

OPENING OF UMOONA COMMUNITY NEW INDIGENOUS OWNED ART CENTRE

On Thursday 18th of July 2024 at Coober Pedy the local aboriginal community of Umoona and Coober Pedy gathered on country, to celebrate the formal opening of the long awaited Umoona Arts Centre in Coober Pedy. George Cooley – The Opening of the Umoona ARTS Centre Celebrations 18th July 2024

The event and celebrations were, attended by a large group of special invited guests and friends from Coober Pedy and the region, including senior officer from the District Council of Coober Pedy, the local member and agency supporters and partners which we thank very much for their attendance.

We invited and welcomed, as, our special guest Minister Linda Burney, the Federal Minister for Indigenous Affairs to conduct the official opening of the Umoona Arts Centre at Umoona, including Minister Kyam Maher Attorney General for SA and Minister for Indigenous Affairs.

We acknowledge our incredible friends who made it possible today; Mark Anderson - Indigenous Land and Sea; James Armitage and Renee Marden – NIAA the senior Artist from the APY Lands and our local and talented Umoona Artists of Coober Pedy.

George's opening remarks, spoke about the challenge of making a start and how the establishment of a local Art Centre was long 20 + year dream of the community.

Then came the recognition and support from the APY Artist from the APY Lands who wanted the Umoona Community to engage with new and emerging artists who would like to create an independent and economic enterprise within the Arts arena for much needed employment within the Indigenous communities

Then the first support came from NIAA with a small startup funding, followed by the South Australian Minister for Indigenous Affairs office resource support for the Art Centre building being the final piece, to make the dream a reality.

Today (18th July 2024) the Art Centre is open and people from all over are welcome to visit and experience the Indigenous people of Coober Pedy.

We believe the Art Centre and the Artists will become an asset to the Umoona Community and the overall Coober Pedy experience, and for those upcoming future Artists of region.



Artist George Cooley Board Member Umoona Art Centre and APY Lands Art's Board at the Grand Opening



Minister Linda Burney officially opening the Umoona Art Centre



Above: Minister Kyam Maher looking over the bush tomato sauce, and natural bush balm with Dawn Brown .

In his speech, Minister Maher remarked to the effect, that an Art Centre is more than just an art centre; it is a place to meet, socialise, share stories, pass on law and culture and to develop....

Left: Pearl Austin in front of her latest painting, "Growing up on Country and enjoying the beauty that it has to offer."

**INVITATION
to
MEET
WITH**

**JOE
SOCK-ARCH**

Minister for Local Government SA

**The (new) Minister for Local
Government, the Hon Joe Szakacs MP
will visit Coober Pedy on
Wednesday 31 July 2024.**

**COMMUNITY MEMBERS are hereby
invited to attend a public forum at the
Italian Club from 5.30pm - 7.00pm.
(1.5 hours) All welcome.**

The Director of the Office of Local Government,
Ms Alex Hart will be in attendance also.
There will be an opportunity to ask questions.

Local artist Pearl Austin said, "What an amazing achievement for us as a community!! The day has finally arrived, and we have now officially opened our doors."

"A lot of time and effort went into realising this dream and I would like to extend a heart felt thanks to all of those who were instrumental in helping us achieve this dream and especially to those who travelled for the occasion."

"Federal Minister for Indigenous Affairs Linda Burney travelled from interstate and officially declared our Community Art Centre open, and South Australian Minister for Indigenous Affairs Kyam Maher who has strongly supported us on this project travelled from Adelaide for our grand opening."

"To Minister Burney, I would like to say, we greatly appreciate you taking the time to open this wonderful space for us, and Minister Maher, you saw our dream and helped bring it into existence." **CONTIN.. INSIDE**

SERVING THE OPAL CAPITAL OF THE WORLD SINCE 1982

ABOUT US

The annual rainfall in the area is around 162 mm | 6.4 inch per year.

The CPRT newspaper first became DIGITAL/ ONLINE in 2006 as well as hardcopy. Although online is now the main trend, hard copies are still printed locally.

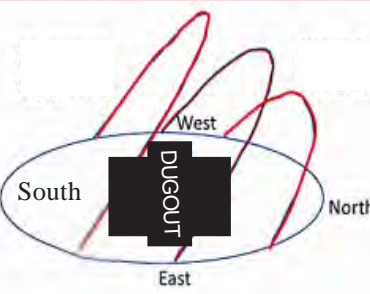
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7 DAYS WEATHER at COOBER PEDY Oodnadatta Tarcoola Andamooka Roxby Downs

	SUN Jul 28	MON Jul 29	TUE Jul 30	WED Jul 31	THU Aug 1	FRI Aug 2	SAT Aug 3
Summary	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Mostly cloudy	Mostly sunny
Maximum	16°C	17°C	18°C	20°C	20°C	21°C	19°C
Minimum	3°C	1°C	2°C	3°C	4°C	9°C	7°C
Chance of Rain Likely Amount	5% < 1mm	5% < 1mm	5% < 1mm	5% < 1mm	20% < 1mm	20% < 1mm	50% < 1mm
UV Index	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
Frost Risk	Moderate	High	Moderate	Moderate	Slight	Nil	Nil
	9am 3pm	9am 3pm	9am 3pm	9am 3pm	9am 3pm	9am 3pm	9am 3pm
Wind Speed	16km/h ESE	18km/h E	17km/h ENE	24km/h NE	19km/h ENE	23km/h NE	17km/h ENE



Spring Equinox. 0° of Libra
- 22 September 2024. AWST
8.43pm. ACST 10.13pm.
...
Summer Solstice. 0° of
Capricorn - 21 December
2024. AWST 5.20pm.


MAILING LIST

Send an email to be included on emailing list

Local Scribes

Bi Monthly

MARGARET MACKAY News Reporter, Resident and Coober Pedy Ratepayer has been the Editor of CPRT since 2005 and a volunteer contributor since the mid 1990s, covering general news stories, photography, advertising and the coordinating of community contributions.



Margaret Mackay
Editor

LEILA DAY was raised in Balranald NSW and has lived in Andamooka for 15 years. She is the Chair (AOFTA) Andamooka Opal Fields Tourism Assoc. Inc. Owner/ Operator Andamooka Observatory (and more) Leila joins our team as we share highlights of our respective OPAL FIELDS.



Leila Day
Andamooka

JOHN DI DONNA was raised in the South Australian Outback and is a long term resident of Coober Pedy. As a business person John is a regular, commuter along the Far North and Flinders highways and byways, covering the entire Far North & East and Outback.



John Di Donna
Opinion & Commentary

GEORGE KOUNTOURIS is a 2nd Generation Opal Miner/Retailer and President of Coober Pedy Retail, Business & Tourism Association. George will provide regular updates for business and tourism in our area



Pres. CRBTA
Opal Miner/Trader

The Opal Capital of the World

An Underground Town built on the back of OPAL MINING.
OPAL = AUSTRALIA'S NATIONAL GEM

*Coober Pedy - situated on the LARGEST OPAL FORMATION in the world



*Over 40 Nationalities living together;bonded by the OPAL Industry



Margaret Mackay ©

*Spacious underground living

*Beautiful Opal Gemstones



World Class Opal

Coober Pedy Regional Times Newspaper"

CPRT became a FREE Newspaper in 2006 and increased its distribution to 5,000 hard copies + and at the same time provided a Free Online Digital Newspaper, to accommodate the new digit era. Distribution covers tourists and nearby communities and towns, social media, website and mailing list. The CPRT receives no external funding.

Publishing Dates

☐ Friday 09 Aug 2024

☐ Friday 23 Aug 2024

☐ Friday 13 Sep 2024

Four pillars of Democracy are

LEGISLATIVE : The body which makes laws for the state.

EXECUTIVE : Executes and enforces laws.

JUDICIARY : Works to protect laws.

PRESS/MEDIA : The 4th estate of democracy. It informs the public

'Media releases' may be submitted however there is no obligation on the newspaper to publish any part of it. Media releases are generally one sided so comments may, (or may not) be extracted and used in a related article. CPRT does not provide free space for political or business advertising.

Letters to Editor should be sent by email where possible and must be relevant to the community. Potentially defamatory comments will be edited or deleted. Letters to Editor need to be signed, but a pen name can be published.

1.) GROUPS & SPONSORSHIP

You or your group may wish to send a News Article. Aim for a 300 - 500 word story in plain text and a suitable photo/s.

2. If seeking an Editorial - "Advertorial" or "Special Feature", please enquire about the cost first.

3.) Advertisers may be entitled to editorials

4.) Sponsorship for clubs or community programs is by arrangement

5.) Names and Captions must accompany photos + DO NOT REDUCE PHOTOS

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Coober Pedy Regional Times

Friday 26 July 2024



Blower and circular tunneling machine

Opal Mining talk



- Heartfelt good wishes go to Nick Trouptsis, a loyal and dedicated representative of the opal mining community at the Mines Department. Speedy recovery champ.
- Although the opal mining industry needs new blood, some of the experienced miners believe that the Mines Department should issue a probationary license to all the new miners and ensure that everyone with a PSPP does a health and safety course and becomes familiar with the laws and etiquette of opal mining.
- Indian buyers are staying away, the big craze is selling on live auctions per carat!
- Although much squabbling and re-selling, most on offer are small chips or cracky, sandy material. Again the good operators will survive, just be patient.




Active Claims as at the 25 July 2024

Andamooka - 164
Coober Pedy - 467
Mintabie - 13
Stuart Creek - 1

Wardens Court Circuits 29th - 31st July 2024

OPAL MINING FEES effective 1st JULY 2024

New or Renew PSPP	\$102
2nds & ODL	\$10.90, \$10.90
Replacement Plates	
X1	\$ 8.55 + \$20.10 = \$28.00
X2	\$17.10 + \$20.10 = \$36.30
X3	\$25.65 + \$20.10 = \$44.60
X4	\$34.2 + \$20.10 = \$52.90
Recovery of Posts	\$29.00
Claim Registration – 3 months	
Small	\$59.50
Large	\$119.00
X/Large	\$180.00
ODL	\$143.00
Claim Renewal – 12 months	
Small	\$180.00
Large	\$361.00
X/ Large	\$541.00



◆ Maximum Penalty for Unlawful Entry on a Mining Tenement - \$10,000

- 25 (1) A person must not, without lawful authority or excuse, enter or remain on land comprised in a registered precious stones tenement without first obtaining the permission of the holder of the tenement.
- (2) However, this section—
- (a) does not apply—
- (i) to a police officer acting in the course of official duties; or
- (ii) to a person appointed under an Act acting in the course of official duties; and
- (b) does not affect any civil liability.



SA HEALTH STAFF VACCINATION POLICY UPDATED

From FRIDAY 26 JULY, COVID-19 vaccination is no longer mandatory for SA Health staff in patient-facing roles, following a review of SA Health’s vaccination policy.

COVID-19 vaccination continues to be strongly recommended for all South Australians, especially healthcare workers.

The policy change follows consultation with staff and recognition of the changing environment around COVID-19 immunity in the community.

Commencing in October 2021, Category A and B workers were required to have at least two doses of an approved COVID-19 vaccination to work in patient-facing roles under the Policy: Addressing vaccine preventable disease: Occupational assessment, screening, and vaccination.

Of about 45,000 staff, about 245 permanent employees who refused vaccination had their employment terminated under the policy.

In the period since late 2021, population immunity to COVID-19 in South Australia has reached near universal immunity due to vaccination, past infection or a combination of both.

