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Cooper Pedy

REGIONAL TIMES

Outback Communities Newspaper Established 1982

ISSN 1833-1831

Newspaper

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Friday 25 July, 2025

# COOBER PEDY COMMUNITY ALLIANCE OPEN PROPOSAL TO DISTRICT COUNCIL (& STATE GOVERNMENT)

Subject: Urgent Need for Water & Wastewater Infrastructure Funding in Coober Pedy

Dear Administrators, State Representatives, and Valued Community Members,

The Coober Pedy Community Alliance Committee on behalf of its members and the broader community, draws urgent attention to our failing water supply network and outdated wastewater plant, and highlights nearly 7 years of neglect including missed funding opportunities that would help transform our community's critical infrastructure.

Over the past 12 months alone, there have been at least six major water supply incidents, where main pipes have burst and town water tanks ran dangerously low, risking only a few days of water left. In addition, raw sewerage spills into the Creek, two generators at the bore failed.

Our network is leaking badly with a high percentage of water produced, lost before ever reaching homes. That means we must produce roughly one-third more water just to meet normal demand.

Because of leaks and system inefficiency, residents pay up to 3 times the rate charged in Adelaide. Over three years, this has added around 1.2 to 1.4 million extra charges per year; a total of \$5 million more paid than comparable towns.

Since nothing has eventuated from Government investigating Coober Pedy's water and wastewater issues, the Coober Pedy Community Alliance members are feeling an urgency to engage with reliable industry experts and undertake an independent investigation into these matters. The Committee is looking into this in light of no clarity in communications coming from those currently managing our assets, and since hearing that the water supply could completely fail at any time.

A variety of estimates suggest it could take between 20 - 50 million dollars to replace or properly repair and upgrade some sections of the system. However this may come at an addition cost to residents as in the case of Skye, near Adelaide where residents were unable to connect unless they paid SA Water in many cases in excess of \$18,000 per household.

In the absence of initiative from several years of administrators overseeing the community assets, the Coober Pedy Community Alliance committee has set about to source funding for urgent improvements to the town's water supply.

The National Water Grid fund NWGF supports projects that upgrade water supply systems, pipelines, and wastewater plants in remote and regional towns. In South Australia, the state government can submit proposals through the Connections Funding Pathway WISER, with co funding between Commonwealth and State levels.

Previous funding rounds opened on 8 November 2023 (closing 5 December 2023), and again on 30 January 2025 (closing 27 February 2025).

South Australian communities that did achieve water supply funding can be found here. <https://www.nationalwatergrid.gov.au/projects/sa-wiser-package>

At a meeting with the Council Administrator on Friday, we learned that the DCCP has not considered funding for improvements to the Coober Pedy Water Supply, and was not aware of Federal infrastructure funding.



Photos: Coober Pedy Regional Times ©

In 2012 Federal Minister for Regional Australia in Mr. Simon Crean (centre) personally delivered the Water for Growth funding announcement to Mayor Steve Baines (left) Phil Van Poorten Water Manager (right) and the staff at Works Department at Coober Pedy. The funding announcement of \$1M was a huge morale booster for the town.

Coober Pedy has therefore not been included in any NWGF Expression of Interest (EOI) submission by S A Govt

Our town clearly meets NWGF eligibility, with documented infrastructure failures, high consumer costs, and urgent public benefit, but no application has been put forward on our behalf, despite we began Administration in 2019. Clearly a missed opportunity to restore our exacerbated water supply.

NWGF explicitly includes remote town water systems and wastewater facilities. Our need is well documented with repeated incidents, huge water losses of above 35%, and trampling household budgets.

Replacement cost of the exacerbated pipe network is far beyond council's capacity, but it would appear that past administrators or CEO's have not considered requesting Governments support for improved water quality.

The Coober Pedy Community Alliance Committee proposal strongly urges the District Council, supported by the South Australian Government, to commission a full assessment and business case for water and wastewater upgrades in Coober Pedy and hold or attend public meetings to gauge community need and support including long term local knowledge.

Submit a State-supported "expression of interest" to the NWGF via the WISER / Connections pathway in the next SA round and demonstrate eligibility highlighting water losses, pipe bursts, health benefits, cost savings, environmental impact, and jobs and training potential for remote families and their school leaving youth.

What better way to Close the Gap than have all sectors of the community work together to promote sustainability, and defeat adversity.

The Coober Pedy Community Alliance's call to action was instigated by its members, many suffering from frustration due to the severe decline in services to the community since Administration began.

We can target up to 50% Commonwealth funding, matched by State and Council contributions.

If successfully funded, the community benefits we will secure would be, reliable, affordable water for all families; improved wastewater treatment; safeguarding health and the environment; lower ongoing costs for maintenance and repairs; stronger resilience to climatic extremes and future drought; respect and inclusion for multicultural and first nations voices, and local employment opportunities would be a result.

**We need to start planning and engagement immediately so the business case is ready in time for the next SA NWGF EOI round. In fact, to lodge an emergency EOI, could activate a round opening.**

We would like the Council to publicly commit to lodging a proposal under WISER/Connections pathway, and keep the stakeholders informed, ensuring all in our valued community can follow what's happening.

Coober Pedy residents have suffered water instability, high costs, pipe failures, and health risks. All of this aligns with the intent of the National Water Grid Fund, yet so far, we have been overlooked.

The Coober Pedy Community Alliance Committee is ready to support the Council and State Government in preparing the proposal to access this essential funding.

