs.

www.wheatbeltnrm.org.au



**National
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wheatbelt
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This project is supported by Wheatbelt NRM through funding from the Australian Government's National Landcare Program



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On the Lookout for Wheatbelt Landholders to engage in Feral Animal

Wheatbelt NRM are on the lookout for landholders interested in partnering on a unique, local feral animal control initiative.

The initiative forms part of Wheatbelt NRM's "Where The Wild Things Are" project which targets patches of remnant vegetation that are consistent with conservation advice for the region's Eucalypt Woodlands. This particular aspect is focusing on feral animals and fencing as a way of protecting these threatened ecological communities.

Project Manager, Anika Dent, says, "Working with landholders on feral animal control can have a huge impact on farming outcomes and the protection of the Wheatbelt's Woodlands."

"By definition, an 'ecological community' contains more than trees. It encompasses the plants, native animals, fungi and ground cover – all of which are extremely important to the overall health of the patch."

Anika goes on to explain, "By engaging in feral animal management and fencing alongside landholder partners, we protect every aspect of the area."

The Eucalypt Woodlands of the WA Wheatbelt are listed as a *threatened ecological community* under Federal Environmental legislation. They are found nowhere else in the world and due to the fragmentation of the WA Wheatbelt and threats such as salinity, are now restricted to isolated patches.

Wheatbelt landholders who have patches of remnant vegetation on their properties are being urged to get in contact with Wheatbelt NRM. Successful landholders will receive an individualised plan and one-on-one support in the plan's delivery.

To summarise, Anika says, "Feral animal control is a win-win for farmers and Wheatbelt habitats. By working together we can not only enhance commercial outcomes but we also take important steps to protect our unique environment."

Interested landholders can find more information on the "Where The Wild Things Are" project and complete an application form at <https://www.wheatbeltnrm.org.au/what-we-do/healthy-environments/where-wild-things-are>.

Safety and Security Rebate for WA Seniors Card members

The Safety and Security Rebate has been reintroduced and provides WA Seniors Card members a rebate of up to \$400 on the purchase of an eligible home security or safety item.

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Bowls

Merredin Civic Bowling Club

By DEBBIE HEINRICH

Sunday the 3rd of October was Opening Day for the Merredin Civic Bowling Clubs 2021/2022 Season.

Life Member Margaret Johnston opened the Season by putting down first bowl.

Winners of the day Steve Gregory, Jenny Wolfenden and John Lombardini.

Runners Up for the day Maurice Lane Kay Bush and Shaun Baker.

Winners of the winter scroungers competition, kindly donated by the Hobson Family, were: Winner Darren Postans, Runner Up Alan Dewar and Third place John Gearing.

John Gearing was presented with Life Membership for the tireless work he has done over the years for the Bowling Club.



Life Member Margaret Johnston putting down first bowl



Winners of the day Steve Gregory, Jenny Wolfenden and John Lombardini with Patron Eddie Johnston.



Runners Up of the day Maurice Lane, Kay Bush and Shaun Baker



John Gearing presented with Life Membership

Travelling Phoenix



Amanda and Kate Cash made it to the Perth Royal Show on opening day. It was the first time at the show for Kate who loved checking out all the animals, especially the cats, and sights and sounds on offer. Even though the queues were long, the day was beautiful, and it was an awesome day.

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Contact us for more information about the program.



Ready, Set, Swim

By DEE ALBERTI

On 30th September 2021, Merredin Swimming Club hosted its Annual General Meeting whereby 15 enthusiastic parents, coaches and community members attended. A new Committee was elected with Kerri Shelton taking on the role of President and Vanessa Thompson accepting her nomination for Vice President. Dionne Alberti was elected as the Secretary, and Chesney Maloney as the Treasurer.

After a short hiatus due to Covid Restrictions, the 2021/22 Committee is determined to ensuring this season is a raging success! Bec Jarvis, Samantha Marshall and Megan Simmonds will be back poolside, providing coaching at training sessions and offering support during time-trials. Bec, Samantha and Megan all hold their Austswim Qualifications and are experienced swimming instructors. The Committee also has the support of multiple other coaches who have volunteered to help out where needed.

Swimming Club caters to varying abilities with three groups - seniors, juniors and dolphins. Whilst the overall aim is for individuals to

improve their swimming ability and beat personal-best times, the Club also offers an inclusive and supportive team environment and promotes a healthy lifestyle through regular exercise. The Committee is working towards having three training sessions per week, regular time-trials, and offering members the opportunity to compete at external swimming meets throughout the Eastern Wheatbelt.

The Merredin Swimming Club is excited to welcome new and old members back to the pool, with a registration and grading day to be held on 1st November 2021. Anyone interested in joining Merredin Swimming Club is encouraged to follow the Facebook Page for regular updates, or alternatively can make contact via email merredinclub@gmail.com



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