Scientific evidence shows that hybrid immunity – from being vaccinated and also experiencing COVID-19 infection – provides the highest level of protection against potential severe disease, hospitalisation, long-COVID or death.

Chief Executive Officer, Department of Health and Wellbeing, Robyn Lawrence said, *We still strongly support the benefits of vaccination and still strongly recommend staff are vaccinated to protect themselves against COVID-19.*

It was the right policy decision to do everything we could to limit the impacts of COVID-19 by requiring staff to vaccinate.

Now we have high community immunity to COVID-19 and we have consulted extensively with our health workforce. It’s the right time to update our policy to reflect the change in circumstances.

For more information visit SA Health <www.sahealth.sa.gov.au>

AMPOL GLENDAMBO ROADHOUSE CLOSES



The Ampol Glendambo Roadhouse located at Glendambo on the Stuart Highway SA, is about 254 kilometres south of Coober Pedy, and 286km north of Port Augusta. The Roadhouse will close it’s doors and cease to operate at the close of business on Thursday 25 July 2024.

The AM-PM GLENDAMBO TRAVELSTOP is the new owner of the outgoing Ampol Glendambo Roadhouse. From Friday this week, travellers will now need to stop just up the road at the BP, for all of their travelling supplies.

The Ampol Roadhouse at Glendambo has been an important stop on the Stuart Highway, offering a range of facilities for people travelling north 255km to Coober Pedy.

As residents living and travelling in the Remote/Far North of the State we say thank you to the Glendambo Roadhouse operators and staff for their dedicated and lengthy service to outback travellers.

Services provided by the Glendambo Ampol Roadhouse have been fuel & gas, a licensed restaurant, EFTPOS facilities, pay phone, male and female toilets, cold ice for travellers.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION WITH ALL OUTBACK COMMUNITIES

Dear Outback Residents, Progress Associations, and Interested Onlookers

We are pleased to invite you to a consultation session focused on the development of the Strategic Blueprint for Outback SA.

This initiative aims to:

- shape the future direction of our region by addressing key challenges and opportunities that impact our communities, environment, and economy.
- serve as a guide for advocacy, investment, and partnerships.
- clearly communicate the issues to be addressed for Outback SA to contribute its full potential to the State.
- outline strategies for improved facilities and services for the region over the next 10 years.

The Blueprint builds on feedback gathered during the Outback Futures project (2020-21) and the Progress Association Forum held in November 2023 and takes account of existing and emerging national and global trends.

Your expertise and insights are invaluable in helping us develop a blueprint that is comprehensive, inclusive, and reflective of the diverse interests and needs of our region.

For a list of Community Consultation Session locations and dates, please refer to the attached flyer. Feel welcome to share it far and wide!

For more information, please visit our website [Strategic Blueprint | Outback Communities Authority \(oca.sa.gov.au\)](http://Strategic Blueprint | Outback Communities Authority (oca.sa.gov.au))

If you have any questions, please email oca@sa.gov.au

Warm regards
Office for the Outback Communities Authority
26 Mildred Street, Port Augusta West SA 5700 • PO Box 3326, Port Augusta West SA 5700
W www.oca.sa.gov.au



We need your input on the issues and priorities in your community and region, and the focus for the next 10 years.

Join us for a facilitated community consultation to help shape the future of the Outback.

Location	Venue	Date	Time
Iron Knob	Tourist Centre	Friday 26 July	3pm-5:30pm
Lyndhurst	TBC	Monday 29 July (TBC)	12:30pm-2pm
Copley	Copley Hall	Monday 29 July	2:30pm-4:30pm
Leigh Creek	Leigh Creek Resort	Monday 29 July	6pm-8pm **
Beltana	Beltana Hall	Tuesday 30 July	10am-12pm
Parachilna	Prairie Hotel	Tuesday 30 July	2pm-4pm
Blinman	Blinman Hall	Tuesday 30 July	5pm-7pm **
Mannahill	Race Club	Wednesday 14 August	12:30pm-2pm **
Yunta	Town Hall	Wednesday 14 August	3pm-5pm
Fowlers Bay	Fowlers Bay Hall	Monday 19 August	6pm-8pm **
Scotdesco	TBC	Tuesday 20 August	10am-11:30am
Penong	Football clubrooms	Tuesday 20 August	6pm-8pm **
Nonning	Gymkhana Clubrooms	Thursday 22 August	10am-12pm
Oodnadatta	Oodnadatta Hall	Tuesday 27 August	12pm-2pm **
William Creek	William Creek Hotel	Tuesday 27 August	5pm-7pm **
Marree	Marree Hall	Wednesday 28 August	10:30am-12:30pm **
Andamooka	Community Hall	Tuesday 3 September	5pm-7pm **
Pimba	Spuds	Wednesday 4 September	10:30am-12pm
Glendambo	Glendambo Hotel	Wednesday 4 September	1:30pm-3pm **
Kingoonya	Kingoonya Hotel	Wednesday 4 September	7pm-9pm **
Innaminka	AIM Building	Wednesday 18 September	5pm-7pm **
Marla	Marla Hall	Thursday 19 September	12pm-2pm

Refreshments provided at meetings. ** = Lunch or dinner provided.



For catering purposes please register here

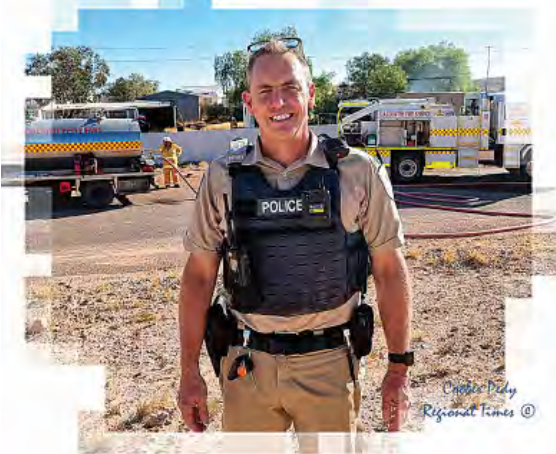
For more information visit www.oca.sa.gov.au/get-involved/strategic-blueprint





COOPER PEDY CRIME REPORT

04/07/2024 – 17/07/2024



Acting Sgt Scott Simpson
Cooper Pedy

4/7/2024 – Hutchison St - Serious Criminal Trespass & Theft

Unknown person has broken into the victim's shed and stole about \$20.00 of cheap Opal causing \$100 damage.

4/7/2024 – Hutchison St - Theft

Suspect stole alcohol valued at \$110.

8/7/2024 – Hutchison St – Theft

Suspect stole alcohol and who was located and arrested.

3/7/2024 – Kent St – Property Damage

Unknown person threw rocks through rear window of parked unattended vehicle. Approx \$500 damage.

16/7/2024 – Hutchison St – Property Damage

Unknown offender smashed the lower glass panel of the front door of premises. Estimated damage \$500.



Tackling knife crime in South Australia

Stronger police powers and tighter sale restrictions are among the reform options being considered in a new discussion paper aimed at reducing the level of knife crime in South Australia.

With recent incidents both interstate and locally highlighting the issue, the State Government is seeking public comment on the potential moves aimed at better protecting the community.

Options to strengthen South Australia's approach to knife crime include:

- expanding police metal detector search powers on public transport
- increasing the age for purchasing knives from 16 to 18 years
- requiring the safe storage of knives for sale and displaying prohibition notices (similar to graffiti gear)
- expanding the definition of 'school' to include tertiary institutions and preschools
- introducing a licensing or registration scheme for certain categories of knife.

To read the discussion paper or make a submission, visit www.yoursay.sa.gov.au/knife-crime.

During the May Magistrates Court Circuit in the State's Far North, a man was charged with murder in a knifing attack at the Opal Mining Town of Cooper Pedy. In another incident (same week) a 14 year old school student was stabbed while riding his bicycle home, after school.

In the first incident, an Indulkana man died after being stabbed outside the Cooper Pedy Opal Inn Hotel on 14 May 2024.

Another man also from Indulkana was arrested. During Court Circuit week at Cooper Pedy there is a high influx of attendees from the remote communities. In this period, crime, violence and begging, mostly alcohol related, escalates at Cooper Pedy affecting local residents and visitors to the town.

Remote community court attendees are currently congregated in the town during the 5 days of court each month or so with many sleeping rough and with alcohol a central focus.

This practice stems back to the State Government cutting funding to a percentage of court circuits to the APY Lands in 2013. At the same time the State Government relocated the Correctional Services team from Marla near APY Lands, to based them in Cooper Pedy. Local observation is that the callous act of removing vital funding and forcing the APY to continually camp at Cooper Pedy has created an increase in antisocial behaviour as well as public drunkenness and a new market for drugs and illegal alcohol. The Governments non working solution is to place restrictions on those not guilty of offences.

Town folk not guilty of any offences are subjected to the following, while mobs of transients consume alcohol publically in the legislated dry zones, and are rarely interrupted.



Locals placed wreaths at the site of a fatal stabbing at Cooper Pedy

Liquor restrictions limiting the amount of takeaway alcohol that can be purchased, and the requirement for licensees to use ID Scan SA applies in the following regions: Ceduna; Cooper Pedy; Port Augusta; Whyalla

ID Scan and liquor restrictions are designed to reduce alcohol-related harm to individuals, families and the wider community. NO ID, NO Service

Members of the public will need to show valid photo ID before they can buy a takeaway alcohol (in certain regions) or a restricted item of takeaway alcohol. ID will be scanned using ID Scan to monitor the purchase of restricted items.

Valid photo ID includes: Australian driver's licence; Australian Government issued Proof of Age Card; Passport (if you do not have a driver's licence or Proof of Age Card).

If you need help to get a valid photo ID in SA visit: SA.GOV.AU - Apply for a proof of age card.

ID Scan is an App developed by the SA Government to assist licensees to comply with liquor restrictions. ID Scan records each purchase a customer makes of restricted items of liquor and enforces daily purchase limits.

The App also identifies if a person is not permitted to buy takeaway alcohol because they live in a community where alcohol is prohibited.

ID Scan securely stores a customer's purchase history for 24 hours for the purpose of enforcing daily limits. Licensees do not have access to the customer's personal information.

The above is the State Govt's currently non working solution!

Consultation is now open and closes on 25 August 2024.

Attorney-General Kyam Maher MLC said, "Incidents both locally and interstate highlight just why it's so important our knife crime laws are responsible, tough, and able to help authorities keep our community safe."

"South Australia has often led the nation with addressing knife crime– including significant criminal offences for carrying knives and measures to keep them out of the hands of children – and now is an opportune time to look at how we can improve on our existing laws."

"This discussion paper canvasses several options to strengthen our laws, including preventative measures – such as restricting access to knives and a licence for people wishing to own certain types of knives."

"We are also keen to explore the possibility of whether police powers should be expanded, by allowing them to conduct metal detector searches on public transport."

AG Kyam Maher concludes by saying, "This Labor Government is committed to keeping South Australians safe, and I would urge all interested South Australians to have their say on this important issue."

Get involved

We want to hear from the South Australian community and work together to maintain the safety of our state.

Find out more:

- read the Discussion Paper
- see the knife crime summary
- take a look at our FAQs

Have your say by:

- emailing a submission to LLPSubmissions@sa.gov.au
- taking our survey.

What are the next steps?

Your feedback will help inform the Government's decision to amend our existing knife laws, and ensure any changes are fair and workable for the community.

