





\$2

**Thursday 9th February 2023** 

Issue 3

# **AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS**

#### By MERREDIN SHIRE

Each year on Australia Day, the Community Citizen of the Year Awards, run by Auspire – the Australia Day Council of WA, give local governments the opportunity to acknowledge the remarkable achievements and outstanding contributions of local community members who are making a difference to our society.

This year, the Shire received five eligible nominations across two categories. For Young Citizen of the Year the nominees included Alyssa Taylor, Carly Silver, and Jaden Willis, and for Active Citizenship; Merredin Youth Committee and the Wildflower Society of Western Australia – Merredin Branch.

The winners of the awards were announced by Shire President Mark McKenzie at the Australia Day Breakfast, held on Thursday, 26 January 2023.

The winner of the Young Citizen of the Year award was Jaden Willis. Each summer, Jaden gives his time to help the Disabled Surfer Association to

enable people with disabilities to experience surfing. Over the years he has instigated several fund-raising activities at the Merredin College and has also helped to raise the importance of mental health with the painting of the Blue Tree in the East Quad at Merredin College. Jaden was also the Summer Camp Councillor/Mentor for 10–12-year-old boys at a children's Youth/Summer camp.

Meanwhile, the winner of the Active Citizenship award was the Wildflower Society of WA – Merredin Branch. The Merredin Branch of the Wildflower Society of Western Australia was formed in 1991, and for over 30 years this small, dedicated group has contributed to the community through its work in conserving and promoting the native vegetation of the area.

One of the many projects this groups has coordinated includes the Zig Zag Garden, a small native plant garden which was established on Barrack Street in

(Continued on page 2)



Winner of the 2023 Active Citizenship Award, The Wildflower Society of Western Australia, Merredin Branch



Winner of the 2023 Young Citizen of the Year Award, Jaden Willis



# **AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS cont.**

(Continued from page 1)

1996. The area was extended in 2022, with 20 additional plants established in a new area owned by Orana Cinema. The garden now has over 40 different native plant species, most of which occur naturally in the Merredin area. Branch members maintain and further develop the garden and are labelling progressively plants enhance the educational value of the garden.

Congratulations to the 2023 Community Citizen of the Year award recipients.

Also presented at the Australia Day Breakfast was the annual Eric Hind Music Scholarship, which is awarded to young, talented, and aspiring musicians in the Shire of Merredin. The scholarship is named in honour of Mr Eric Hind to recognise and acknowledge his contribution to the Shire as a Councillor and his accomplishments as a violinist.

In December 2022, applicants for the scholarship were interviewed and performed a piece of music for panel members, Cr Julie Flockart, Mrs Caryn Adamson and Mr Roy Butler. This year, it was concluded by the panel that each of the two applicants were deserving of the scholarship. Congratulations to the two winners; Jacob Billing and Kate Growden.



Eric Hind Scholarship Winners, Jacob Billing and Kate Growden



# COMMUNITY CALENDAR 2023

| 12   13   14   15   16   17  | SATURDAY  | SUNDAY   | MONDAY  | TUESDAY                         | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY   |
|--|---|--|---|---------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Merredin Fine Arts   Society 9am-12pm   Seventh-day   Adventist 11am   St Marys Catholic 10.30am   St Marys Catholic 6pm   Merredin Fine Arts Society 9am-12pm   Seventh-day Adventist 11am   St Marys Catholic 6pm   St Marys Catholic 6pm   Achigan   St Marys Catholic 6pm   St Marys Catholic 6p | 11  | 12   | 13  | 14                              | 15  | 16   | 17   |
| Community Garden 8am  Uniting Church 9am  at Cummins Theatre 9041 3005 (please leave a message), 0409172259, or see Lyn at the Post Office  A Choired Taste Workshop with Hannah 1pm at Church of Christ Hall  Nungarin St Thomas  Boot-scooting 7pm at Cummins Theatre 9041 3005 (please leave a message), 0409172259, or see Lyn at the Post Office  Gentle Gym 2pm Senior Centre Seniors Centre Seniors Centre 9am 12pm  Senior Centre Seniors Centre 9am 12pm  Merredin Fine Arts Society 9am 2pm Church of Christ, 17 Throssell Rd, gold coin donation 0429108241  Wids club, Ages 4-12, 3-5pm at Merredin Church of Christ, 17 Throssell Rd, gold coin donation 0429108241  Wids club, Ages 4-12, Arts Society 9am 2pm Merredin Fine Arts Society 9am 2pm Church of Christ, 17 Throssell Rd, gold coin donation 0429108241  Wids club, Ages 4-12, Arts Society 9am 2pm Denning tea 10am-11.30am  Men's Shed 3pm 4pm Ross 0417300893 Dennis 0411984123  | 8am  Merredin Fine Arts Society 9am-12pm  Seventh-day Adventist 11am  St Marys Catholic | All Saints 10am Uniting Church 9am Church of Christ 10am St Marys Catholic   | Coronation Street Merredin 9.30am  Boot-scooting 7pm at Cummins Theatre 9041 3005 (please leave a message), 0409172259, or see Lyn at the Post Office  A Choired Taste Rehearsal 7pm at | Valentine's Day  Gentle Gym 2pm | Seniors Centre 9am-<br>12pm  Carers support<br>group at Dimensions Café 10am-11.30am  Wildflower Society<br>meeting 7pm old North Merredin<br>primary school. Mal Harper 0437388292 Tracy Scott | Arts Society 9am-<br>2pm  Senior Centre<br>morning tea<br>10am-11.30am  Men's Shed 3pm-<br>4pm Ross 0417300893                   | 3-5pm at Merredin<br>Church of Christ, 17<br>Throssell Rd, gold<br>coin donation |
| 8am 9am at Cummins Theatre 9041 3005 (please leave a message), 0409172259, or see Lyn at the Post Office St Marys Catholic 6pm Workshop with Hannah 1pm at Church of Christ Hall Nungarin St Thomas Scenior Centre 9041 3005 (please leave a message), 0409172259, or see Lyn at the Post Office Senior Centre 9am 12pm Senior Centre 9am 2pm Church of Christ, 17 Throssell Rd, gold coin donation 0429108241  3-5pm at Merredin Church of Christ, 17 Throssell Rd, gold coin donation 0429108241  3-5pm at Merredin Church of Christ, 17 Throssell Rd, gold coin donation 0429108241  4 Choired Taste Workshop with Hannah 1pm at Church of Christ Hall Nungarin St Thomas   | 18  | 19   | 20  | 21                              | 22  | 23   | 24   |
| If you would like your community notice included, email info@merredincrc.com   | 8am  Merredin Fine Arts Society 9am-12pm  Seventh-day Adventist 11am  St Marys Catholic | 9am Church of Christ 10am St Marys Catholic 10.30am A Choired Taste Workshop with Hannah 1pm at Church of Christ Hall Nungarin St Thomas Anglican 10am | at Cummins Theatre<br>9041 3005 (please<br>leave a message),<br>0409172259, or see<br>Lyn at the Post<br>Office   | Senior Centre                   | Seniors Centre 9am-<br>12pm   | Arts Society 9am-<br>2pm  Senior Centre<br>morning tea<br>10am-11.30am  Men's Shed 3pm-<br>4pm Ross 0417300893 Dennis 0411984123 | 3-5pm at Merredin<br>Church of Christ, 17<br>Throssell Rd, gold<br>coin donation |