**Safe water together with local economic stimulation and sustainability should never have been considered as optional in a remote area**

SERVING THE OPAL CAPITAL OF THE WORLD SINCE 1982



## ABOUT US

The annual rainfall in the area is around 144.2 millimetres (5.68 in)

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.

**Editor - Margaret Mackay**  
PO Box 10 Coober Pedy SA 5723  
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<https://cooberpedytimes.com/>








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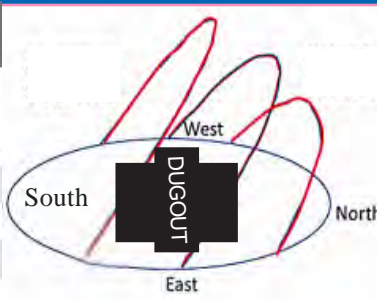
Display \$6.75 Classi \$8.35

### MAILINGLIST

Send an email to be included on emailing list

## 7 DAYS WEATHER at COOBER PEDY Oodnadatta Tarcoola Andamooka Roxby Downs

|                   | TUE<br>Jul 29   | WED<br>Jul 30  | THU<br>Jul 31   | FRI<br>Aug 1   | SAT<br>Aug 2  | SUN<br>Aug 3  | MON<br>Aug 4  |
|-------------------|---|--|---|--|---|---|---|
| Summary           |  Windy |  Mostly sunny |  Late shower |  Mostly sunny |  Sunny |  Windy |  Mostly cloudy |
| Maximum           | 15°C  | 15°C   | 15°C  | 16°C   | 17°C  | 19°C  | 20°C  |
| Minimum           | 7°C   | 5°C  | 5°C   | 4°C  | 3°C   | 5°C   | 11°C  |
| Chance Of Rain    | 5%  | 10%  | 40%   | 10%  | 5%  | 30%   | 30%   |
| Rain Amount       | < 1mm   | < 1mm  | < 1mm   | < 1mm  | < 1mm   | < 1mm   | < 1mm   |
| UV Index          | Moderate  | Moderate   | Moderate  | Moderate   | Moderate  | Moderate  | Moderate  |
| Frost Risk        | Nil   | Slight   | Slight  | Slight   | Moderate  | Slight  | Nil   |
| Wind Speed        | 9am 3pm<br>28 35<br>km/h km/h   | 9am 3pm<br>19 21<br>km/h km/h  | 9am 3pm<br>15 20<br>km/h km/h   | 9am 3pm<br>19 22<br>km/h km/h  | 9am 3pm<br>14 19<br>km/h km/h   | 9am 3pm<br>29 36<br>km/h km/h   | 9am 3pm<br>25 29<br>km/h km/h   |
| Wind Direction    | W WSW   | WSW SW   | SSW SW  | SSW S  | E NE  | NNE NNE   | NW W  |
| Relative Humidity | 78% 39%   | 68% 52%  | 76% 50%   | 81% 42%  | 69% 40%   | 61% 32%   | 58% 40%   |



Spring 2025 Sept equinox  
23 Sep 4:19 am

### 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

**Sgt Angus Lovelock** joins the Coober Pedy Police Station after gaining local experience on the APY Lands, and also 2 years at Marla in the Far North, West Coast and Penong. Sgt Lovelock is previously from Adelaide where he began his career in policing 12 years ago.



Sgt Angus Lovelock,  
Police Reports.

**MIKE GILLAM** is a freelance writer/ photographer who divides his time between his Art Gallery in Alice Springs and his Dugout in Coober Pedy. Mike also writes essays for the Alice Springs News.



Mike Gillam Coober  
Pedy/Alice Springs

**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 of South Australia.



John Di Donna  
Opinion & Commentary

# Local Scribes

### Bi Monthly

**\*Over 40 Nationalities bonded by the OPAL Industry**

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

## The Opal Capital of the World

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

Margaret Mackay @

## Spacious Underground Living

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### 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 digital era. Distribution covers a vast area including nearby communities and towns, social media, website and mailing list.....PUBLICATION DATES BELOW

Friday 25 July 2025; Friday 8 August 2025,  
Friday 22 August 2025; Friday 5 Sept 2025

*... the prime value of journalism is that it imposes transparency, and thus accountability, on those who wield the greatest governmental and corporate power. ~ Glenn Greenwald, Laura Poitras and Jeremy Scahill*

#### 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.

**R.) 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.



# Lightning Ridge Opal & Gem Festival - a hallmark event with locals

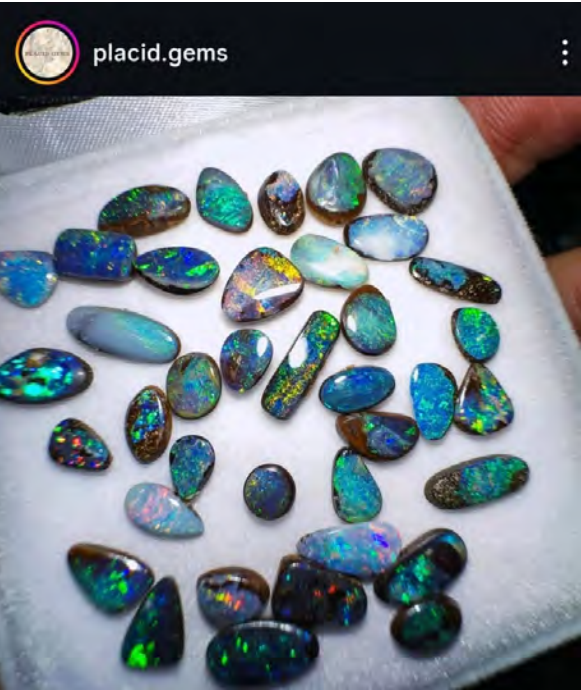
Lightning Ridge Opal & Gem Festival - Wednesday 23rd - Saturday 26th July 2025