To read the discussion paper or make a submission, visit

www.yoursay.sa.gov.au/knife-crime



ADMINISTRATORS COMMIT RATEPAYERS TO \$35k ANNUAL UPKEEP, X 20 YEARS, FOR WHITE ELEPHANT PROJECT, WITHOUT GRASS ROOTS COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

13.7 BHP Proposed In-Kind Capital Works

Purpose of Report

The purpose of this Report is to provide Council with an update on BHPs in-kind proposal to refurbish the basketball courts located on the corner of Giles Street and Hocking Street Coober Pedy.

Background

At the Ordinary Meeting of Council on Council resolved:
Moved: Principal Administrator Sheridan Seconded: Administrator Moyle
That the matter be deferred pending further information from Council's Chief Executive Officer relating to stakeholder engagement outcomes.
Carried Unanimously (#572)

Discussion

Following a discussion at the Antakirinja Matu-Yankunytjatjara Aboriginal Corporation (AMYAC) Annual General Meeting on 8 November 2023 where general support for a refurbishment of the old basketball sports courts located on the corner of Giles Street and Hocking Street Coober Pedy (the Site) (as bounded in red over page) was raised, representatives from BHP met with the Principal Administrator and former Acting Chief Executive to discuss a proposed in-kind works program (the Works).

In March 2024 the Acting Chief Executive Officer received a proposed Site Upgrade Works Agreement (the Agreement) for review. In accordance with the terms of the Agreement, BHP propose to provide in-kind support by, at their own cost (up to a capped maximum amount of \$453,000), upgrading the court surfaces and associated infrastructure (the Works). The proposed scope of Works include:

- 1. Basketball Court Surfaces** – capping / resurfacing of cement, and installation of a rubber spray on surface by a specialist contractor;
- 2. Tennis Court Surfaces** – capping / resurfacing of cement suitable for tennis, cricket and indoor soccer use;
- 3. Ring Structures** - replacement of ring structures, including a netball option for at least one set;
- 4. Seating / Shelter** – installation of weatherproofed, sheltered seating on the western and eastern perimeter of the courts;
- 5. Bollards** - installation of bollards at the north and south of the basketball courts to prevent vehicle access, including removable bollards as necessary to enable ambulance / vehicle access;
- 6. Lighting** - lighting upgrades to enable night use of the courts, including protection from stone throwing, and measures to reduce light pollution to neighbouring residents as far as reasonably practicable;
- 7. Central Brick Wall** – demolition of the central brick wall and removal and lawful disposal of demolished materials; and
- 8. Tennis Courts fencing** – fencing upgrade around the area of the tennis courts to enable tennis, cricket and indoor soccer in this area.

While the proposed Works will be undertaken at the expense of BHP, Council will by virtue of the Works be required to allocate additional annual amounts for the general repair, maintenance and replacement of infrastructure and assets, as well as allocating additional depreciation costs into its long-term financial plan.

It should be noted that a report outlining this matter was originally presented to Council at their Ordinary Meeting on 24 April 2024, however Council determined to defer the matter pending further stakeholder engagement on the basis that at the AMYAC Board Meeting on 22 April 2024 some opposition was raised to BHP undertaking the works.

Further consultation has since been undertaken, and this report is provided to assist Council in its deliberation on the matter.

Subject Site and Community Land Management Plan

The Site, defined by the land contained within CR5772/99, is Crown Land dedicated to the District Council of Coober Pedy for 'Community Purposes' (undefined),³ and is under Council's care, management and control.⁴

The Site is classified as Community Land in accordance with Council's current Community Land Register,⁵ as land maintained for the benefit and enjoyment of the community,⁶ and is subject to Community Land Management Plan (CLMP) 11 (appearing as Attachment 1).

CLMP 11 sets the following Site Performance Targets:

1. Regular inspections of land and buildings;
2. Ensure land and buildings are repaired or any damage made good as soon as practicable after the damage is observed;
3. Tend and nurture any trees, shrubs etc established on the land and replace whenever as required when such trees, shrubs etc shall die or become diseased;
4. Maintain any fencing, kerbing, paving and any other improvements on the land;
5. Ensure all legislative requirements relating to the land are complied with.

Should Council proceed to authorise the execution of an Agreement, Council will be required to enter into a short-term occupancy licence agreement with BHP and its appointed contractors for the duration of the works.

https://www.cooberpedy.sa.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0019/1602127/Public-Agenda-29-May-2024.pdf

Consultation

The Local Government Act 1999 (the Act) requires that:

- a council must develop and maintain a CLMP for land that is either occupied under a lease or licence, or land has been, or is to be, specifically modified or adapted for the benefit and/or enjoyment of the community;⁸ and
- **if an amendment to a CLMP has impact on the interests of the community a council may must conduct public consultation regarding the amendment.⁹**

While the Works will result in an improvement to the Site, on the basis that the proposed Works are aligned with CLMP 11's Performance Targets, Council is not required to undertake the mandatory public consultation process.

This being noted however, the Acting Chief Executive Officer engaged with the Coober Pedy Regional Sports and Recreation Association (CPRSRA) regarding this matter on the basis that they are the peak sporting body in Coober Pedy. CPRSRA's feedback appears as Attachment 2 to this report, but in summary, **CPRSRA are not supportive of BHP's proposal on the basis that CPRSRA believe the funds could be better utilised on alternate initiatives within Coober Pedy.**


Further consultation has since also been undertaken with AMYAC, and the AMYAC CEO has advised that while the AMYAC Board has not determined a formal position on the matter, nor are they likely to as the Site is under the care and control of Council, there is broad Aboriginal community support for the basketball upgrades to occur

Financial Implications

While the costs associated with the refurbishment of the Site will be borne by BHP, Council will be required to allocate a set amount in each future annual budget for the following:

- general repair and replacement of infrastructure and assets (unknown at this present time as costs will be associated with damage);
- cleaning and general maintenance;
- electricity consumption (approx. \$5,500 based on Oval lighting consumption); and
- staffing costs to operate the lights (approx. \$3,000 based on similar arrangements for the Oval lighting);

It should also be noted that Council will be required to factor additional depreciation costs into its long-term financial plan over the anticipated life of the assets. Based on a conservative estimated 20-year life, the annual depreciation cost is estimated to be \$22,650. **The anticipated total cost implication to Council is expected to be around \$35,000 per year**



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23 April 2024

LETTER OF OBJECTION RE: BHP PROPOSAL

Mr Scott Reardon
Acting Chief Executive Officer
Coober Pedy District Council
Hutchison Street
COOBER PEDY SA 5723
E: sreardon@cpccouncil.sa.gov.au

Dear Mr Reardon,

BHP proposal ~ upgrade of the basketball courts

Thank you for your email dated 17 April seeking feedback from Coober Pedy Regional Sports and Recreation Association Committee regarding BHP's proposal to provide in-kind support to the community by upgrading the basketball courts.

The Committee held a meeting on Sunday 21 April to discuss this proposal. We appreciate the Council seeking feedback from the Committee as the peak sporting body in Coober Pedy. We are passionate about supporting the community in relation to providing and supporting access to Sports and Recreational activities within Coober Pedy. We understand and value the importance of physical activity on mental health and wellbeing.

We know and understand that BHP want to be a good corporate citizen seeking a social license through this proposal. The Committee reached out to Andrew Mooney Prominent Hill Mine Manager in March raising concerns with their Community Relations team and their consultation and engagement processes. We are questioning the integrity of BHP's consultation and community engagement process done through Sam Hedditch and the Community Relations team.

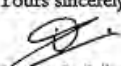
The Committee would normally support initiatives proposed by BHP, however, in this instance we have **not** been consulted or engaged with as the peak body. Your correspondence stated that the upgrade was the desire of the AMYAC board. As BHP didn't follow process by consulting and engaging with us, we are concerned that BHP may not have followed a formal process with engaging any other key stakeholders.

The Committee will be undertaking its own community engagement regarding the operation of the Gym and other Sports and Recreation activities including through the development of our strategic plan. The Committee has agreed that the funds allocated for the basketball courts could be better spent in other priority areas.

We would also like to take this time to advise Council that Coober Pedy Together do **not** speak on behalf of Coober Pedy Regional Sports and Recreation Association. We are aware that this upgrade is also on their plan, and again they have not consulted or engaged the Committee.

Unfortunately, it is with regret that the Coober Pedy Regional Sports and Recreation Association Committee **cannot** support BHP's proposal. The Committee would appreciate further discussion with Andrew Mooney and the Manager of the Community Relationships Team to determine if the funding can be utilised in other Sports and Recreation priority areas.

Yours sincerely,


Fernando Dilusha
Chairperson
Coober Pedy Regional Sports and Recreation Association
M: 0410 857 342
E: fdilusha@yahoo.com

OBJECTION DENIED proposal approved by administrators

UNANSWERED QUESTIONS ONGOING

Unsatisfactorily answered questions and unilateral decision making remains an issue.
The Government must stop giving unlimited dictatorial powers to underqualified individuals.



Ratepayers to pay \$35K per annum to maintain unrequested, abandoned courts



Rubbish collected from the site should be disposed of promptly due to high wind gusts

1.) Why did council cut the budget for the town's Opal Festival in half, yet continue to spend \$80,000 on a FIFO consultant that needs pizzas and promises to get attendees into meetings?

2.) How much has the Council's together group (TG) cost the rate payers, to achieve nothing but a set of picnic benches in the playground? What the community is asking here is, "What is the **true cost** to the Ratepayers annually for the engagement of a facilitator? Inclusive of salary, travel expenses, accommodation, use of vehicle, pizzas, other costs that might not be included in the published amount of \$80K?"

3) How much did it cost the ratepayers when council closed its offices for arguably more than one day, and went for a jolly to Adelaide to meet with the Governor General? Just to clarify, we are talking about the payments for the facilitator's time, and the wages for those who did no work for the absentee period.

Interesting that Groups can visit Gov House anytime, with a permanent invitation for Groups to visit Government House on the Governor's own Website, <https://www.governor.sa.gov.au/office-of-the-governor/vice-regal-guidelines>

4.) Why is the Local Government Minister's attendance at Coober Pedy, on the facilitators list to follow up from Adelaide visit? The trip to Adelaide did not secure or prompt Minister Joe Szach to visit Coober Pedy. We have been aware for some months that Minister Joe Szach would be in Coober Pedy in late July. Minister Szach is well aware of his obligations and commitments, therefore I find that entry inappropriate and misleading.

5.) When and who attended the public consultation on the latest rate increases and water / electricity hikes? The Administrator's response was completely dismissive of the ratepayer/community questions. Fait Accompli ?

6.) Why did council not adopt any queries on public submissions re Annual Budget Review. The administrators totally dismissed ratepayers concerns?

7.) a. Why did the council approve the refurbishment of the old Basketball courts with no public consultation or even a public notice? Does the council realise that the courts are within meters of a building riddled with asbestos, and toxic pigeon excrement?

7.) b. • **if an amendment to a CLMP has impact on the interests of the community a council may must conduct public consultation regarding the amendment.**⁹

Was a public notice published alerting the community to the BHP interest in our Community Land? If so, where was it placed? **Otherwise, without any notice or consultation the administrators appear to have decided that that the community would not be impacted. This action appears dismissive and disrespectful for the host community.**

Please produce the process used for this decision.



Courts in background, situated in the cross winds of the old asbestos ridden building from Maralinga



The doors of the old building were continually left open by council until community took action

8.) **Transparency Questions:** What is the funding source for the 'refurbishment' of the long ago abandoned and replaced Coober Pedy Miners and Progress Association Basketball/Tennis Court (project)?