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Errors do occur from time to time, please contact organisations directly for further information.

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Thankyou to these businesses for their

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Produced and printed fortnightly by Merredin Community Resource Centre 110 Barrack Street, Merredin Ph: 9041 1041 Fax: 9041 1042

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12 or 24 editions

## COVID-19

# COVID-19 WA Statistics

As at 6 February 2023 Tested 4,712,517

Confirmed Cases 1,284,662

Recovered 1,282,592

Deaths 931

Active cases in WA 1,139

Vaccinations—Australia
Vaccinations—22,236,698
Fully vaccinated—21,654,488

y vaccinated—21,654,4 Booster—14,342,179

#### COVID-19 Australian Statistics

WA—Cases 1.28M—Deaths 931

ACT—Cases 230K —Deaths 157

NSW—Cases 3.88M—Deaths 6,304

NT—Cases 104K—Deaths 87

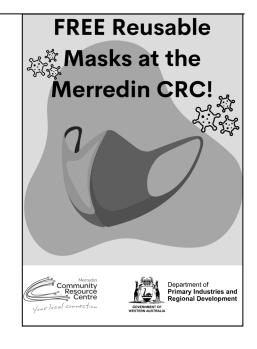
QLD—Cases 1.78M—Deaths 2,677

SA—Cases 875K—Deaths 1,244

TAS—Cases 284K—Deaths 247

VIC—Cases 2.86M—Deaths 7.181

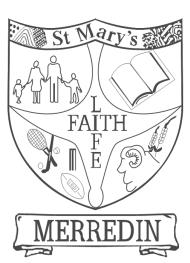
We're all in this together.



# **FIRST DAY BACK FOR 2023**







All students and staff were excited to return to school on Wednesday. We are all looking forward to a year full of learning and fun times.



Pre-Primary class



Year 4/5 class



Year 1/2 class



reur 3/4 cluss







Access your bushfire plan anytime - even without an internet connection.





# **2022 YEAR 11 HIGHEST ACHIEVERS**

Awards of Excellence went to:

Jack Truglio—HIGHEST ACHIEVER (OVERALL)

Ebony-Rose Stone—**HIGHEST ACHIEVER IN VET** 

Amber Watkins—**ENDEAVOUR AWARD** 

#### Year 11 Highest Achievers:

Phoebe Brooker—Mathematics Foundations

Hayley Bill—Certificate IV in Preparation for Health and Nursing

Hayden Blackshaw—Physical Education—General

Jessica Bluck—Food, Science and Technology

Jayden Champman—Human Biology

Ethan Creek—Drama

Stephen Cummins—Certificate II in Construction Pathways

Campbell Gardiner— Mathematics Application, Physical Education—ATAR

Jack Nayda—Certificate II in Workplace Skills

Patience Slater—Dance

Kassidy Spencer—Visual Arts

Caitlin Squire—Mathematics Essentials, Outdoor Education

Bella Stevens—Children Family and Community

Ebony-Rose Stone—Certificate III in Engineering Pathways, Woodwork

Miranda Tompkin—Certificate III in Information Technology, English—ATAR

Amber Watkins—English— General, Psychology—General Jack Truglio—Modern History

Congratulations to all award winners!





# **2023 STUDENT LEADERS**

Year 12 Student Councillors:

**Head Boy**: Bailey Smith **Head Girl:** Miranda Tompkin **Councillors:** Ethan Cree

**Councillors:** Ethan Creek, Patience Slater, Caitlin Squire,

Hallie Anderson **Primary Leaders** 

**Head Boy**: Beau Manning **Head Girl:** Keira Major

Councillors: Calvin Hardy, Lilly

Brunetti, Aria Boehme, Mary-Rose Foster

Growden House Captain: Ella

Alcock

Law House Captain: Cooper

withers

Mitchell House Captain:

**Dorothy Watson** 

Kelly House Captain: Marcus

Brunetti



Year 12 Student Councillors



**Primary Leaders** 

## THE EAGLES EXPERIENCE

#### By CUMMINS THEATRE

The Eagles Experience visited Cummins Theatre on Wednesday, 1 February 2023 with their captivating show, "Hotel California." Third time was the charm, after COVID-19 restrictions prevented the last two concerts from going ahead in 2021 & 2022.

Audiences were taken back in time as the five-piece band played through the hits of The Eagles catalogue. The concert began with 1972 hit Witchy Woman, followed by Lyin' Eyes.

Alice the resident ghost made herself known 20 seconds into the second song when a mic clip snapped in half, much to the band's surprise!

The first set included other hits

such as Take it to the Limit, Get over it, Love Will Keep Us Alive and finished off with Take it Easy. After a short break, and a costume change, the band was back for more — with hits such as Tequila Sunrise, Heartache Tonight, Boys of Summer and Life in the Fastlane. Many in the crowd were on their feet dancing in the aisles as the band rocked out hit after hit.

Throughout the concert, the band gave insight into the song writing and history of The Eagles (in American accents of course), staying in character to enhance the experience.

At the end of the set, the band dropped their Eagles' personas, and thanked the crowd for being so wonderful, but more importantly, thanked Alice too -

much to the crowd's delight.

The band then left the stage, but the audience were not fooled, and very quickly began cheering for an encore – which of course, was The Eagles 1977 hit song Hotel California.

It was a wonderful night out at

Cummins Theatre, with masterful musicians and high production value. All who were in attendance will remember the night for some time to come.

Many thanks to The Eagles Experience for making the trip on a dark desert highway.