In 1971, local miner Derek Foster dreamt up the idea to celebrate the culture and character of opal mining and Lightning Ridge by means of a Festival. Derek's wife Hazel put together a program of activities and the **Lightning Ridge Opal & Gem Festival** was born. In its hey-day, the Festival included a Float Parade down Opal Street, Wheel Barrow Races and Shovelling Competition, novelty events and plenty of entertainment. 1972 saw the first Opal Queen Ball and the Festival donated \$2000 to the Bush Nurse Association.

In the eighties the Opal Festival became a hallmark event with locals, attracting hundreds of people to the social activities. The Opal Queen was predominately themed with aspiring locals stepping up to provide 'celebrity' entertainment such as Michael Jackson, Cindy Lauper and Dr Who.

In 1985, the Committee decided to launch the **Opal & Gem Expo** to promote opal and attract tourists to the town, on what was the slowest weekend for tourism for the year. The opal and gem trade show was set up in the car park of the Lightning Ridge Bowling Club and the event attracted hundreds of miners, jewellers, wholesalers and opal trade from all over Australia.

In 2000, the **International Opal Jewellery Design Awards Association (IOJDAA)** was formed to showcase the stunning and innovative use of opal by jewellery designers around the world. In 2001, they launched the International Opal Jewellery Design Awards which is now a biannual event called the **Australian Opal Awards**.



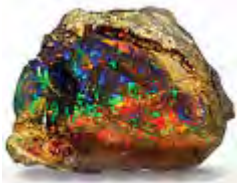
Today the Lightning Ridge Opal & Gem Festival is a 4 day event held at the end of July each year. The Opal Festival includes the Opal Queen Ball, Opal & Gem Expo, Australian Opal Awards Trade Show, and the Australian Opal Awards Jewellery Competition which is held biannually.

The event attracts approximately 4000 people over the four days, and is the largest on the Australian opal events circuit.

South Australia supports the Lightning Ridge Opal and Gem Festival each year.

In 2025 there was a good turn up from both Andamooka and Coober Pedy.

Lightning Ridge made a special mention of **Placid Gems, Opal by Steed, Wonambi Opal**, and other exhibitors from Coober Pedy on their Social Media pages.



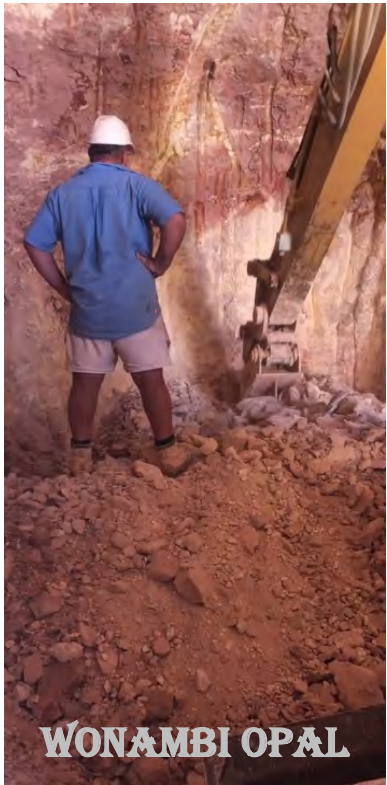
Well done Lickers. Wishing you top sales.



Active Claims as at end July 2025

Andamooka 174; Coober Pedy 467;

🤪 Mintabie 11; Stuart Creek 1 📌



## Australian Opal Awards (AOA) Exhibition 23rd - 26th July 2025

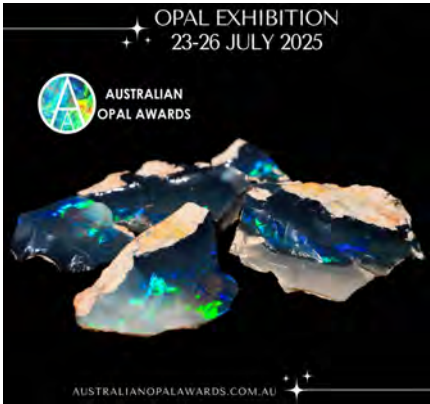
Australian Opal Awards Gala night 25th July 2025

Australian Opal Awards is a respected non-profit organisation with a rich history and deep commitment to the Australian opal industry. Originally founded in 2000 as the 'Opal Jewellery Design Awards Association' (OJDAA), the organisation later evolved into the 'International Opal Jewellery Design Awards Association' (IOJDAA). Over the decades, it has grown into a cornerstone for celebrating and promoting Australian opals, with a focus on highlighting their natural beauty, craftsmanship, and artistic potential.

The AOA provides a platform for opal jewellery designers and opal artisans to showcase their talent and creativity. This vision ensures the enduring appreciation and continued recognition of Australian opals not just in Australia, but on the global stage.

Join us at the Lightning Ridge Multipurpose Centre, right next to the large marquee off Agate Street, for an incredible display of Australia's most stunning opals and gems.