9.) What engagement with Coober Pedy's Sport and Recreation Inc has taken place regarding the desired plan for the proposed project. Is there a copy of the new plan publicly available for our community to view?

10.) How does the District Council expect to issue a mining company with a social licence without full approval from the local community, and not be accused of exploitation?

11.) Has the council commissioned any experts on the gravity of asbestos in the old meeting hall? What does the open contamination mean for residents living close to it?

12.) When will the public consultation on the new CCTV cameras take place as promised by Mark Austin? Two years is a long time to have little or no security in our town, given the escalating crime. Is the funding still available?

13.) Why and when did the council gazette Emu Rd with no notification to the opal miners?

14.) Is it true that the tax payers/ratepayers are paying for 3 administrators to FIFO (flyin flyout), including accommodation transport and meals. We fail to see the value. There is no communication between the ratepayers in general and the three FIFO's.

15.) What austerity measures have been implemented to abate the council's spiralling multi million dollar debt?

16.) Why has our debt increased out of control since having administrators? Is the only way Council can almost balance its books, by creating financial hardship for innocent families? When will the Government provide legislations to ensure that our communities are not left continually vulnerable?

17.) Why does the council persist in taking a whistleblower ratepayer/councillor to court and exceed over 1 million dollars in legal costs; to what avail? why why why? Had we known the South Australian Government's solution to Administration we would never have asked for it.

18.) Why doesn't the council answer ratepayer questions? Your gleaming reports to the minister do not reflect our concerns and suffering.

On behalf of the Grass Roots people of this town we invite responses from Local Government Authority, State Government, Mining Industry.

The FIFO people have a home somewhere else. This is **OUR HOME** and we want to be consulted, even if there are loopholes available to you whereby you can avoid it and make **unilateral decisions**. We will rescind those decisions in the future, so stop wasting our time and money and start consulting with the people who have investments here.

George Kountouris (and others)
Opal Miner, Businesss Owner, Ratepayer

OPINIONS/LETTERS

RATEPAYERS FEEL SKINNED ALIVE WITH COUNCIL FORCING A BAILOUT PAYMENT FROM THEM

PART 1: Too many complaints to publish!

As residents open up their new financial year rates notices, some are finding themselves paying \$1,000 extra for living on the outskirts of a remote town on a dirt road, as desperate council bureaucrats tax the community severely in a struggle to produce an end of financial year result.

A family living well outside the CBD is now paying over \$800 per quarter, (\$3.5K annually), as now living in a town where administrators, in our view, have been, left to their own devices and unable to prioritise their spending. ` ` ` ` `

Rates on a \$2M home in Adelaide is under \$3,000 per year. Residents who believe they are living inside a horror story have taken to blogging their uninhibited disgust across the world wide web.

Sad but true, our low income families are feeling exploited, as we are all **FORCED** to bail out the council (no genuine consultation) and by a type of garnishee deduction included on their rates notices via dubious fees / increases.

Wait till we receive council's new Electricity and Water charges! And wait for next year's increases when ratepayers are forced to pay for the maintenance of a bygone era! Adequately and respectfully replaced to support ALL of Coober Pedy's youth, years ago!

Where is the oversight for this ongoing, sad parade of would be administrators, collecting top money from the public purse but continually failing to deliver appropriate remote area services?

Collaboratively submitted by local Stakeholders.



I have wondered what these stickers mean. They are placed here by travellers, who sometimes risk injury by climbing up the poles or standing on cars to leave their memento.

- Are they celebrating their arrival in the Outback?
- Is it just a relief to stop after long hours on the Stuart Highway?
- Is it recognition of Coober Pedy as a name known around the world?
- Are they commemorating the blower, a mining machine developed by Coober Pedy opal miners?
- Do they appreciate the millions of conical mullock heaps that make our landscape unique?
- Can they be acknowledging our multicultural history of innovation, independence and ingenuity?
- Could it be a case of marking territory, like dogs peeing on posts?

Whatever the meaning is, these stickers have become a feature of the entrance to Coober Pedy.

Sue Britt, Local Resident

MEET LOCAL GOVT MINISTER HON JOE SZAKACS MP at ITALIAN CLUB ON WEDNESDAY EVENING



A public forum will be conducted at the Italian Club from 5.30 - 7pm on Wednesday evening 31 July, 2024

The (new) Minister for Local Government, the Hon Joe Szakacs MP will visit Cooper Pedy on Wednesday 31 July 2024.

COMMUNITY MEMBERS are hereby invited to attend a public forum at the Italian Club from 5.30pm - 7.00pm. (1.5 hours) All welcome.

The Director of the Office of Local Government, Ms Alex Hart will be in attendance also. There will be an opportunity to ask questions.

Council's three current administrators Mr. Geoff Sheridan, and supporting administrators Ms Erika Vikery and Mr. John Moyle will also be in attendance at the Italian Club on Wednesday evening.

At the forum, the Minister will discuss the "review of services and assets" in Cooper Pedy which has been funded by the State Government.

The funding will help the Council complete a thorough asset management plan, aiming to create a future-proof and sustainable regime for maintenance and care.

Minister for Local Government Joe Szakacs MP said, "The State Government is committed to finding a way forward so that Cooper Pedy can have the sustainable local governance that other regional communities have."

"While there is still significant work required to ensure the town can be locally governed, our support for a service review and asset management plan is an important step towards future stability for the council."

"We have listened to the Administrators' requests for critical work to ensure that the current and future Council - and the Cooper Pedy Community - fully understand what services can be provided with the available rates revenue," concluded the Minister.

Chairperson of the Cooper Pedy Retail, Business and Tourism Association Inc. Mr George Kountouris said, "We welcome the arrival of Local Government Minister Joe Szakacs and Director of the Office of Local Government, Ms. Alex Hart into our opal mining town on Wednesday evening, and look forward to an opportunity to meet and discuss several critical issues with them on behalf of our businesses, their families, and their employees."

"We appreciate that the Minister has listened to the three FIFO Administrators, and has approved funding that we believe may simply compensate for the past 5 years of poor spending choices. We now request that the Minister listens to the people who pay the bills ie taxpayers and ratepayers. These people believe they have become victims of ongoing incompetence and yes, neglect!"

"The community is making it very clear to us that they are suffering severe financial setbacks, due to contrived charges being cruelly added into their annual rates notices, implying that the council is operating in the black. If genuine austerity had been practiced rather than professed, they may well have succeeded in reducing their debt. But to forcibly lunge both hands into the pockets of pensioners and struggling families is worthy of demanding that our political representatives provide us with a more professional solution to the current administrative model, obviously still in trial mode."

"Our community does not wish to endure yet another exchange (meeting/forum) where consultation is feigned, avoided, managed or denied, due to the unfamiliarity of administrators and politicians with our long-term, intricate, local council history."

"Administrators' insidious practice of paying a "facilitator" from Adelaide, to develop a small following, and pretend community representation thus advisory and consultancy services to the council has received considerable community lash-back. The T/Group is not "together" with the town, and does NOT represent this town, our businesses, or our employees."

The facilitator was given a good hearing at the outset, however, the curious community ceased attending within the first 2 or 3 meetings. The faction continues to operate with a handful of attendees, with costs forced onto our families and the rate-paying community to finance their leader/facilitator. The pointless exercise has made a mockery of the council professing to be practicing austerity measures.

"The extravagance is divisive, delusional, and undemocratic, and to date has produced no genuine or valuable outcomes."

The Far North Region supports 18,338 jobs and has an annual economic output of \$14.126 billion. We can hardly build on this, if there is little or no local investment. Our money is continually intercepted at the source by arguably lesser priorities and administrators addicted to services in the city and remote workers!

"Council needs to adopt a business model that stimulates the local economy from the Ratepayers per capita funding allocation and other grants available to remote areas. The nature of remote areas demands that every cent be spent on essential and important community services, such as providing ongoing maintenance, local employment, and in bolstering the local economy, thus sustainability."

"The message here is, if you aren't up to the job, don't apply for it, and then add the expenses for any deficiencies onto the embattled community!"

"The community believes that the Far North seriously needs a dedicated Local Member, who can swiftly take our concerns to the parliament."

"Special funding/bailouts might not be necessary if the political representatives were closer to their constituents at the outset. The State Government needs to set up trial periods and KPIs for the administrators. We invite Minister Joe Szakacs and Ms Alex Hart to meet with us for a deeper discussion."

OPAL EVOLUTION FESTIVAL: A Journey of Creativity and Community in Andamooka

**Article by Leila Day -
Andamooka**

Over the past twelve months, Andamooka has been buzzing with creativity and community spirit, in anticipation of the upcoming Opal Evolution Festival. This exciting event, set to take place over the October long weekend from October 4th to 6th, 2024, celebrates all things Andamooka Opal and Opalised fossils.

Opal Evolution is an idea by local Andamooka artist Leila Day who is working in partnership with OSCA – Open Space Contemporary Arts since 2023 to develop the festival event through an ongoing series of creative arts and design workshops. Opal Evolution responds directly to local aspirations and the profound impact COVID has had on this small regional town in Far North SA.

Recent activities

The Andamooka Primary School July holiday program was a recent highlight, featuring guest artist Tony Hannan from the Adelaide Hills. Hannan led workshops on creating hats, inflatables, backpack costumes, and parade floats using recycled materials.

The program was a resounding success, thanks to the dedication of librarian Sandy Samuels, who gave up her weekend, and the generous contributions of Andy and Jono, who donated wire, pipe, and their time, and Rodney, who sourced bike wheels and other materials. Their efforts resulted in some truly amazing creations.

Themed ‘Eromanga Sea,’ the parade will feature these fantastic creatures and take place on Saturday, October 5, 2024, as part of the Opal Evolution festival.



Workshop with Tony Hannan, at Andamooka Primary School



Practicing for the Opal Evolution Festival Parade



Sea creatures get final touches in the Art Room



Above: Tuckabox Hotel Andamooka during lighting workshop with Nic Mollison; with digital drawing projected onto the building June 2024 and including Dukes Bottlehouse Motel lit up with coloured lights



Left: "May the Fourth Be With You" event, which featured live performances by Sasha March and Death by Carrot.

Other recent workshops have played a crucial role in building the event from the ground up. Notable among these was a Projection and Lighting Design Workshop with renowned expert Nic Mollison.

Participants had the opportunity to learn from Mollison's 25 years of experience in lighting and projection design, creating a visually stunning display for the "May the Fourth Be With You" event, which featured live performances by Sasha March and Death by Carrot. These workshops have not only enhanced participants' skills but also prepared them to contribute to future community events.

In another exciting collaboration, artist Laura Wills and OSCA Artistic Director Paul Gazzola worked with residents of Andamooka and Roxby Downs on digital drawing and projection workshops.



Nic Mollison with workshop attendees preparing content for "May the Fourth Be With you".

One memorable evening involved projecting still and moving images onto the Andamooka landscape, adding a dynamic visual element to the community's artistic expression. These workshops were made possible by the support of Country Arts SA.

Opal Evolution is supported by Arts South Australia, the Regional Arts Fund, Creative Partnerships Australia, Country Arts SA, the Lang Family Foundation, OSCA, and Foundation SA. It aims to grow in size and scale to become a nationally recognised community arts festival when Andamooka hosts the International Opal Symposium in 2027.

The festival's grassroots beginnings reflect a strategic approach to developing local participation and the necessary infrastructure, such as power, outdoor staging, and support for live music performances.

By upskilling local residents in contemporary creative arts practices, projection and lighting design and parade / event organization, the festival aims to sustain itself annually, whilst providing ongoing employment for local artists, art workers and residents.