The Eagles Experience playing at Cummins Theatre

# **Court Report**

#### 31 January 2023

#### **Merredin Courthouse**

Hayley Davis appeared on the charges of aggravated burglary and commit, common assault, breach of protective bail conditions and breach of police order. She was remanded to appear in Perth on 29th March 2023.

Matthew Woodhouse appeared on the charges of common assault and unlawfully assault and thereby did bodily harm with circumstances of aggravation. He was remanded to appear in Merredin on 3rd March 2023.

Greta Riley appeared on the charge of stealing. She was

remanded to appear in Northam on 27th February 2023.

Natasha Riley appeared on the charge of stealing. She was remanded to appear in Northam on 27th February 2023.

#### 1 February 2023

#### **Merredin Courthouse**

Brendan Payne appeared on the charges of steal motor vehicle (as defined in section 371A Criminal Code), possess a prohibited drug (cannabis), gave false personal details to a public officer and assault occasioning bodily harm. He was remanded to appear in Perth on 24th February 2023.

# **Library Musings**

#### **By MERREDIN LIBRARY**

Now the kids are back at school, the Merredin Library is back to normal operating hours: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10am-5pm, Thursday from 10am – 6pm and Saturday 10am-12noon.

The library is a lovely and cool spot to read, check out some information or just hang out. The library has comfy chairs, tables to sit at, and even free Wi-Fi

#### **Photographic Display**

The staff of the library have been working hard on February's display.

The display includes many photos from the collection of Barbara Hall and Bob Abell of local weddings, possibly as early as 1914, as well as wedding dresses, hats, and more.

Find out about odd wedding customs from around the world. Help library staff by filling in the information sheets if you know who is shown in the photos.

#### **Library Lovers Day**

In celebration of Library Lovers' Day on the 14 February, staff

have brought back 'Blind date with a book'. The books are covered in brown paper, with only a minimal description on the cover: whether it is large print, a mystery or romance and a similar author.

Take a chance on borrowing a book without knowing what you are getting. Who knows, you may find yourself a new favourite author. It's a lucky dip for adults.

#### E-Membership

Did you know that you can fill out an application for an emembership to be able to borrow free resources from the Merredin Library?

Just go to the Merredin Shire Website, https://www.merredin.wa.gov.au/sign-up-to-library-e-

membership.aspx, and fill in the form. You will receive a membership card number and a PIN to be able to access our free e-resources including OverDrive, BolindaBorrowBox, Kanopy, Hoopla, Library e-Resources, Ziptales and more.

Library staff are always happy to help, so ask us if you can't find what you need. See you soon.

# My Thoughts

# THE STRUGGLE TO BE HAPPY

Many of us just want to be happy, but often we are not. Deep down we know that "happiness ever after" is a dream, not guaranteed by lots of money, a flash car, a big house, a loving family, perfect health, or any of the other things we dream of.

My oldest brother died the day before Australia Day, so that was certainly not a happy day for me. I experienced many feelings, including regrets for things we hadn't said, and the fact that we three brothers have different lives, lived very geographically far apart. poor were communicators, probably typical of Australian males of our age. However, I did find a little happiness that, for the first time in 30 years, last November we three brothers had got together in Bendigo.

After receiving the sad and unexpected phone call, I decided to go out that evening, for a regular meal with some friends — all blokes. Though dubious about going out, I had a happy evening. Next day was Australia Day. I went to that too, celebrating with many others that we are very happy



Roy Butler

to be living in Australia. With A Choired Taste, I sang the National Anthem (I'm slowly warming to it) and a West Australian adaptation Country Road. More happiness! Then to cap off a series of happy events, the Merredin Branch of the Wildflower Society, to which I belong, won the Active Citizenship (Group) Award. More shared happiness. Later, alone, unhappiness returned.

This morning I read a very good article by author Robert Dessaix about happiness: https://www.theguardian.com/culture/2023/jan/29/happiness-can-be-ignited-by-making-something-small-infinite-whatmakes-me-happy-now

And my point is? Robert Dessaix says it well: cherish the brief moments of happiness. Also, I believe in the saying, *this too shall pass*, meaning, to me, that most bad things that cause unhappiness will eventually turn out OK, most of the time.



Bluebirds of Happiness Consulting Wise Old Owl (one sceptic).

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# CAR-BASED CAMERA CLUB MEETING

#### By GRANT STAINER

"Cars" was the theme for the December 2022 meeting of the Merredin Camera Club, and it was a bit of a challenge making an ordinary car look interesting.

Nineteen photos filled the theme section in December, and another 21 photos filled the open section. The December judge was Alan Carter.

In the theme section, the judge awarded equal gold to Chloe Willcocks's "Jeep", Grace Williams's "Long forgotten", and Pippa de Lacy's "Still photogenic".

Equal silver was awarded to Craig Shipway's "Carrera rally", Jules Alvaro's "Old car tip", Lorraine Ryan's "Off we go", and Grace Williams's "Australian Icon".

Equal bronze was awarded to six other photos.

In the open section, the judge awarded equal gold to Craig Shipway's "Lightning storm", Shay Creagh's "Great ride", Chloe Willcocks's "Resting", Pippa de Lacy's "Sunset sheep", and Samantha Webb's "Beach".

Equal silver was awarded to Chloe Willcocks's "B&W tree" and Samantha Webb's "Burning off". Equal bronze was awarded to seven other photos.

The judge provided a range of feedback, mainly relating to composition of the photos.

Club members voted somewhat differently to the judge in both

the theme and open sections.

In the theme section, first place went to Craig Shipway's "Carrera rally". Second place went to Pippa de Lacy's "The stories I could tell", and equal third place went to Glen Riethmuller's "Old cars" and Lorraine Ryan's "Off we go".

In the club member's open section voting, first place went to Craig Shipway's "Lightning storm". Second place went to Samantha Webb's "Burning off", and third place went to Chloe Willcocks's "Resting".

The next meeting is scheduled for the 15th February 2023, where the subject will be "golden hour", which is the half hour either side of sunrise and sunset.

The Merredin Camera Club welcomes new members. For more information about the Merredin Camera Club, please email Kate Caughey at merredincameraclub@yahoo.co m.au



'Burning off' by Samantha Webb



'The stories' by Pippa de Lacy



'Lightning storm' by Craig Shipway



'Jeep' by Chloe Willcocks

# **MERREDIN MERINOS HOST SENIOR'S GAMES**

#### By YVONNE GRAY

After cancellations during the past two years, the Senior Games will be held in Merredin on Tuesday 28th March 2023 at the MRCLC hosted by local team, "Merredin Merinos".