Whether you're a collector, jeweller, or simply curious, there's something for everyone — from museum-grade stones to hand-carved treasures and wearable art.



**Leila Day** Visual artist, Jewellery Designer and Opal Miner, living and working in Andamooka South Australia with **Conan Fahey** Owner / Operator at Bill's Pub White Dam in Andamooka travelled to Lightning Ridge for the Opal and Gem Festival again this year



The 2025 Australian Opal Awards at the Lightning Ridge Opal Festival!



# Two people arrested in Coober Pedy for liquor offences.

# STUART HIGHWAY DRIVER LOSS OF LICENCE: 160kph IN 110 ZONE in SA'S FAR NORTH



About 10pm Wednesday 23 July Coober Pedy patrols saw a Holden sedan in a parkland area on **Hutchinson Street**. When they approached the car, they found three intoxicated people inside.

As the car and its occupants were in a dry area, both were searched by Police who found and seized nearly 49 litres of alcohol.

A 41-year-old Alice Springs man and a 39-year-old Sandover man were arrested and charged with possess and transportation of liquor for sale. They were refused bail and appeared at the Coober Pedy Magistrates Court on Thursday.

Anyone with information about liquor transportation is encouraged to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or online at [www.crimestopperssa.com.au](http://www.crimestopperssa.com.au)

28 Jul 2025 7:43am A driver was caught speeding on the Stuart Highway on Sunday.

About 1pm on Sunday 27 July, a Toyota station wagon was detected travelling north on the **Stuart Highway** at Carrierloo at 160 km/h in a 110 km/h zone.

The driver, a 54-year-old man from the United States, was issued a six-month instant loss of licence and issued with an expiation notice for excessive speed.

16/07/2025 – Unknown person/s have gained entry to a business on **Seventeen Mile Road**. Nil items stolen. Investigation continuing.

15/07/2025 – Three unknown suspects have thrown rocks at a vehicle in order to gain entry and search for items to steal.

14/07/2025 – An unknown person has graffitied a car and kennel in **Sexton Street**.

14/07/2025 – An unknown female has stolen an electrical item from a shop on **Hutchison Street**.

12/07/2025 – an unknown male has jemmied the tailgate of a motor vehicle in a car park on **Hutchison Street**.

12/07/2025 – A known male damaged an electrical item on **Hutchison Street**. He paid the owner back.

12/07/2025 – A known male acted in a disorderly manner on **Hutchison Street**. He was fined by police.

07/12/2025 – Unknown males have broken into a vehicle and stolen numerous electronic devices. Investigation continuing.

23/06/2025 – An unknown person entered a business premises on **Hutchison Street** during trading hours and stole a small amount of property. Police continue to investigate and anyone with information is asked to call Crimestoppers on 1800 333 000.

25/06/2025 – Police responded to a report of a disturbance on **Wilcox Street Coober Pedy**. Police located one of the involved people on **Nicholas Street** who then proceeded to throw a rock at the police vehicle causing damage to the windscreen.

A female was arrested at the scene and was charged with property damage and assault and will face the Coober Pedy Magistrates Court at a later date.

# VANDALISM AT THE LOCAL COUNCIL

Around August 13. 2024, external lights at Chambers were seen to be vandalised.

Good to see new lights have been installed, Wednesday 23 July 2025



# PROPERTY DAMAGE AT PREMISES IN HUTCHISON STREET



Vandals have severely damaged a premises in **Hutchison Street** during last week.

See something Say something



# Cooper Pedy Community Brings Life to the Purple House Dialysis Clinic

The fence of the Purple House Dialysis Clinic on Cooper Pedy's main street has been transformed into a vibrant celebration of local culture and community, thanks to the enthusiastic involvement of local groups and support from BHP.

Purple House, with funding from BHP, invited community members to help uplift the clinic's outdoor space by planting a native garden and decorating the fence. The result is a colourful and joyful display of artworks that reflect the stories, spirit, and identity of Cooper Pedy.

The project marks a special milestone for the Purple House Cooper Pedy Clinic, which turned one year old in June and has already delivered over 408 dialysis treatments to patients who have been able to return home to receive dialysis.

"With the clinic sitting right in the heart of town, we saw an opportunity to bring the community together to make something beautiful and uniquely Cooper Pedy," said Sarah Brown, Purple House CEO. "This project shows what can happen when community is at the centre of care."

Thirteen community groups participated in the project, producing 18 paintings that now form part of the clinic's colourful fence. As a thank you, each group received a gift voucher – a gesture that's already had a big impact. The Mini Gems Childcare Centre shared that they plan to use their voucher to buy much-needed toys for their children.

The artwork was officially unveiled at a community launch event on Thursday night, with a barbecue and sales of traditional bush medicine products rounding out the celebrations.

Everyone who came was proud of what they'd created together. The fence now tells the story of the town – full of life, colour, and connection.

Purple House extends a heartfelt thank you to all the groups that took part, BHP for their generous support, and the Cooper Pedy community for embracing the project so wholeheartedly.



Purple House Dialysis Clinic on the edge of the shopping centre at Cooper Pedy unveils its display of local artwork



The artwork project adds the final touches to the Dialysis Centre.



The SA Ambulance contribution to the Dialysis Centre



Local artists portray the culture of Cooper Pedy in their art.