The community of Andamooka is looking for partners to help facilitate the infrastructure of the festival, ensuring its growth and success in the years to come.

For more information about the Opal Evolution festival and to stay updated on future events, visit <https://osca.org.au/project/opal-evolution/>

Contact: Leila Day - 0466 265 377
E: leiladay88@gmail.com

OPENING OF UMOONA COMMUNITY NEW INDIGENOUS OWNED ART CENTRE



Grand Opening of Umoona Community Arts



Mark Anderson from Indigenous Land and Sea also made a special trip



Joanne O'Toole discussing her Artwork with Attorney General Kyam Maher



Matjangka Nyukana Norris performs a traditional dance for the guests



Dora Mushongera Gen Mgr Umoona Council chats with Att. Gen. Kyam Maher



Board member at Umoona Community Dean Walker greets the guests



Guests at the Art Centre enjoy a sumptuous lunch



Visitors from the local community shared in the joy of the day. Colleen, Rose, Jacqui



Grand opening of the Umoona Community Art Centre - before the speeches



Local Member Eddie Hughes, Whyalla

UMOONA COMMUNITY ART CENTRE - BEGINNINGS

In March 2020, Umoona Community Council reached out to the APY Art Centre Collective with a request for support to assist the community in the establishment of an Art Centre, similar to the existing Art Centres community members were familiar with in neighbouring APY Communities.

Aboriginal people living in Umoona Community and Coober Pedy have an in-depth understanding in regard to the important role APY Art Centres hold in the communities on the APY Lands. They are important environments of cultural maintenance, places where elders celebrate and instruct culture, places of economic empowerment, of employment and access to a rare and important independent income. Art Centres are places of Indigenous leadership operating through the values of self-determination.

Umoona Community is connected by family lines and Tjukurpa (cultural stories) to APY Communities. Local leaders and senior artists speak with clarity and pride regarding their journey of growing their Art Centre, which had been a dream of community leaders and elders living in Umoona and Coober Pedy for over 15 years.

Elders had enlisted the support of various stakeholders and service providers over the years and had been frustrated that the various groups who had started this work had not supported local leaders in making their dream become a reality.

Elders and community members demonstrated extraordinary resilience and a unified determination. The work that has been accomplished since 2020 has been relentless; vital project funding initially secured in 2021 from NIAA, then IVAIS funding.

Securing the funding required for a purpose built Art Centre building through Indigenous Land and Sea and the South Australian State government was an extraordinary moment celebrated in late 2022.

There have been incredible joys, disappointments and frustrations for the Directors and artists at Umoona Community Art Centre since 2020. Artists have been required to participate in workshops facilitated on a hot and dusty basketball court.

Despite the discomfort of creating work in this inappropriate environment exposed to the elements, participation continued to grow with every workshop, as did the collective confidence of participating artists.

Artists demonstrated courage in wanting to challenge themselves to explore various mediums while creating work in a diversity of styles. The commitment and work ethic demonstrated by all members of Umoona Community Arts supports this exciting new social enterprise with a very strong foundation.

All Directors and artists have shared the load and worked with generosity and kindness. Artists have encouraged each other and supported each other's attendance. A workplace culture best described as positive, kind and dynamic has been well established. Again, an excellent foundation on which Directors and artists can build on as they finally open the doors to their Art Centre in July 2024.

So far over 35 artists have made paintings from Umoona Community Art Centre and 25 others have engaged with the art centre to support craft production i.e. woodwork carving and weaving. Directors believe that there are 60 artists and craft practitioners in the community and 15 additional artists in Oodnadatta who wish to participate in the Art Centre program in the coming years.

Umoona Community Art centre will explore the cultural stories and song lines of the country surrounding Umoona and Oodnadatta and will create artworks across a diversity of mediums including painting, works on paper, sculptural works, weaving and wooden artefacts including weaponry.

Directors are: Joanne O'Toole (Chair); George Cooley; Christine Lennon; Pearl Austin; Samantha Hayes



George Cooley, Aboriginal Affairs Minister Kyam Maher, Christine Lennon, Joanne O'Toole at the proposed site



Myra Kumantjara Kay Finn and Jeannie Minunga with their Collaborative painting Umoona Arts Feb 2020



Molisha Lennon, Umoona Arts

In early September 2022, Kyam Maher MLC, Minister for Aboriginal Affairs in South Australia, announced the release of funding to establish Umoona Arts Centre at the Umoona Community at Coober Pedy.

The Community Arts Centre promoting the work of Aboriginal artists from Umoona in Coober Pedy became a step closer, with the State Government committing nearly half-a-million-dollars to the project.

The State Government committed funding of \$433,755 to ensure the Centre can become a reality.

The Centre's funding would be administered through the APY Art Centre Collective.

The new Arts Centre was to be established on a vacant lot at Umoona Community

At that time, Minister Kyam Maher said, *Art is an important part of Aboriginal culture and our heritage.*

It is also an important part of our economy, with Aboriginal artworks drawing tremendous interest from buyers locally, nationally and internationally.

There's a tremendous amount of talent within the Umoona Aboriginal Community, as evidenced by last year's Tarnanthi arts festival – where more than 20 local artists made their debut.

I'm incredibly proud to deliver this funding, which will help to deliver a permanent, physical centre where these remarkable artists can showcase their talent and promote the region to the art world.

Aboriginal artist Christine Lennon said, *I have spent my life trying to create jobs for the young women in my community. Now we have the money for our new Arts Centre building, the future looks bright.*

The jobs that this Arts Centre will create are the jobs that young women want to do, and we can't wait to see this Arts Centre grow.

Aboriginal artist George Cooley said, *We have watched our families on the APY Lands and seen their Arts Centre businesses thrive, now we are joining them.*

Since we've received funding for this building, we've gotten serious, and have committed to our work. We'll only get stronger from here.

Coober Pedy Opal Festival

A Sparkling Success

By Leila Day
Andamooka

Coober Pedy was alight with excitement and celebration as the annual Opal Festival brought together locals and visitors for a memorable weekend of festivities. The event, which took place recently, showcased the vibrant spirit and rich heritage of the opal capital of the world.

The festival kicked off at Big Winch 360 with a delightful three-course dinner under the stars. Attendees enjoyed the warmth of fire pits and the sounds of live music, setting a perfect tone for the celebrations ahead.

The following day, the festival spirit was palpable as people gathered in the town for the much-anticipated parade. Spectators lined the streets to watch the fantastic floats pass by, with gifts and lollies flung into the crowd, adding to the joyous atmosphere. The parade concluded at the oval, with attendees eagerly following behind.

The opal festival was officially opened by Chair of Coober Pedy Retail Business and Tourism Association (CPRBTA) George Kountouris and Federal Member for Grey, Rowan Ramsay, who welcomed everyone to a day filled with excitement and entertainment. The oval buzzed with activity as live music played, and opal stalls displayed their glittering treasures. Games, bouncing castles, and a variety of delicious snacks and wine kept everyone entertained throughout the day.

As evening fell, the festival reached its peak with the announcement of the various winners, followed by a spectacular fireworks display that lit up the night sky. The festivities continued with a lively party at the Italian Club, where attendees danced the night away.

The festival concluded on Sunday with a camp oven cookout, offering a relaxing and hearty end to the weekend. Attendees savoured warm meals cooked from the earth, reminiscent of the very source of Coober Pedy's famous opals.

The Coober Pedy Opal Festival was a resounding success, bringing the community together and celebrating the unique charm and heritage of the town. With its mix of tradition, entertainment, and camaraderie, the festival left a lasting impression on all who attended, promising even more excitement in the years to come.



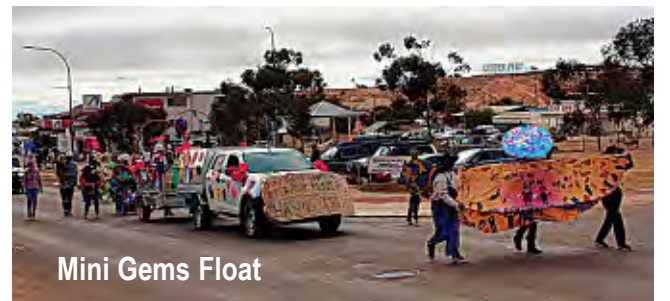
Drinks and a 3 Course dinner on opening night at The Big Winch 360
Photos: Leila Day and Conan Fahey



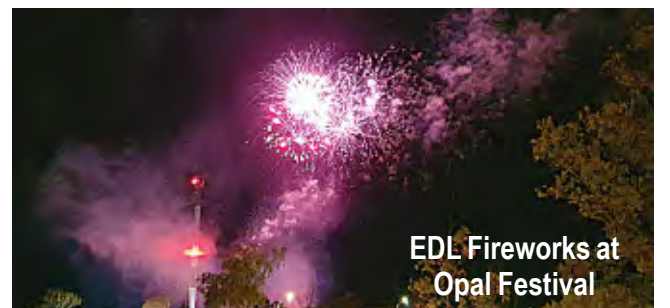
Fairies Float



Historical Society



Mini Gems Float



EDL Fireworks at Opal Festival

REGIONAL MEDICAL SPECIALISTS ASSOCIATION CALLS FOR ACTION ON WORKFORCE

The Regional Medical Specialists Association (RMSA) has issued a call for urgent action on Medical Specialist services in Regional Australia.

People living in regional Australia depend upon medical specialists as well as GPs.

The Medical Specialist workforce in regional Australia is under continuing and increasing threat.

This requires action by Commonwealth, specialist training institutions, State and Local Government:

- The Commonwealth needs to streamline its processes for allowing Internationally-Qualified Health Practitioners (IQHPs) to gain entry into and registration in Australia;
- Commonwealth and States must ensure that areas of medical workforce shortages are identified as and when they occur;
- Training institutions and rural communities must ensure that training and working as a medical specialist in Regional Australia is seen to be attractive and rewarding.

Background

The RMSA was created in response to the chronic imbalance of medical specialist workforce between metropolitan cities and regional centres. This imbalance is worsening, not improving.

The Commonwealth's responsibilities

An independent review of health practitioner regulatory settings was undertaken by Robyn Kruk AO. This report, endorsed by National Cabinet in December 2023, concludes that, "...removing unnecessary regulatory barriers faced by IQHPs will improve care for Australians".

The RMSA does not believe that international medical graduates are a permanent solution. However, urgent action is needed now to prevent any further degradation of rural health services.

Responsibilities of Specialist Colleges

The Medical Board of Australia, in response to the Kruk report, has consulted the Specialist Colleges to identify which overseas qualifications are suitable for 'fast-tracking' of applications by IQHPs. Good-faith responses are needed, and quickly. If the Specialist Colleges do not give guidance in this process it will happen without them.

In addition, the training colleges should set hard targets for the numbers of trainees in rural areas. Medical specialist training should involve at least a year at a rural/regional location – ideally a third of the trainee's time; proportionate to the population distribution. Training in rural settings is proven to increase numbers of medical graduates working in non-Metropolitan locations.

States' responsibilities

At the state level, more needs to be done to boost the financial viability and management expertise in rural hospitals. Public-private partnerships should be used more than they currently are to support specialist services in rural Australia. The Commonwealth and the States should ensure that methods for identifying medical workforce shortages are accurate and timely.

Local community responses

At the local community level, more effort is needed to make Regional and Rural centres more attractive to newly-arrived medical trainees and specialists. This happens in some rural areas, but is not widespread.