Since 1996 the Seniors Games have been held in alternative towns, including, Hopetoun, Tammin, Kulin/Kondinin, Merredin, Southern Cross, Corrigin, Kellerberrin and others. The aim of the competition to encourage the and elderly to socialise participate in exercise of their capabilities.

Games played include, Putt Putt golf, Bean bag toss (while seated), Basketball (pass the basketball while sitting). shuffleboard and a quiz. Teams consist of 13 players, with not all players playing every game. This year we have 7 teams and 85 players from 5 towns competing, coordinated by Audiene and Peter McCrae with the help of volunteers as scorers, time keepers, record keepers, kitchen help etc.



March 2020 Senior's Games, participants (above), sponsor and mascots (right)



## **WSWA MERREDIN BRANCH**

By TRACY SCOTT, Secretary, Merredin Wildflower Society

In case you haven't heard, The Wildflower Society of Western Australia Merredin Branch won the 2023 Australia Day Active Citizenship (Group) Award.

Congratulations to everyone concerned!



Merredin Shire President Mark McKenzie presenting Mal Harper with the Award



Wildflower Society members Neville Middleton, Roy Butler, Mal Harper and Laura Cruz





## **AUSTRALIA DAY BREAKFAST**

#### By MERREDIN CRC

Australia Day dawned bright and sunny and the CRC along with their treasured volunteers had the BBQs burning early to put on a fantastic Aussie breakfast for the Merredin community.

Approximately 160 people turned out to enjoy the traditional Aussie breakfast of sausages, bacon, egg, mushies and onion in a roll.

An added bonus this year was free coffee from Wheatbelt Coffee Time—thanks for coming Brad!

The breakfast was followed by a welcome by the Merredin CRC Management Committee Chairperson, Ross Duffield, Merredin Police raising the flag while A Choired Taste sang the National Anthem

A Choired Taste also sang a beautiful rendition of Take Me Home, Country Roads (Western Australia version).

The Shire of Merredin then followed with the announcement of the Citizen of the Year Award winners, and the presentation of the Eric Hind Scholarship Awards.

Congratulations to all the award nominees and winners.

2023 Young Citizen of the Year nominations: Alyssa Taylor, Carly Silver and Jaden Willis.

Winner: Jaden Willis

2023 Active Citizenship Award nominees: The Wildflower Society of Western Australia-Merredin Branch and Merredin Youth Committee.

Winner: The Wildflower Society of Western Australia-Merredin Branch.

2023 Eric Hind Scholarship Award winners: Kate Growden and Jacob Billing.

The Merredin CRC would like to thank all their wonderful volunteers who helped with setting up, packing up, barbecuing, serving, cleaning up and general running around - Merredin Men's Shed and the many individuals, too numerous to list. The day would not have run so smoothly without you.

Thanks to the Merredin Show committee for the loan of their new marquee - what a wonderful new addition for the Show - and this was the perfect chance to have a pre-Show go at putting it up.

The Australia Day Breakfast would not have been possible without the kind support of our sponsors - The Shire of Merredin and Collgar Community Fund. Thank you for your continued support.



Merredin CRC Management Committee Chair, Ross Duffield



Merredin Police, raising the flag



The Merredin community enjoying the shade of the new Merredin Show marquee



The breakfast marquees



A Choired Taste







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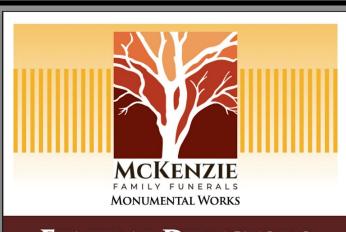
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#### LOOKING FOR A NEW OPPORTUNITY?

Established tyre sales and service business for sale in Mount Barker WA.

Tims Tyres and More has been established for 30 years providing car, 4wd and agricultural tyres, repairs and service as well as wheel alignments, brakes and suspensions.

With a profitable history and located in a vibrant regional town this is the chance to take up a business with a strong track record.



For Enquiries contact 1300 594 794 (quote Ref 30087)

# We're hiring in Merredin

Follow your passion with a career in aged care. 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 nursing and support workers for our home care services in the Wheatbelt.

Our Care with Purpose people-centred care model promotes dignity, respect, privacy and independence.

As a not-for-profit organisation, we are inclusive and welcome all faiths and backgrounds. We offer competitive hourly rates, casual loading and full training. We have both permanent and casual roles available now.



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





# **CLASSIFIEDS**

#### **Positions Vacant**



#### Student Support Officer

Regional Development Australia (RDA) Wheatbelt Inc is seeking a Part Time Student Support Officer (SSO) for the Lumen Wheatbelt Regional University Centre (LWRUC) program. 20 hrs per week, based in Merredin. Contract term to 20 June 2025, with possible extension of hours and contract term.

The SSO coordinates the operations of the LWRUC providing local study skills support to students studying with the LWRUC's university partners. Fosters strong student connectivity and develops initiatives to support students located in Wheatbelt communities. Maintains relationships with key regional and university stakeholders. Develops and maintains student record systems, manages the Study Hub's media presence and assists the LWRUC Director to build and grow a successful program.

Applicants ideally will have had experience in a similar role and preferably reside within the Wheatbelt Region. All of the selection criteria for the position must be addressed a part of the application, available from https://lumenwruc.edu.au/highlights/

For more information, contact the Director, Elise Woods on 0488 025 446 or director@lumenwruc.edu.au

Applications close at 4.00pm Wednesday 28th February 2023



Great Southern Fuels require the services of a full time tanker driver based in our Merredin Depot. HC or MC and Dangerous Goods licence required, but DG is not essential on application.

> Applications and inquiries to David Haines 0417 344 319 david.haines@gsfs.com.au

Or call in and drop a resume off to Great Southern Fuels

3 Gamenya Avenue PO Box 221 Merredin 6415 FIND THE RIGHT

# PERSON FOR THE JOB BY ADVERTISING IN THE PHOENIX



#### **For Sale**

#### For Sales \$5000 ONO

A gopher converter, one year old. Can be converted to a golf buggy, if needed. Has played three rounds of golf. \$5000 ONO. Has shopping bag, hood and golf bag carrier. Phone 9048 4155, mobile 0467 834 155

## Donate your 10 cent refund to a community group

CWA of WA (INC) - C10240441

Merredin College P&C Association - C10349464 Merredin Community Garden Group Inc. (MCGG) - C10358700

Merredin Community Resource Centre - C10242783

Merredin Districts Lawn Tennis - C10322072

Merredin Hockey Club - C10330862

Merredin Museum & Historical Society Inc. - C10681143 Merredin Railway Tennis Club - C10336486

Merredin Repertory Club - C1032349

Merredin Show Inc. - C10360791 Nangeenan Hall - C10481734

Parnana Pikurtu Wildlife Sanctuary - C1035338 St Mary's PS - C10323720



# **Horoscopes**



#### ARIES 21 March-19 April

Be carful what you say as you can be very harsh, and your words may hurt.