13 Community groups participated in the project, producing 18 paintings



Local CFS members view the paintings





# ALLIANCE CONDUCT COMMUNITY SURVEY RE: WATER SUPPLY

## with members quite vocal about their community asset

2 terms of potential Democratic town management wasted, with no solutions achieved that will genuinely benefit this community.

For nearly 7 years bureaucrats have touted the poor condition of our water asset, but despite available Federal grant funding for water infrastructure, it has never been pursued.

We want all of our questions answered!

Is it not the CEO's sworn and paid duty "to ensure that appropriate and prompt responses are given to specific requests for information made to the council"; as per the Local Govt Act 1999; Council Staff, Chapter 7, Chief executive officer - Part 1 f (?)

The Ombudsman must stop wasting everyone's time and do more than suggest "optional" recommendations in response to complaints. Public servants must learn to be accountable.



White water filter below, installed three months ago



**Democracy** MUST BE practiced at Cooper Pedy by government appointees. 8 years of austerity and democratic decline is very harsh on a remote family town.

**ICAC** must have its intended powers restored.

**The South Australian Local Govt Act** appears to be overdue for a revision.

What are the general guidelines for **councilor elections** and **an improved council structure**? The Alliance group will welcome public meetings.

**Task Force Progress** re: Cooper Pedy? May we see minutes or records of meetings, posted on council's website?

The Cooper Pedy Community Alliance would be pleased to host a public meeting for the Task Force when they visit, ie 2025 Community Cabinet perhaps.



The Western Sydney Solar Team with Alliance Vice Chair George Rosewarne (opal miner) and Unlimited 6.0 in trailer

## ALLIANCE COMMITTEE VISIT with the Western Sydney Solar Team.

This team of University Students is excited to be staying in Cooper Pedy prior to the 2025 Bridgestone Solar Challenge 24 - 31 August 2025 Darwin to Adelaide

We are looking forward to the race in late August and feel privileged that the Western Sydney team are staying with us for a few weeks and want to be part of our community.

Be sure to make the team feel welcome everyone.



Western Sydney University Solar Vehicle, Unlimited 6.0



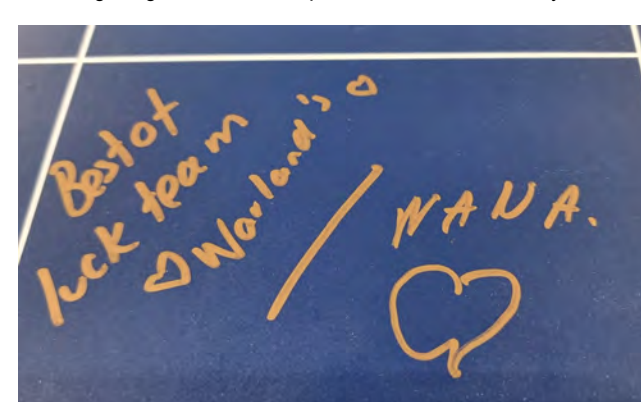
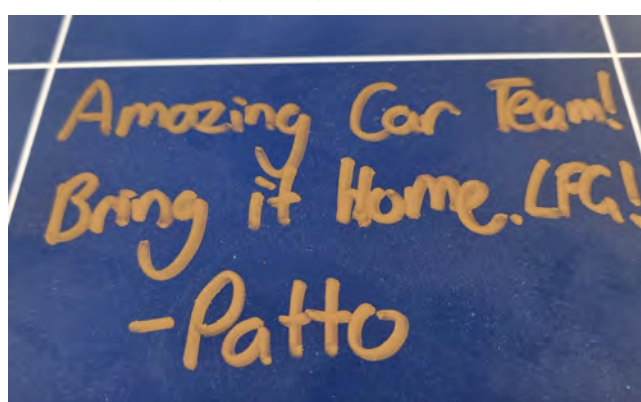
Early morning at the Desert View Motel, the Western Sydney Solar Team with George Rosewarne



Ruairi Milligan Team Manager with Margaret, and George (Community Alliance)



George is given a close inspection of Unlimited 6.0 by the team





**WEDNESDAY**

**Cfs Training**

Tuesday evenings - 6pm at Station

**Mine Rescue/SES**

1st Wednesday of the month 7.30pm,  
and 2nd & 4th Saturday of the month  
9am at Mine Rescue shed

**FRIDAYS**

**CP Shooters Club**

See back page for  
latest program

**Italian Club**



Italian Club Coober Pedy  
is open April - December  
Thursday 5-10pm and  
Friday nights 5 - 1am.



**Greek Charcoal BBQ**

Friday nights at the  
Greek Hall.

**Alcoholics Anonymous**

Meet 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**

**parkrun**

8am Saturday mornings Town Oval



**GOLF 8 30am**

**MINE RESCUE/SES**

2nd & 4th Saturday of the month 9am

**CP SHOOTERS CLUB**

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



**CROATION CLUB**

Happy Hour 6-7pm

**SUNDAYS**



**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



# COMMUNITY SURVEY

Held on Saturday 26 July 2025 at a public meeting, Italian Club  
Coober Pedy

Approximately 70 people so far collected Survey Forms.

**PRELIMINARY RESULTS BELOW. IE NOT FINAL.**

Do you believe our water supply is a valuable community asset?

☒ **Yes .47**

☐ No

☐ Unsure \_\_\_\_\_

2. Do you agree with giving our water asset away to SA Water without full transparency or an independent valuation?

☐ Yes

☒ **No.44**

☐ Not sure / **Need more information 3**

3. Should the community demand an independent technical and financial audit of the water supply system before any decisions are made?