Financial implications

The RMSA is not calling for financial incentives for individual doctors: this has been tried and failed. Rather, we call for better supports for trainees and specialists moving from metropolitan areas to regional centres. The cost of this support should be seen as investments in rural communities, for the benefit of all Australians.

For more information contact:

Name : Associate Professor Steve Flecknoe-Brown
Email : sflecknoebrown@gmail.com
Phone : 0407831112
About Regional Medical Specialists Association
View Website

Regional Medical Specialists Association

The RMSA was formed to address the serious disproportion between numbers of Medical Specialists working in metropolitan areas and those working in regional and rural Australia. This is an important driver of health inequity and probably contributes to poorer health and decreasing life expectancy with increasing distance from major cities.

We advocate for increasing numbers of medical specialists in Rural and Regional Australia, most importantly by increasing the amount of specialist training that is provided in regional Australia. The RMSA has identified a number of valuable services in regional Australia under threat through lack of ongoing succession of retiring local specialists.

MOBILE BONE DENSITY SERVICE
South Adelaide medical imaging (SAMI)
A service provided by
Royal Adelaide Hospital, Royal Adelaide Hospital
1300 724 319

The Royal Adelaide Hospital
Mobile Bone Density Clinic
is visting Coober Pedy from 12-16 August 2024

Speak to your GP to get a referral, then phone (08) 7074 5400 to book an appointment.

Nearly 1 in 10 Australians aged 50+ have osteoporosis, so it's important to check your bones and keep them healthy!

There is no out-of-pocket cost for patients who are scanned through this service.

Government of South Australia
SA Health

COOBER PEDY TRIP

Weekend: 20-22 September

Why?:

- To see where Ntaria 'family' passed away in 1960.
- On Saturday 21 September at 11am, to unveil a plaque to remember the place.
- Plant a tree or shrub or two!!

PLAQUE READS:

In this vicinity lie the remains of five Arrarnta men who perished when their car broke down during a severe heat wave in excess of 50°C in January 1960. They had set out from Coober Pedy to drive to William Creek.

Rolfe Entata Laughing Willie
Frank Maynard Jackaboy Rakara
Jimmy Graham

This memorial erected with support of family and friends in 2020

If you or your family members are interested or know of anyone who might like to attend this ceremony down along the Coober Pedy to William Creek road;

- Let them know of the above details..... "spread the word around..."
- Work out your own travel, accommodation, food details.
- Inform Ingkaarta Neville Doecke from Hermannsburg/Ntaria that you will be attending [give numbers]

Mobile: 0498 583 808 Email: doecke.nh@gmail.com

District Council of Coober Pedy

Audit and Risk Committee Expressions of Interest

The purpose of an Audit and Risk Committee established by Council is to provide independent assurance and advice to Council on accounting, financial management, internal controls, risk management and governance matters.

Council offers a sitting fee per meeting and the opportunity to attend meetings via electronic means.

The Terms of Reference for the Audit and Risk Committee can be found on Council's website or by contacting the Council office on 08 8672 4600.

Expressions of interest, highlighting the skills and experience you would bring to the Committee should be addressed to the Chief Executive Officer at: dccp@cpcouncil.sa.gov.au

Expressions of Interest close at 5.00pm on Friday 16 August 2024

Triple Zero (000)
For emergencies or life threatening situations.

Police Assistance Line (131 444)
For non emergencies.

Crime Stoppers (1800 333 000)
To provide crime information. It can be anonymous.

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Walarintja Landholding Inc A24136
give notice of the AGM
to be held on
Saturday 27 July 2024
from 9 am until 12 noon
at the Standpipe Golf Motor Inn;
3 – 5 Daw Street Port Augusta, SA

Contact Mark Crombie 0439 815 959
for queries and possible travel expenses assistance

Agenda: Financial Report and Election of Committee

POSITION VACANT

I can work in a multi-disciplinary team which helps me to get the best results for my clients. I am part of a supportive and caring team environment, where my colleagues are my best friends. There are many opportunities to diversify my role and continually challenge myself to improve the lives of country people and their families.

Allied Health Assistant
Eyre and Far North
Local Health Network
Coober Pedy
Job Ref: 872640

www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/careers

...achieve true work life balance in a country community

Government of South Australia
SA Health

DISCLAIMER:

- Opinions, Letters and Public Notices published in The Coober Pedy Regional Times are not necessarily the views of the Editor, or Publisher.
- The Coober Pedy Regional Times reserves the right to edit or decline copy, in accordance with newspaper policies.
- Due to fears of bureaucratic victimisation of whistleblowers, and allegations of bullying, community members or writers may use a 'PEN NAME' but must provide correct details for our files

RED DIRT
Service and Repair

Workshop is now open week days - Call in and see Marcus

Lot 66 Seventeen Mile Rd (Opposite Lion's Club)
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100085582637596>
PHONE: 0488007450 or FB Messenger

Motor Repairs
Servicing
Exhaust
Brakes
Truck/Trailer repairs
Steering/suspension
Clutch/transmission
Radios and cooling

Diagnostics
Auto electrical
Air conditioning
Air-con regassing
Diesel mechanic
Mining Machinery
Heavy Vehicles
Vehicle parking

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Coober Pedy Regional Times

Friday 26 July 2024

WEDNESDAY

CFS TRAINING

Training 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month at 7.00pm.

ALL enquiries to Cpt Matt Corner on 0458 396 305

MINE RESCUE/SES

1st Wednesday of the month 7.30pm, and
2nd & 4th Saturday of the month 9am.

Unit Manager Contact detail is 0427 725 446.

THURSDAYS

CP SHOOTERS CLUB

See back page for latest updates



FRIDAYS

Greek Charcoal BBQ every Friday at the Greek Hall.

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

Meets Fridays 7pm at the side of the Catholic Church

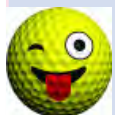
If you have a drinking problem and need help. Call 1800222222, Or call Dave on 0409349753

SATURDAYS

Saturday 21 September at 11 am
Unveiling of Memorial at site 65km east along the William Creek road. Details to come.

PARKRUN

8am Saturday mornings
Town Oval



GOLF 8 30am

MINE RESCUE/SES

2nd & 4th Saturday of the month 9am
Duty officer ph no: is 0427 752 446

CP SHOOTERS CLUB

See BACK page for latest updates, or Ring John DiDonna on 0427 649 389

CROATION CLUB

Happy Hour 6-7pm

SUNDAYS

Catacomb Anglican Church;
Catacomb Road Coober Pedy

Ph: 86725038. Open 8 am to 6 pm each day

Sunday services at 9:30 am, dinner and Bible study at 6 pm (Rectory) – bring a plate to share

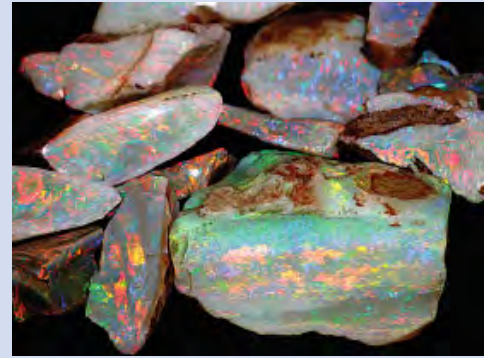
CP SHOOTERS CLUB

See BACK PAGE for latest updates
Ring John DiDonna on 0427649389

COOBER PEDY RSL

Open Sunday afternoon from 4.00pm,
Happy hour and members draw between 5.00pm and 6.00pm

COOBER PEDY - QUICK FACTS



Coober Pedy is a Cosmopolitan, Underground Opal Mining Town, built on the back of Precious Opal.

Located on the Stuart Hwy in Outback South Australia, with a population of 1,566 and over 45 nationalities, Elevation: 226 metres (774 feet) above sea level; postcode: 5723. Time Zone: Australian Central Standard Time (UTC +9:30). Subject to summer time/daylight savings between October and March annually

Main Industry - OPAL – Coober Pedy is known as the Opal Capital of the World; Opal being Australia's National Gem. Coober Pedy has 70 Opal Fields.

Coober Pedy is also renowned for its underground living. Dwellings called dugouts, were built by early opal miners to escape the intense summer heat, and the cold desert winters. Tourist flock to the Opal Capital from autumn through to early summer and experience the historic existence of over a century of opal mining and underground living.

To Visit Coober Pedy - The town can be accessed by car, coach and air-flights from Adelaide; also train from Adelaide, on the Ghan line. The Manguri siding is 47km from town and transportation into Coober Pedy would need to be arranged.

Distances by Road from Coober Pedy to: Alice Springs: 687.3 km 6 hr 58 min; Darwin: 2,183.2 km 22 hr 16 min; Port Augusta: 540.2 km 5 hr 31 min; Adelaide: 848.2 km 9 hr 2 min; Melbourne: 1,573.7 km 17 hr 9 min; Perth: 2,492.7 km 28 hr.



AOC AUSTRALIAN OPAL TOUR 2024

Experience of a lifetime • 25 September - 4 October 2024

See link for Itinery

<https://www.facebook.com/cooberpedyregionaltimes/posts/pfbid047D1eDFaalVsJjRSVeqKqYW14uZfnw6VTqPNQWwjrerZkpXarb8ygnpX4PbZF7ZYI>

WELCOME TO GRANTS & OPPORTUNITIES 2024

NEW



New grant opportunity coming soon! Future Drought Fund Resilient Landscapes Program

The Resilient Landscapes Program will focus on demonstrating how implementing and scaling of practices, technologies or approaches to manage natural resources on farm, contribute to building drought and climate resilience by improving landscape function and ecosystem services.

The Program will support implementation and scaling of activities that identify and manage natural capital tipping points or thresholds on farm for the public good of the Australian agriculture sector, landscapes, and communities.

Drought and climate resilience will be increased by projects that:

- achieve and measure impact at scale
- integrate environmental, economic, and social drought resilience
- target opportunities for long-term transformational change
- enable farmers to be prepared for and respond to drought
- promote learning and build capacity.

\$40 million is available through an open competitive grant process for projects between \$2 million and \$6 million. Activities must be undertaken over 6 years from 2024–25 until 2029–30.

Applications must involve a consortium of partners, with a lead organisation nominated as the 'applicant'. Each applicant must develop a theory of change for the project.

This grant opportunity is expected to be open for up to 8 weeks. An information webinar will be held in early October for prospective applicants. Grant Opportunity Guidelines and other supporting documents will be published when the grant opportunity is open for applications. Program details may change with the published grant opportunity.

Delivered on behalf of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

Future Drought Fund Resilient Landscapes Program

Contact Details

Community Grants Hub

Phone:
1800 020 283

Email Address:
support@communitygrants.gov.au

<https://www.grants.gov.au/FO/Show?FoUuid=c244d037-0cca-48a8-9a17-1f7c62c1a933&keyword=FO2024-2932>

Strengthening Rural Communities Small & Vital

Round 22 is now open
Applications close 5pm VIC time (AEST)
5 September 2024
Funding announced by mid November 2024

The Strengthening Rural Communities (SRC) Small & Vital stream gives small remote, rural and regional communities across Australia the opportunity to access funds for a broad range of initiatives that directly and clearly benefit local communities.

Grants up to \$10,000 are available for a broad range of grassroots, community-led initiatives that directly and clearly benefit local communities that strengthen local people, places and climate solutions, with a preference for smaller communities (populations under 15,000).

Applications are accepted on an ongoing basis and assessed quarterly.

NOTE: There are two streams of funding available within the Strengthening Rural Communities (SRC) Program: Small and Vital and Prepare and Recover. Organisations may submit their application in one of these streams per SRC grant round, and any other applications in this round will be considered ineligible.