#### **TAURUS 20 April-26 May**

Give help and support as needed, you can do this!



#### GEMINI 21 May-20 June

The best ideas need to wait for the right time, so hold on and wait - you'll know when it's



#### **CANCER 21 June-22July**

Money is important but doesn't buy happiness. Don't forget to pay your bills.



#### LEO 23 July-22 August

Gossip can hurt! If you don't have anything nice to say, keep it to yourself.



#### VIRGO 23 August-22 September

It's not all about money, but maybe look at updating your budget.



#### LIBRA 23 September-22 October

It's time to stop, smell the roses and break free of the routine you've created for yourself.



#### SCORPIO 23 October-21 November

Follow those goals you've been working towards and you will be rewarded.



#### SAGITTARIUS 22 November-21 December

Who likes a rut? It's time to move on an try new things.



#### **CAPRICORN** 22 December-19 January

Being cranky and grumpy isn't good, look on the bright side of life.



#### AQUARIUS 20 January-18 February

Yes, money was wasted, but use the opportunity to learn from your mistakes.



#### PISCES 19 February-20 March

It's time to take care of your health and nurture that thing that you have been avoiding.



# From the History Room

#### By MERREDIN LIBRARY

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

12th, 1931: There are some fine wheat stacks at the various sidings in the eastern wheatbelt. Mukinbudin boats 170,000 bags, Bencubbin 130,000, Nungarin 120,000 and Trayning and many others are approaching the 100,000 mark.

12th, 1931: Are you a SUBSCRIBER to your local paper? If not, send 7/6 (75 cents) and have the 'Merredin Mercury' posted to you for 12 months.

20th, 1936: A man was charged in Merredin with unlawfully assuming control of a motorcycle, he was awarded 6 months hard labour. On a charge of stealing money, the same accused was ordered a further 3 months.

24th, 1938: A swimming pool,

now under construction at the Mines at Westonia, is nearing completion and will be officially opened on Sunday March 6 by the Mines Manager, Mr. Kayser.

22nd, 1940: For the second time since the inception of the Hospital, there were 10 babies in the ward at the same time on Tuesday, the previous record being 18 some months back.

17th, 1965: The new Junior High School at Southern Cross got underway on Monday, the new Head Teacher is Mr. Smythe.

23rd, 1966: 13 new admissions were made on the first day of school at Shackleton School. The total enrolment of 91 children is a rise of 2 from last year.

3rd, 1970: About 30 Hyden children attended swimming lessons at the Kondinin Pool. The children travelled the 80 miles daily by bus driven by Mr. R. McLennan.



# **Branding with Canva**



Tuesday 14th March 2023 | 10am to 12.30pm Merredin CRC - 110 Barrack St, Merredin

Want to create professional looking promotional images for social media? Or create a branded poster (like this one) or a flyer, menu or price list for your business?

Bring your laptop and learn how to use Canva - a free tool that makes it easy to create amazing branded graphics from templates. We'll help you understand the basics of branding and show you how to use Canva like a pro to maintain consistency across all media for better brand recognition.





# Expression of Interest HR & MC Truck Licensing

16th April 2023 to 19th April 2023

# Limited spaces available!

Register your name ASAP by sending your name, email, phone number and license type to administration4@merredincrc.com or by calling 9041 1041





# Ron Bateman & Co

Are seeking two reliable persons to organise/handle stock, serve customers and have some knowledge of computers.

Forklift license is favourable.

Most training will be done in store.

Some Saturday work (1/2 day) will be required.

Knowledge of farm machinery is advantageous.

Phone: 9041 1777
Email: info@ronbateman.com.au
92 Mitchell Street, Merredin





WA Country Health Service - Wheatbelt

# We are hiring!

Aboriginal Health Worker

Clinical Midwife | Physiotherapist

Speech Pathologist | Occupational Therapist

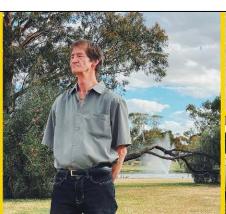
Child and Community Health Nurse | Paediatrician

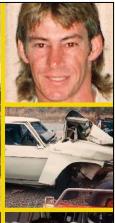
Contact the Primary Health Manager for more information: 08 9081 3222 | merredin.healthservice@health.wa.gov.au

# Driving tired nearly cost me my life.

Over 30 years later, I still live with the consequences of my road accident. But perhaps most painful to me was seeing my two young sons traumatised by my facial injuries and disfigurement.

In an hour-long presentation, I tell my story and share pictures I hope will encourage safer road use. Driving tired, under the influence, or distracted, are not worth the cost to you, or to your loved ones.





Book now for me to speak at your school or place of business.



Call Paul on 0417 574 152 or visit vehicleversus.com.au





# **GRANT FUNDING**

# Application Opportunities Closing 28th February 2023



WHERE THE WILD THIINGS ARE? Do you have a Eucalypt Woodland you would like to protect? Funding of up to \$15,000 is available for activities to manage the impact of feral animals, stock grazing and weeds on Eucalypt Woodland bushland, to protect and enhance the habitat of threatened flora and fauna within Eucalypt Woodlands and to protect and enhance significant Eucalypt Woodland patches.

Contact Project Manager: Alex Griffiths at agriffiths@wheatbeltnrm.org.au or (08) 9670 3102.

Applications and more details on our website.



PICK OF THE LITTER: We are committed to protecting Malleefowl in the Wheatbelt and we can only do it with your help. Funding of up to \$10,000 is available to assist landholders working to protect these birds in patches of native vegetation. Applications are invited for actions like fencing to protect habitat from stock, feral animal control and revegetation to improve connections between patches. Applications

Contact Project Officer: Kate Nicol at knicol@wheatbeltnrm.org.au or (08) 9670 3111.