☒ **Yes 46**

☐ No 1

4. Would you support keeping the water system locally owned and managed, with professional support and training programs to build local skills and jobs?

☒ **Yes 42**

☐ No

☐ **Depends on funding or conditions 5**

5. Do you believe the administrators acted in the best interests of Coober Pedy regarding water supply management?

☐ **Yes.1**

☒ **No 40**

☐ **Unsure\_6** \_\_\_\_\_

6. Do you want the incoming Council (post-Administration) to restore community control over water supply planning and governance?

☒ **Yes 34**

☐ No 2

☐ **Unsure/Needs Consultation 11**

7. Do you have confidence in the current infrastructure being safe and properly maintained given the current lack of information?

☐ **Yes 3**

☒ **No 40**

☐ **Unsure 4**

8. Has anyone installed filters due to water quality issues?

☒ **Yes 28**

☒ **No 19**

☐ **Would you support the community seeking Federal infrastructure funding directly to repair and modernise our system?**

☒ **Yes 47**

☐ No

**Additional Comments or Concerns (optional):5.**

- 1) People who live thousands of kms away from coober pedy should not be making decisions of this scale.
- 2) People who have lived and worked in Coober Pedy have a deep understanding of it's history,culture and unique challenges. This knowledge is valuable and should be listened to.
- 3) Keep our water with the community.
- 4) Council works department is a hostile environment, refuses any offer leadership training.
- 5) Water under the constitution is an essential service for human survival and the Alliance should approach the Federal Government direct.



# CELEBRATING OODNADATTA'S 40th BRONCO BRANDING COMPETITION

All roads led to Oodnadatta on the weekend of July 12th 2025, as the community celebrated 40 years of bronco branding in Oodnadatta.

In the early days the events were held on the outlying stations, but from 2003 all events were held at The Oodnadatta sporting complex.

The weather was perfect, and a large crowd of locals and visitors saw some great displays of skill and horsemanship. The day began with some Cow Work/campdraft events.

The Oodnadatta Cow Work & Campdraft is part of the vibrant tapestry that keeps our region's heritage and community life thriving.

Special acknowledgements go to the Clarke family of Allandale Station, whose generous provision of cattle and meticulous arena setup ensured a smooth-running event. Sincere thanks to Bill Willoughby for his expert judging.

In the Encouragement category, Bonnie Morris rode Matey to first with a score of 35, followed by Missy Reynolds on Harley with 26, while Jack Williams on Charlie and Roy Nunn on Fox tied for third, each scoring 15.

The Juniors saw Magenta Williams shine, placing first on Summer with 52, Sydney Litchfield took second riding Little Sister (39), and George Williams secured third on Rein (33). In the Juvenile division, Pippa Reynolds topped the field on Diva (49), then came second on Jet Star (37), with Magenta Williams earning third on Summer (35).

The Open category was dominated by Adam Litchfield, capturing first on Playtime (94) and second on Playdough (79), while Bridie Ferguson claimed third aboard Jet Star with 78.

Finally, in Open Encouragement the lady of the day, Kate Ozolins took the win on Fancy That (41), followed by sisters Laura Greenfield on Savings (33) and Bridie Greenfield on Roy (29).

The Novice bronco branding event began the day in the arena. Third in the event was Kaeli May's team Patsy Springs, with a ground crew of Dylan Nicholls, Chris Reynolds and Ben Hewitt.

5.31.69 Second went to the West Coasters with James (Rags) Boylan catching and his team of Paul Heath, Bronte Mc Donell and Luke Opperman, their time was 5.03.02

Novice winner with a great time of 2.54.80 was Kate Ozolins's DK Pastoral team, with Dylan Nicholls, Cam Williams and Alistair Sheehan.

The Singles competition was up next. Each team has one round, and the top six teams go into a final. Both times are then added together.

Cam Williams team, The Peake, came in third, Cam was assisted by Dylan Nicholls, Kate Ozolins and Alistair Sheehan as ground crew in a time of 8.11.62

Second was the North Flinders crew, Chris Reynolds catcher, and Bridie Ferguson, Alistair Sheehan and Dylan Nicholls on the ground. Their time was 7.14.0

The Mt Barry team of Tony Williams, catcher, and Matt Williams, Cam Williams and Logan Williams were victorious in the Singles, with a winning time of 6.56.26



Novice Bronco Branding winners- DK Pastoral-Kelly Evans (Landmark Balaklava Sponsor ) Catcher Kate Ozolins, with Dylan Nicholls, Cam Williams and Alistair Sheehan.



Above: Doubles Bronco Branding winners- DKLBW- Eddie Nunn (Crown Point Pastoral Sponsor) Kate Ozolins and Logan Williams catchers, with Bridie Ferguson, Chris Reynolds and Leo Rothe



Above: Singles Bronco Branding winners- Mt Barry- Tony, Logan, Matt and Cam Williams with sponsor Roger Petch

Left: Junior Competitors Reeve Reynolds, Magenta Williams, George Williams and Sydney Litchfield



ORHS newest Life Member Jackie Williams, pictured with husband Tony and Gerry Nunn



Cow work competitors Roy Nunn, Jack Williams, Missy Reynolds and Bonnie Morri

Next event was the Doubles Bronco Branding. In third position was North Flinders- Catchers Bridie Ferguson and Chris Reynolds, Dylan Nicholls, Cam Williams and Alistair Sheehan. 5.34.86

Second position went to Billa Kalina- Catchers Col Greenfield and Bill Willoughby, with Matt Williams, Cam Williams and Ben Hewitt. Time 5.12.57

The Doubles competition was won by the young crew of the team DKLBW. Kate Ozolins and Logan Williams were on the horses, ably assisted by Chris Reynolds, Bridie Ferguson and Leo Rothe as ground crew. Their winning time was 4.54.13 Fastest catch went to Sean Leigh, from Hale River Homestead NT and in the Novice section, James (Rags) Boylan was the winner.