<https://frrr.org.au/funding/place/src-small-vital/>



New grant opportunity coming soon! Future Drought Fund Long-term Trials of Drought Resilient Farming Practices Program Round 2

The Long-term Trials of Drought Resilient Farming Practices Program Round 2 will investigate innovative farming practices, technologies and/or approaches through evidence-based trials to inform farmers, drive adoption, and foster transformational change to build drought and climate resilience.

The Program has an expanded list of eligible agricultural industries including cereal, other broadacre crops, horticulture crops and livestock.

Projects must demonstrate through scientific and statistically validated trials the effectiveness of practices, technologies and/or approaches.

Drought and climate resilience will be increased by projects that enable farmers to:

- be prepared for and respond to drought
- experiment with the adoption of practices, technologies and/or approaches that build drought and climate resilience
- establish and strengthen networks to improve knowledge sharing.

\$40.3 million is available through an open competitive grant process for projects between \$3 million to \$8 million. Activities must be undertaken over 6 years from 2024–25 until 2029–30.

Applications must include a consortium of partners, with a lead organisation nominated as the 'applicant'. Co-design and farmer involvement is required.

This grant opportunity is expected to be open for up to 8 weeks. An information webinar will be held in early October for prospective applicants.

Grant Opportunity Guidelines and other supporting documents will be published when the grant opportunity is open for applications. Program details may change with the published grant opportunity.

Delivered on behalf of the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

<https://www.grants.gov.au/FO/Show?FoUuid=d61a98a0-51bd-4895-bdf1-9e987654cc5b&keyword=FO2024-2931>



New grant opportunity! Saluting Their Service Commemorative Grants Program

The Saluting Their Service Commemorative Grants Program aims to commemorate the service and sacrifice of Australia's defence personnel in wars, conflicts and peace operations, and their families.

The Australian Government is inviting eligible organisations to apply for grant funding under the Saluting Their Service Commemorative Grants Program (the program).

The program is designed to provide funding for projects that promote appreciation and understanding of the experiences of service and the roles that those who served have played, and to preserve, add to the sum knowledge on, or provide access to information about Australia's wartime heritage.

There are 2 categories of grants available under the program:

1. Community Grants (STS-CG)

Grants to a maximum of \$10,000 are available for local, community-based projects and activities.

2. Major Grants (STS-MG)

Grants between \$10,001 and \$150,000 are available for major commemorative projects and activities that are significant from a national, state, territory and/or broader regional perspective.

Applications are now open and close 9:00 pm AEDT on Wednesday 5 February 2025.

<https://www.grants.gov.au/Go/Show?GoUuid=8f80a57c-4453-4014-8ef3-7ce786b356d7&keyword=GO6758>



Time to check your Working with Children Checks (WWCC) are up to date

People who work or volunteer with children are being encouraged to check the expiry date of their Working with Children Check (WWCC) and submit their re-application as soon as possible, to ensure their screening remains up to date.

The current WWCC system – with checks valid for 5 years – was introduced in July 2019 and up to 150,000 renewals are expected in the coming year on top of new applications. Already more than 40,000 renewals have been received. A WWCC is a legal requirement for people aged 14 and over who do child-related work in both paid and unpaid roles.

The government has been encouraging employers, workers and volunteers to apply early to make sure checks are completed by the time they are needed. So far, around half of those with a WWCC expiring in August and September have submitted early applications.

The State Government has invested in boosting the Department of Human Services (DHS) Screening Unit team with an additional 35 staff to assist with the large number of WWCCs coming up for renewal.

This has helped to deliver average processing times of about 8 days but many applications require detailed assessment and can take longer so it's important for people to apply now if they have a check expiring in the coming three months.

New school semesters – like the one this week – and other events can drive a surge in new applications.

More than 600,000 South Australians hold a WWCC across a range of professional and volunteer roles, including teachers and school staff, childcare workers, foster carers, sports club volunteers, bus drivers, medical staff, religious leaders, private tutors and coaches, and many more child-related roles.

Anyone with a WWCC that is about to expire will receive a reminder notification from the DHS Screening Unit (if they have provided up-to-date contact information).

To apply for a WWCC or to update your contact details, visit www.sa.gov.au/screening or phone the DHS Screening Unit on 1300 321 592 (Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm).

Nat Cook MP, Minister for Human Services said, *Working with children, whether it is in a paid role or through a volunteer organisation is incredibly rewarding – but it comes with a responsibility to keep kids safe.*

Working with Children Checks (WWCC) are an important tool to protect children from adults who would pose an unacceptable risk to their safety and wellbeing.

It is pleasing to see that so many South Australians who require a WWCC for their work or volunteer roles have submitted their reapplication before expiry, with the first five-year period expiring from 1 July 2024.

I would encourage anyone with a WWCC that is going to expire in the next three months to get their application in as soon as possible to ensure their clearance is up to date.

Our government has invested in boosting the DHS Screening Unit team and we are seeing good processing times as a result.

Cooper Pedy Magistrate Court

Malliotis Blvd. Cooper Pedy (08) 8672 5601



Cooper Pedy
Sitting dates in
AUGUST
Monday 26 Aug
Tuesday 27 Aug
Wednesday 28 Aug
Thursday 29 Aug
Friday 30 Aug

<https://www.courts.sa.gov.au/case-lists/cooper-pedy-caselist/>

<https://www.courts.sa.gov.au/case-lists/roxbury-downs-caselist/>

South Australia Police to swab drivers on cocaine

22 Jul 2024 1:36pm South Australia Police (SAPOL) are set to target drivers who consume cocaine before driving.

Drug testing currently used by police detects methamphetamine, cannabis and MDMA (ecstasy), but from early 2025 cocaine will be added to this list.

Commissioner of Police Grant Stevens said cocaine effects may last a short time but can be detected up to 24 hours after consumption.

"In 2023, 31 lives lost and 112 serious injuries on South Australian roads were due to driver or rider testing positive to drugs" Commissioner Stevens said.

"Between 2018 and 2023, cocaine was implicated in nine fatal crashes – this is unacceptable. It is crucial that drug testing includes cocaine to keep these dangerous drivers from our roads."

"We know that consumption of cocaine can lead to overconfidence and aggression, reduced inhibition, increased risk-taking behaviours, agitation and loss of concentration, delusion, and affected vision, all traits you don't want in a person driving," Commissioner Stevens said.

The latest Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission National Wastewater Drug Monitoring report (released two weeks ago) reveals the national average cocaine consumption for capital cities and regional areas was at the highest level since reporting began in August 2016. The increase in cocaine seizures also indicates it is a readily available drug in our community.

The drug screening has operated in New South Wales since January 2018 and in Queensland since July 2023. In Queensland, more than 300 cocaine offenders were caught within the first six months of the technology adoption.

Random drug testing (RDT) has been in operation in South Australia since 1 July 2006 and up to 50,000 tests are conducted each year, Commissioner Stevens said.

Acting Minister for Police Susan Close said the expanded test would help save lives and remove more dangerous drivers from the road immediately.

SAPOL will soon go to tender to identify suitable drug screening tests with this advanced capability. Once a tender has been selected, regulations changes are required for the testing to begin in early 2025.

Severe penalties apply to drivers who commit drug driving offences, along with the potential to immediately impound the vehicle. The penalty is a \$849 fine, a \$102 victim of crime levy, a minimum of three months of disqualification, and four demerit points.

Refusing, or failing to comply to a random drug test is also an offence, incurring an immediate loss of licence for 12 months, six demerit points, and a court imposed penalty.

CONTACT
Whyalla
8645 4255
Port Pirie
86331744
Kadina
88214366

ROWAN RAMSEY MP
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR GREY
SERVING THE PEOPLE OF COOPER PEDY
rowan.ramsey.mp@aph.gov.au

Lee Mott
Therapeutic
Counsellor
By Appointment Only
7 Day flexibility
Phone, Zoom, F2F
M: 0483 004466
lee@counsellingcompanion.com.au
www.counsellingcompanion.com.au

Cooper Pedy Country Fire Service
Station open Wednesday nights from 1800. (6pm)
with training from 18.30. (6.30pm)
For more information contact
Jeremy at
Jeremy.lambert@sacsvolunteer.org.au
Or Coordinator, Raylene Hagel 040 808 9725.
In an Emergency dial 000

FOSSICKING FOR OPAL

Fossicking Definition

Fossicking means the gathering of precious stones (opal) as a recreation, or without the intention to sell the stones or to utilise them for a commercial or industrial purpose. Note: Does not include gathering precious stones through disturbance of land by machinery or explosives.

Opal Fields are no place for children!



Dangers are everywhere, a child's safety will be placed at risk!

- Open mine shafts / exploration drill holes,
 - Unstable ground, undercut shaft edges and deep trenches,
 - Explosions,
 - Mobile plant and operating machinery, and
 - Snakes and insects.
- Falling into a mine shaft, deep trench or open cut pit, can / will sustain serious injuries or death!
- Personal Protective Equipment and Supplies
- It can reach temperatures of up to 50 degrees during summer months, and the following is recommended:
- Apply 50+ rating sunscreen to protect exposed skin from the sun's UV radiation,
 - Wear a broadbrim hat, strong lightweight clothing, gloves and enclosed footwear, and
 - Wear a P2 Dust mask / respirator when generating dust to prevent possible exposure to respirable crystalline silica.
 - Carry enough cool drinking water and fuel for the trip.
- Note: Camping is illegal on South Australian opal fields!

Communications

When fossicking alone:

- Tell someone where (location) you are going,
- Have communications (phone, two way radio etc...) to regularly check in, and
- Ensure your contact person knows what to do if you don't check in!

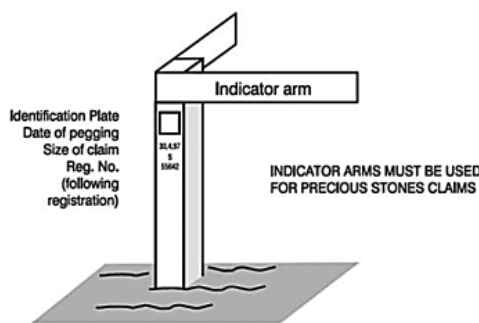


Accessing Opal Fields - Know your Location!



- Use a GPS, compass, or take pictures of locations or ground markings to ensure you know the right way out of the areas,
 - Recommend having a 3m flexible flag (orange) or an amber flashing light to make vehicle visible, and
 - Drive slow, look for traffic and drive to conditions,
- Note: Mine shafts are everywhere, keep eyes open!

Identifying a Registered Claim



A registered claim can be identified by:

- A post on each corner of the claim with a permit number attached to the post.
- Each post must be at least 70 mm thick and stand at least 0.750 m above the surface of the ground.
- Posts must be knocked securely into the ground and have indicator arms on the outer sides of the post to show the direction and clearly identify the claim boundary.

It is an offence for fossickers to enter or remain on land comprised in a claim without obtaining the permission of the owner of the claim

Dangerous Ground

Dangerous ground is an area of ground (mine shafts, tunnels, open pits, faces etc...) that has been deemed unsafe to access, fossick or mine by the Department for Energy and Mining, because it has either collapsed, or has the potential to collapse. Dangerous ground can be identified by a "Danger – Unsafe Ground, No Mining Permitted" sign, or by Red Post Markers knocked into the ground. Accessing or mining dangerous ground is prohibited without approval from SafeWork SA.