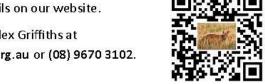
and more details on our website.



HEALTHY BUSHLANDS: Our Healthy Bushland Program provides support to community groups, groups of neighbours and individuals to help cover the cot of materials for a range of activities including feral animal control, habitat augmentation and fencing, for the purposes of protecting remnant vegetation within the Wheatbelt NRM region.

Applications and more details on our website.

Contact Project Manager: Alex Griffiths at agriffiths@wheatbeltnrm.org.au or (08) 9670 3102.



To apply scan the QR codes or visit:

# wbnrm.your2cents.com.au







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

# **NEW MERREDIN SHOW MARQUEE**

#### SHOW **MERREDIN** By **COMMITTEE**

The Merredin Show Committee have purchased a much-needed new marquee for the Show and had the chance to put it up for the first time for use at the Australia Day Breakfast hosted by the Merredin CRC.

It took a couple of hours,

being the first time, and a lot of volunteers to get it up and ready - but was totally worth the effort. It is a magnificent structure and is a very welcome addition for the Show.

The committee would like to thank those who came to help, including family and friends committee members. Merredin Men's Shed and CRC staff.

The Merredin Show this year will be held on Saturday 1 April - no joke! Gates open at 10am. Tickets are \$15, with kids' entry once again FREE, thanks to Collgar Community Fund. All tickets, including FREE child tickets are now available to be booked online through Trybooking.

The 2023 Merredin Show Raffle is limited to only 500 tickets. Tickets are \$50 each with first prize of \$10,000, second prize of \$3,000 and third prize of \$2,000. Raffle tickets are available for purchase from the CRC and will also be available at the Merredin Markets on Friday 3 March. Get in quick so you don't miss out!





# **CALLING ALL CRITTERS** WHO LOVE TO BE ON DISPLAY!

#### **SHOW** By **MERREDIN COMMITTEE**

If you have a small friendly pet or farm favourite that just loves to be the centre of attention, and is well behaved, perhaps they may like to come along to the Critter Corner at the Merredin show this year!

Rabbits, guinea pigs, lambs, kids (the 4-legged variety), calves, chooks and ducks, just to name a few, are all welcome. They will need to stay for the day, arriving no later than 10am and leaving at 4pm.



Places are limited so please contact Melinda at the CRC to register your interest to bring your pet for the day. More information will be provided on application. Phone the CRC on 9041 1041 or email Melinda manager@merredincrc.com.







#### Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st February 2023 **Time:** Start at 9am, finish at 5pm

Venue: Merredin Regional

Community & Leisure Centre Enrol today!

Scan QR Code to complete the registration form:



#### Why DV-alert?

DV-alert is led by experienced trainers dedicated to reducing violence against women and their violence against women and their children. Our workshops provide a safe space for frontline workers to learn, connect and be empowered to recognise and respond confidently to those in crisis.

After successfully completing the workshop, you'll receive a Statement of Attainment for the unit of competency CHCDFV001: Recognise and respond appropriately to domestic

## RECOGNISE the

and family violence

signs of domestic and family violence

RESPOND confidently

REFER people to appropriate support services in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities

#### Who is it for?

This workshop is for frontline workers and volunteers in Australia. including those in the health, allied health, education, childcare or community sectors who have contact with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people

DV-alert training is funded by the Australian Government Department of Social Services.

Terms and conditions apply.

Go to **dvalert.org.au** for

#### Any questions?

For further enquiries contact: education@lifelinewa.org.au



# TRIPS AND FALLS WORKSHOPS

# By MERRITTVILLE RETIREMENT VILLAGE

On 1 February 2023 at the Merrittville Hall, Rain Rodenburg, Health Promotions Officer, WACHS Merredin, held the first of three free Trips and Falls Workshops, followed by a morning tea provided by the Merrittville Retirement Village Committee.

This first workshop was attended by some of the Merrittville residents as well as members of the public.

The session was based around foot and leg muscle health and remaining balanced on your feet. There was an informative PowerPoint presentation, takehome information sheets and various exercises that the attendees were shown at the workshop that they could continue at home to strengthen their leg muscles and improve balance.

Everyone who attended, enjoyed the workshop and morning tea and are excited to attend the next two sessions.

Attendees were happy with the information and resources they were provided, from how to choose safe shoes to at home exercises to minimize their fall risk.

A big thank you goes out to

those who attended, we look forward to seeing you back next week, to the Merrittville Committee for providing the morning tea, to the Merredin CRC for organizing and promoting the workshops and to Rain Rodenburg, for running this informative workshop.

There is still one workshop to attend, 15 February 2023, from

10am to 11am with morning tea to follow. All workshops are free to attend.

If you would like to attend the final workshop please call or text the Merrittville phone on 0459 027 862 or email merrittvillecommittee@gmail.com Bookings are essential for catering purposes.



# SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER THE PHOENIX

#### By MERREDIN CRC

CRC The Merredin are the passionate about community of Merredin including keeping everyone updated on everything 'Merredin' in our community newspaper, The Phoenix.

The Phoenix is a labour of love for the CRC, however it takes a lot of staff time to source and follow up on articles and advertising as well as the 'putting together' of the final product.

The CRC would like to remind readers that The Phoenix is available from many outlets throughout town, however, payment is via an honour box system - The Phoenix is NOT a free community newspaper!

When buying The Phoenix, you are supporting the CRC in keeping the community informed.

If you are one of our valued advertisers, please remember that your adverts assist the CRC in being able to financially produce The Phoenix, and your timely payment is crucial for the continuing production of The Phoenix.

There is a significant cost involved in providing this service for the community so please show your support by making sure you pay for your copy of The Phoenix or pay for your advertising in a timely manner.





Bailiwick Legal is bringing our services direct to you through our **Regional Legal Hot Desk.** 

Bailiwick Legal is a commercial law firm specialising in agriculture and tourism. We can assist with matters of litigation, dispute resolution, employment & workplace, property law, settlements, mining & access, and wills & estates.

We will be in Merredin at Merredin Community Resource Centre, 110 Barrack Street, on the following dates between 9.30am - 3.30pm:

> 16 MARCH 2023 11 MAY 2023 6 JULY 2023

To book a free 20-minute consultation please email evelyn@bailiwicklegal.com.au or call 9321 5451

www.bailiwicklegal.com.au

# **Astronomy**

## WTF 9TH -22ND FEBRUARY 2023

#### **By PETER BARRETT**

February is a great time for Watching The Firmament, with warm balmy mostly clear nights.