The Steer Ride was won by Pedro Argumedo, Nilpinna, with Robert Peterson second and Archie third Chute Dogging rounded off the entertainment. Winners were CJ and Josh.

Groundsperson of the day was awarded to Chris Reynolds, and Grandad, owned by Chris and Bridie was nominated as Best Horse.

A highlight of the evening was the induction of Jackie Williams into the Life Members Club. Jackie has been Bronco Branding secretary since-2012.

A lively auction was held, followed by more entertainment on the dance floor, dancing to the beats of the ever popular Gavin Chandler.

**CONTINUED NEXT PAGE**



# CELEBRATING OODNADATTA'S 40th BRONCO BRANDING COMPETITION



Above: Tony Williams with James (Rags) Boylan - Fastest catch in the Novice

Centre: Adult cow work winners- Laura Hewitt with daughter Ada, Kate Ozolins and Bridie Greenfield

Far Left: Chute Dogging winners- CJ and Josh, pictured with Tony Williams



Second in Novice Bronco Branding competition was the West Coasters-Paul Heath, Bronte McDonnell, James (Rags) Boylan catcher, and Luke Opperman

LEFT: Tony Williams with Chris Reynolds- Grounds-person of the Day



Above: Cow work winners- Bridie Ferguson and Adam Litchfield

## GRANT OPPORTUNITIES FOR OUTBACK COMMUNITIES, AND FOR COUNCIL AREAS July 2025

### 1. OCA Small Projects Funding

**Purpose:** Supports small-scale projects that enhance liveability in outback communities—e.g. public infrastructure, solar lighting, toilet blocks, signage, accessibility works.

**Grant Amount:** Typically up to \$20,000–\$50,000

**Closing Date:** Next round closes 31 August 2025

**Eligible Applicants:** Local governments, incorporated community groups, Aboriginal corporations.

**Key Benefits:** Flexible project types; simple online form; great for quick-win infrastructure or town beautification.

**Contact:**

**Outback Communities Authority**

**Email:** oca@sa.gov.au

**Phone:** 08 8648 5970

**Info & applications:** outbacksa.sa.gov.au/small-projects-funding

### 2. Local Roads & Community Infrastructure (LRCI) – Phase 4 (Federal)

**Purpose:** Invests in key transport and community assets like roads, signage, airstrips, public toilets, rec centres, and solar-powered facilities.

**Grant Amount:** Varies by project; Outback SA has secured \$7 million regionally

**Closing/Completion:** Current Phase 4 projects must be delivered by 30 June 2025. Advocacy for Phase 5 now underway.

**Eligible Applicants:** Delivered via OCA and Department for Infrastructure & Transport; Potential Applicants can advocate for future phase inclusion.

**Key Benefits:** Funds larger infrastructure like road upgrades, community lighting, and airstrips. Coober Pedy access routes already prioritized.

**Contact:** SA Department for Infrastructure & Transport (DIT)

**Email:** DIT.OutbackRoads@sa.gov.au

**More info:** minister.infrastructure.gov.au

### 3. RDA Far North – Infrastructure and Economic Grants (Support & Facilitation)

**Purpose:** Helps communities access larger State and Commonwealth funding for economic diversification, energy, tourism and public infrastructure.

**Grant Amount:** Variable – often \$50,000–\$500,000+ (depending on program)

**Closing Dates:** Rolling, depending on program; RDA helps with preparation and matching.

**Eligible Applicants:** Council, incorporated bodies, Aboriginal organisations, NGOs.

**Key Benefits:** Strategic support to unlock bigger funding; tailored to regional development.

**Contact:** Regional Development Australia Far North

**Email:** admin@rdafn.com.au

**Phone:** 08 8641 1444

**Website:** rdafn.com.au



# Rural Aid's 'Spirit of the Bush' Photo Competition Returns to Celebrate Life on the Land

Rural Aid is proud to launch the 6th annual Spirit of the Bush Photo Competition, inviting Australians to share striking images that capture the strength, resilience, and beauty of life on the land.

Running from 14 July to 31 August 2025, the much-loved competition provides a powerful platform for rural and regional Australians to tell their stories through the lens, stories of rugged beauty, resilience and community spirit in the face of hardship.

This year's competition comes after another challenging season of natural disasters, with floods, fires, and droughts once again testing the resolve of the nation's rural heartland.

"Every year, we are humbled by the entries we receive, each photo is a tribute to the unwavering spirit of our farming families and communities," said Rural Aid CEO, John Warlters.

"The Spirit of the Bush competition is more than a showcase of talent. It's a reminder of the grit and determination that keeps rural Australia going, even through the toughest of times."

Entrants are invited to submit a high-resolution, landscape photograph that represents the true Spirit of the Bush.

Photos can be submitted via Instagram or Facebook by tagging @ruralaid in the image and using the hashtag #SOTB2025.