Identifying Unsafe Ground

Signs of potentially unsafe ground conditions are, but not limited to:

- Sunken ground, cracked / split ground,
- Open voids, and
- Weathered / eroded shaft edges

Fossicking

Fossickers are warned against entering old open cut and underground workings as many dangers may exist!



- Fossicking can only take place to a maximum depth of 1 metre,
 - All holes must be refilled,
 - Unstable ground, stale air and lack of oxygen,
 - Unprotected openings and water filled holes,
 - Fossicking into sides of excavations may cause a cave in,
 - Large stockpiles may collapse unexpectedly if undercut.
- Note: Seek assistance of experienced and competent miners to assist before entering old mines!

Caldwell Drill Holes and Exploration holes

Do not stand too close to an edge of a mine shaft! Rains can erode and undercut the ground around the top edge of a mine shaft, whilst still giving the appearance of solid ground. When weight is placed on the ground around the edge of the shaft, the ground can give away and collapse!

Hidden Dangers!



Look where you place your feet, and never walk backwards!

Mine shafts can be covered with sheets of corrugated iron or thin metal mesh, spinifex, mullock heap spoil and other materials which can hide the dangers. Stepping on these areas, can result in the material / ground collapsing, and a person falling down a mine shaft. It is recommended to:

- Use a thin long steel rod or piece of wood to test the ground in front of you when walking around the base of a heap.
- Listening for metal on metal type sounds when tapping / pushing into the material, is a good way to identify these hazards.

Mullock Heaps



Mullock heaps are mounds of material that have been dug from a mine shaft and underground, and are generally known as waste material, and can be very slippery to climb.

Mine shafts are located at the bases of a heaps. When climbing, a loss of footing could result in a person sliding to the bottom of the heap, into a mine shaft resulting in serious injury or death.

Always climb a heap on the opposite side to a mine shaft opening, and always take a bucket of material from a heap and search through it on stable, safe ground.

First Aid and Emergencies

Be prepared for minor first aid injuries or emergency situations while fossicking in the opal fields.

Snakes are all too common in these areas, they can be found in shafts and holes, or curled up under a bush or a piece of tin.

The "inland taipan" and the "brown snake" are extremely poisonous and will attack if they feel threatened.

Ensure your first aid kit has a snake bite kit in it and familiarise with the requirements for first aid treatment of a snake bite.

It is recommended at a minimum, that the following is carried in a vehicle at all times whilst in the opal fields:

- A small first aid kit, and snake bite kit, and
 - List of emergency contact numbers
- Emergency Contact Numbers
- Ambulance, Fire and Police : 000
 - Coober Pedy Mine Rescue / SES - EMERGENCY ONLY : 132 500
 - Andamooka SES : 0427 181 752
 - Andamooka CFS : 0408 807 943

Additional Information

For further information on opal mining & locations, go to www.energymining.sa.gov.au/minerals/mining/opal_mining or Contact: Ashley.Wood@sa.gov.au Phone: 08 8672 5800 or Kosta Christopoulos Opal Mining Registrar Email: Kosta.Christopoulos@sa.gov.au | Ph 08 86789061

Updated Local Service
Provider Listings

C.P. Police Station
Malliotis Blvd. Coober Pedy
(08) 8672 5056; Assistance 131 444;
Emergency 000; Crime Stoppers 1800 555 677

Coober Pedy Hospital
Lot 89 Hospital Rd
Open 24 hours · (08) 8672 5009

Coober Pedy Medical Practice
Lot 89 McDougal Road
(08) 8678 9224

iCCnet SA (Remote Health Monitoring)
Level 1, Administration Building
1 Tonsley Boulevard, Tonsley SA 5042, Australia
Tel 7117 0600 (9am to 8pm seven days a week)
Email: HEALTHFMCiCCnetSA@sa.gov.au

Coober Pedy Area School
17/18 Paxton Rd. Coober Pedy
(08) 8672 5077

Umoona Tjutagku Health Service
Lot 8 Umoona Rd
(08) 8672 5255

Housing SA
Lot 334 Hutchison St (Opposite Bank)
PHONE: 131 299

Centrelink
LOT 715 Hutchison St. Coober Pedy
13 24 68

District Council of Coober Pedy
LOT 773 Hutchison St. Coober Pedy
(08) 8672 4600

Coober Pedy Tourist Information Cen.
LOT 773 Hutchison St
(08) 8672 4600

Umoona Community Council Inc
Umoona Rd
(08) 8672 5246

MAP/Sobering Up Centre. Ph: 86723903
MAP BUS Tues to Sat. 4pm-12am.
Sobering Up Centre Tues - Sat 4pm - 8am

Umoona Tjitji Tjapu Tjuta Childcare Centre
Lot 315 Robins Blvd
(08) 8672 5644

Umoona Aged Care
Lot 89 Hospital Rd
(08) 8672 5605

National Indigenous Australians Ag. (NIAA)
17/18 Paxton Rd. Coober Pedy
(08) 8672 5077

Far North Health Advisory Council
C/- Coober Pedy Hospital
(08) 8672 5009

C.P. Community Correctional Centre:
Malliotis Blvd. Coober Pedy
(08) 8672 3091

Uniting Country SA
Paxton Rd
1300 067 777

TAFE SA
Adult education school
Hutchison St. Coober Pedy
(08) 8678 9000

Coober Pedy Magistrates Court
Malliotis Blvd. Coober Pedy
(08) 8672 5601

Child Abuse Report Line (CARL)
131478

Aboriginal Family Support Services
Lot 1991 Aylett Street, Coober Pedy
(08) 8672 3066

Coober Pedy Retail, Business
and Tourism Association Inc

Coober Pedy SA 3723
Committee Elected for 2024
President: George Kountouris
Vice President: George Russell OAM
Treasurer: Nick Brellas
Secretary/Public Officer: Nicky Kountouris
Committee Members:
Irene Spillmann
Daniel Tsharke
Sean Harrison
Contact: chair@cooberpedy.com
<https://www.cooberpedy.com/contact-2/>

Coober Pedy Sports and
Recreation Association Inc

Dilusha Fernando - Chairperson
Jacqui Boland - Treasurer
Gwen Martin - Secretary
Jon Fatt-Clifton - Committee member
Paul Maduro - Committee member
Email: cpsportsandrecreation@gmail.com

COOBER PEDY, SA 5723
Committee Elected for 2024-2026

COOBER PEDY SHOOTERS
CLUB Inc

COOBER PEDY, SA 5723
Committee Elected for 2023/2024“

President Daniel Lamb
“Senior Vice President Stephen Scott“
Junior Vice President Nil“
Secretary John Di Donna“
Treasurer Suzanne Bunker“
Public Relations Daniel Lamb“
PR /MPIO Officer Tabetha Wilkes“
F/Arms Instructor Chris Warrior“
F/Arms Instructor John Di Donna“
F/Arms Instructor Dale Price“
F/Arms Instructor James Michie“
Licensee/Armourer Chris Warrior“
Licensee/Armourer Daniel Lamb
Contact Secretary: 0427 649 389

Coober Pedy RSL
(Sub branch)

President: Raylene Hagel
Mick Cox: Vice President
Treasurer: Miriam Kammermann
Secretary: Peta Burnett
Kingsley Kammermann
Matt Cormer
Ronda Michell
Malcolm Michell
Rosslyn Jazepczyk
Julie Knight-Eastwood
Coober Pedy RSL, Edward Street
COOBER PEDY SA 5723
(08) 8672 5477

Coober Pedy Historical
Society Inc

Committee 2024
Chairperson: Yuko Castles
Secretary: Jenny Davison
Treasurer: Sue Britt
Janet Walton
Edi Brandli
Contact: cooberpedyhs@gmail.com

Coober Pedy
GEM TRADE SHOW
Association Inc

Committee 2024
TBA

COOBER PEDY MINERS
ASSOCIATION INC

Coober Pedy SA 3723
Committee Elected for 2024
President: Matt Graham,
Secretary: Monique Harding
Treasurer: John Olsson,
Committee Members:
Rod Wells,
Mish Blanusu,
Dean Kennelly, Sebastian Crisa,
Mike Eakins, Steve Perkins,
Lachlan Blanchford,
Shannon Blanchford
Bailey Stevens

Coober Pedy Opal Fields
Golf Club Inc.

Coober Pedy SA 3723
Committee Elected for 2024
Club Captain: Stephen Borrett
President: Chevahn Hoad
Secretary: Nadine Lewis
Treasurer: Father Paul Crotty
Grounds Keeper: Dylan Lewis
Bar Manager: Stephen Borrett
Committee Members:
Chloe Lewis,
Miro Markovic
Contact: cooberpedygolfclub@gmail.com

Coober Pedy Area School
Governing Council

Members
Maurice Saah (Principal) - Ex-Officio Member
Elected Staff Representative
Veronika Witham
Elected Parent Members
Lisa McClure
Chantelle Bamford- Secretary
Sabrina Troisi- Treasurer
Lyn Boussios
Ariane Montminy-Roberge- Chairperson
Lia Pantelis
Yuko Castles
Marzena Mazurkiewicz
Sarah Rethus
Donna Clements
Elected Community Members
Amber McDonald
Maria Brellas


We are currently waiting on our
representatives from the Umoona Community
and the District Council of Coober Pedy

Outback Open Air Cinema Inc
(Coober Pedy Drive In
Theatre)

Coober Pedy SA 3723
Committee 2023 -2024
Chantelle Bamford Chairperson
Rebecca Nicolle Deputy chair
Tanya Lauder Secretary/Treasurer
Lyndal Price - Committee member
Gemma Hoad - Committee member
Kaysy Clet de Leon-Committee member
Bethany Aylett- Committee member
<http://www.cooberpedydrivein.org.au/>


DUSTY RADIO INC

Coober Pedy SA 3723
Committee 2024
Chairperson Tony Wiegand
Secretary: Sharon McFarlane
Treasurer: Suzanne Bunker
Public Officer: Patsy Anne Noble
Social Media Officer: Rika Wiegand
Committee member: Tess Wiegand
Committee member: Karen Harvey
<https://www.dustyradio.com.au/>



Cooper Pedy Shooter's Club

Established 1974



Cooper Pedy Shooter Club welcomes all new members, visitors and Sponsors
If you don't have a firearm, come along & our members will assist you with all enquiries.
Minimum age for shooting at the club is 10 yrs (Rifles and Air Pistol)
& 10 yrs (Pistols).

Starting Times 9:00 AM

Saturday — Pistols (IPSC)

6 July

13 July

20 July

27 July

3 August

DISCIPLINES INCLUDE:

♦ Air Rifle/pistol

♦ IPSC

♦ ISSF

♦ Rifle Metallic Silhouette

♦ Combine Service

♦ Black Powder

♦ Service pistol

♦ Shotgun

♦ Steel Challenge

Cooper Pedy Shooter's Club supports:

• Darts

• Archery

Starting Time: 10:00 AM

Sundays .22 Rimfire 100m Benchrest

7 July

14 July

21 July

28 July

4 August



FINAL REMINDER MEMBERSHIP Renewal Now Due 2024

Single Membership \$ 100.00

Couple Membership \$150.00

Family Membership \$ 200.00

Affiliate Membership \$20.00

SSAA MEMBERSHIP DUE NOW

Sign-up online

<https://ssaasa.org.au>.... Or at the club



Any Enquires regarding Membership, sponsorships, donations, or shooting, please contact
Suzanne Bunker - - Email cpssc.treasurer@gmail.com
John Di Donna - Mobile 0427 649 389 - Email. jdidonna@dodo.com.au

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