At this time of year, we are facing away from the center of the Milky Way towards Taurus and Orion in the evening.

The unmistakable triplet of bright stars that form Orion's belt are an important celestial signpost, lying as they do on the celestial equator. This means those "three sisters" will always rise due East and set due West, no matter where you are.

Following the line of the belt southwards leads you to mighty Sirius the Dog Star, the brightest star in the night sky. Follow them northwards and you come to bright red Aldebaran "the follower", the main star of Taurus. Don't mistake it for Mars, which happens to be nearby at the moment and is considerably brighter.

Currently, an imaginary line passing through Mars and Aldebaran extended northward leads to the bright star Capella.

If you are looking for comet ZTF it will appear somewhere very close to this line over the next few nights.

Many of the bright stars in this area are among our closest neighbours. Betelgeuse "the armpit" is the bright red star just North of Orion's belt and

forms part of the rectangle that frames it.

To the East of it lies Procyon the "little dog". Sirius Betelgeuse and Procyon form a large conspicuous equilateral triangle. With Sirius calculated to be just 8.6 light-years away and Procyon 11.3 light-years these dogs are very close indeed.

Of all the stars visible to the naked eye only Alpha Centauri way to the South is closer. Aldebaran is quite close too at 65 light-years. This star is surrounded by the V-shaped Hyades cluster.

The other bright star in Orion's rectangle is Rigel "the foot". The area between the belt and the foot, known as "the sword",

is filled with nebulous gas, some of which can be seen with the naked eye.

Inspection of this area with binoculars reveals the Great Nebula, a particularly lurid patch. The famous Horsehead Nebula also lives amongst the three sisters of Orion's belt, but you will need some special techniques to reveal that one.

So, what are you waiting for, besides sunset? Find a nice spot out in the open, set up the recliner, a hummock or maybe even your swag. Grab some refreshments and your binoculars. No matter how down you are feeling I guarantee everything will be looking up in no time!

| Date/Planet | Sun ⊙                       | Moon ℂ                         | Mercury &                    | Venus ♀                   |
|-------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Thu 09      | rises5:39am sets7:01pm in 🕦 | sets8:29am rises9:06pm in 🛭    | rises3:46am sets5:46pm in    | rises7:41am sets8:22pm in |
| Fri 10      | rises5:40am sets7:01pm in 🕦 | sets9:24am rises9:33pm in 🔟    | rises3:49am sets5:48pm in    | rises7:43am sets8:21pm in |
| Sat 11      | rises5:41am sets7:00pm in 🕦 | sets10:21am rises10:01pm in 🕦  | rises3:51am sets5:49pm in    | rises7:45am sets8:21pm in |
| Sun 12      | rises5:42am sets6:59pm in 🕦 | sets11:20am rises10:31pm in 🔟  | rises3:53am sets5:51pm in 13 | rises7:47am sets8:20pm in |
| Mon 13      | rises5:43am sets6:58pm in 🖫 | sets12:22pm rises11:07pm in 🚨  | rises3:56am sets5:52pm in Ъ  | rises7:49am sets8:19pm in |
| Tue 14 🕦    | rises5:43am sets6:57pm in 🕦 | sets1:28pm rises11:49pm in   ☐ | rises3:58am sets5:53pm in 13 | rises7:50am sets8:18pm in |
| Wed 15      | rises5:44am sets6:56pm in 🕦 | sets2:36pm in 🛝                | rises4:01am sets5:55pm in 🖫  | rises7:52am sets8:18pm in |
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| Date/Planet | Mars ♂                       | Jupiter 의                   | Saturn ħ                    |
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| Fri 17      | sets12:10am rises2:13pm in   | rises8:58am sets8:51pm in 🗐 | rises5:44am sets6:57pm in 🚐 |
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## **BFC LOOKS THE GOODS FOR 2023**

#### By BURRACOPPIN FC

The Burracoppin Football Club commenced its pre-season training regime on Monday 23rd January with approximately 20 players turning out for the first official run of 2023.

After a red-hot season in 2022 celebrating the Club's 100th year and the reserves only just missing out on a place in the big dance, the upcoming season looks to be a promising one for the favoured local side.

The league team welcomes back Coach Russell "Russ" Swanson who brings with him a wealth of knowledge, experience, and passion. Although plagued by injuries last season, the league team had a much improved hitout compared to previous years gone by, and this year are looking to go bigger and better with the welcome addition of new players.

After the retirement of longstanding reserves coach Scott "Coops" Cooper, the club knew they had big shoes to fill if the success of the ressies was set to continue. This season Michael "Porky" Hayden has volunteered to take over the reins, and the Club is hopeful of another prosperous year both on and off the field.

The Burracoppin Football Club prides itself on having a strong and proud history made up of many premierships over the decades. Under the guidance of Club President Garret Greenham, the aim for the committee to run professional outfit that boasts a family friendly atmosphere and is welcoming of diversity. Although a few of the Club's star players have moved on, with the luxury of youth, local talent and passion on their side, the Cats are looking forward to seeing what the 2023 season holds.

Last year the Eastern Districts Football Club's number 1 and number 2 best players within the association came from the home of the Cattery in that of Jack Stevens (joint winner alongside Ben Doyle of Corrigin and Ben Rushforth of Nukarni), and Jack Downsborough (runner -up), a name synonymous with the blue and white. several big names continuing to shine in the off-season within their respective WAFL Club's including Jack Stevens, Jack Downsborough and young-gun Codan Daddow, the Club is

proud of the local grown talent that has been raised and coached from a grass-roots level. Whilst it's likely that Stevens, Downsborough and Daddow may be called up for WAFL commitments throughout the season, the Club is confident of having enough depth to still be successful within the local competition.

Already the committee is busy planning an array of off-field events including a monster raffle, the annual Back to Burra reunion, the yearly Narembeen Dress-Up party and more! New merchandise is also on the table, as well as several player incentives especially for under 18's.

If you, or someone you know is interested in getting involved in

a vibrant, fun, and social club that boasts success not just on the field, but as well as a culture that represents comradery, mateship, and community-spirit, then please don't hesitate to either rock up at training (everyone's welcome) or get in touch with Club President, Garret Greenham on 0409 497 605. Pre-season training in Merredin is held every Monday and Wednesday at the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre at 6:00pm.

Between now and the season kicking-off in April, there will be 3 scratch matches at various locations, as well as a couple of social functions. Follow the Burracoppin Football Club on Facebook to stay up to date, or email burrafooty@hotmail.com to join the mailing list.



BFC team at the first pre-season training for 2023

# **Basketball**

# MERREDIN BASKETBALL ASSOCIATION

#### Round 10

#### Senior Men

Burracoppin Cats (40) d. Merredin Grizzlies (33)

Bulls (39) d. Lakers (36)

**Senior Women** 

Sonics (22) d. Mystics Blue (16)

Sharks (2) d. Merredin Warriors (forfeit)

Bye: Fury

#### **Junior Boys**

Green (45) d. Light Grey (10)

Black (32) d. Yellow (10)

Light Blue (29) d. Red (21)

#### **Junior Girls**

White (28) d. Orange (21)

Royal Blue (20) d. Lime Green

#### Intermediate Boys

Green v. Royal Blue (forfeit)

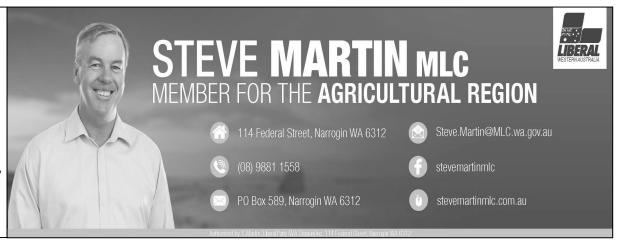
Light Grey (24) d. Red (22)

Yellow (36) d. Orange (32)

Bye: Black

# Merredin Sport

proudly sponsored by





We are still in need of rentals for our tenant base.

If you would like more information about leasing your property - Contact us and we would be more than happy to help!

info@asktonym.com.au / 08 9574 2917

# FOR SALE



#### 7 Caw Street - \$265,000!

Get in quick for this one! Great value for money here, this property is currently tenanted at \$425 per week until October 2023. This four bedroom home has been renovated to a very good standard throughout. Featuring: Bamboo wood flooring throughout the living areas, quality carpet in the 4 bedrooms, renovated kitchen with central island bench and loads of cupboard space, renovated bathroom with toilet, 2nd toilet off of the laundry, 2x split system reverse cycle air conditioners, built in robes to 3 bedrooms, rear patio and large yard with plenty of parking, 2 x lock up garages plus a garden shed, electric hot water system and oven. All of this is set on a 1012m2 block!

Contact Christie Rennie on 0414 221 744 for more details or to discuss a viewing!



#### 55 Duff Street - \$150,000!

This cute and cosy 3-bedroom cottage is perfect for those on a budget! The home has an open plan lounge/ dining / kitchen with reverse cycle split system air con & a gas bayonet. The kitchen has been renovated and has an under bench electric oven and gas cook top. There is also a pantry and fridge recess. The master bedroom is a decent size and has 3x double power points and coax point. Bedroom 2 and 3 are single sized rooms. The bathroom has been renovated and has a shower over bath, toilet and vanity. Outside there is a full-length front and rear verandah plus an undercover lock up carport. There is rear yard access to the 3 x sheds so there is plenty of room to store your toys and tools!

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# **FOR RENT**



#### Cozy 3 x 1 - \$350/week - AVAILABLE END OF FEBRUARY!

Located on a good street, this 3-bedroom home is looking for new tenants! On entry, you have two front bedrooms (one has it's own split system air-con). Down the hall, you walk into the lounge room which is serviced by a split system air-con. The third bedroom is off the lounge room also with it's own split system air-con as well. To the rear of the home, you have an updated kitchen with plenty of bench and storage space, and electric cooking. Off the kitchen you have the laundry area which leads into the bathroom. The bathroom consists of a shower unit, corner spa bath and basin. A separate toilet is off the laundry area. Off the kitchen you have a fully enclosed patio area – perfect for entertaining all year round!

Contact 9574 2917 or info@asktonym.com.au for further details or an application!



#### Freshly Renovated 4 x 1 - \$370/week - AVAILABLE NOW!

This big home has 3 separate living spaces! The front loungeroom welcomes you into this home and gives access to the 3 of the 4 bedrooms. All bedrooms are neatly finished with timber-look hybrid waterproofed floorings. Bedroom 4 is located opposite the laundry and comes with a wall mounted reverse cycle air conditioner. Bathroom features half height wall tiles with a glass panel corner shower, vanity, and toilet. Located to the rear of the home is the spacious second living space which has access to the outdoor patio space. Adjacent is the large home theatre room. The sleek galley style kitchen is equipped with long benchtops, and built in is a 900ml gas stovetop and wall mounted electric oven. The block is fully fenced and has access through colour bond double gates to the lockable garage.

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**Real Estate** 

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PRICE: \$420,000

AGENT: Elders Real Estate Merredin CONTACT: Steve Gregory 0429 874 874

Elders Property ID: 300P106719

#### TIMELESS MASTERPIECE!!!

Located in a quiet street opposite park land this brick and tile residence will catch your eye with it's well established landscaped gardens. The lounge room has views of the leafy front garden through massive timber framed windows and french doors opening onto the large front porch. It has a new freestanding wood fire for those cozy romantic winter nights plus a reverse cycle split system for convenience when you just want instant heat or cooling. The lounge flows through French sliding doors to the elegant dining room while the well appointed kitchen looks onto the dining room over a large breakfast bar and boasts stainless steel appliances and beautiful cabinetry.

#### 12 Jellicoe Road, Merredin









3



1



3 😅

Parking



## 85 Haig Street, Merredin \$585,000 - WEB ID 300P105753

Fully renovated with quality fixtures and fittings throughout, high ceilings and features Tasmanian cedar flooring. The front porch has a lovely deck and is the perfect place to enjoy the winter northern sun. As you enter into an impressive entry area you see double doors inviting you into a large, carpeted living area

currently set up as a library. This is one of two huge living areas. The other is at the rear of the home. The entry then flows into a fully functional open plan kitchen/ dining area.



## 50 Caw Street, Merredin \$170,000 - WEB ID 300P106462

If you're looking for something with extra living space come and view this 3 bedroom 1 bathroom home with a 35 square metre (approx) games room! The front yard offers two drive-ways, one with a single carport and one with a single garage. The games room is separated from the house by a lovely patio

BBQ area for summer entertaining and opens onto the rear garden through a glass sliding door. Located in a quiet street this house with lots of potential presents great buying.



# WANT TO SELL YOUR HOME? CONTACT STEVE AT ELDERS ON 0429 874 874