Entries can also be submitted, and the competition terms and conditions can be reviewed via our website at <https://www.ruralaid.org.au/spirit-of-the-bush/>.

A panel of judges will select ten winning images, each of which will receive a \$250 prepaid Visa card. Winners will be announced on 15 September 2025.

"This is a celebration of the people and places that make our regions special," Mr Warlters said. "Whether it's a hardworking farmer, a storm rolling across a paddock, or a quiet moment at sunset, every image has the power to connect Australians with the bush."

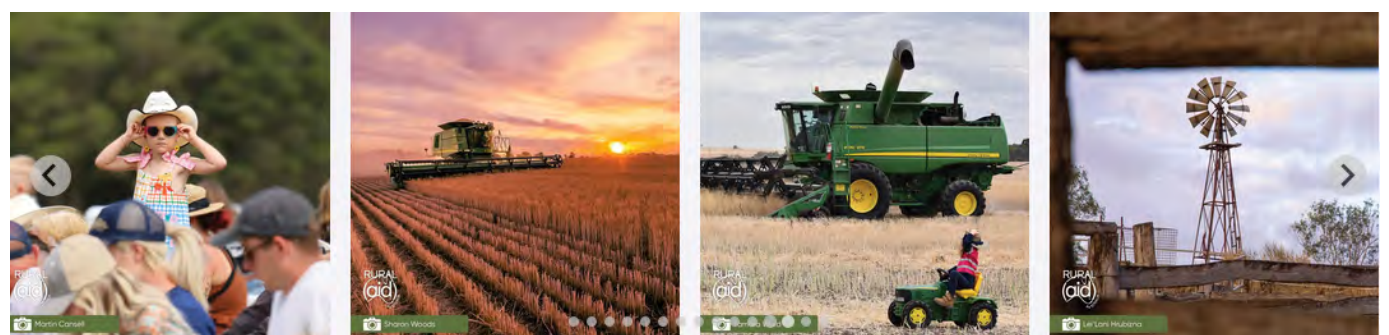
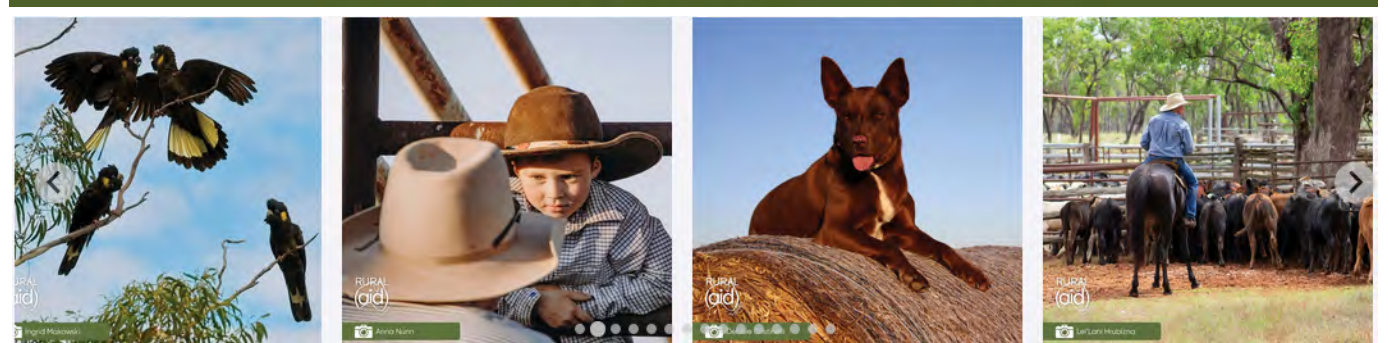
Rural Aid encourages everyone with a passion for photography and the country to pick up their camera and show the world what the Spirit of the Bush means to them.

About Rural Aid:

Rural Aid is Australia's leading rural charity, providing critical support to farmers and regional communities since 2015.

From mental health services to hay, water, and community resilience programs, Rural Aid stands with rural Australians through every season.

Now marking 10 years of service, the charity continues to be a trusted lifeline in times of need. Learn more or support at [ruralaid.org.au](https://www.ruralaid.org.au).



Entries can also be submitted, and the competition terms and conditions can be reviewed via our website at <https://www.ruralaid.org.au/spirit-of-the-bush/>.



# New AAMI Crash Index research released. Car safety features giving Aussie drivers the ick.



**2025 AAMI Crash Index reveals why one in five Aussie drivers are turning them off! Drivers urged to switch on and study their safety features to avoid nose to tail crashes (#1 crash type nationally over the past decade)**

31 years on the AAMI Crash Index continues to callout driver behavior to improve safety on Australian roads.

We all want safer roads, and modern cars are packed with high-tech features designed to prevent accidents and save lives - like automotive braking, lane assist, and all those clever parking alerts.

But what if those very features, meant to help protect us, are actually getting on our nerves?

The 2025 AAMI Crash Index dives deep into this very question - asking Aussie drivers about their experience with Advanced Driver Assistance Systems (ADAS), and the results were eye-opening: a surprising one in five admitted to turning these safety features off.

This comes as new claims data from AAMI - analysing more than 480,000 claims\* - found nose to tail crashes were the most common, with afternoons being the worst time of day.

"Too annoying, too distracting and all too much!"

New AAMI Crash Index research released today shows one in five drivers confessed to disabling their car's safety features. This group of drivers also admitted to:

- \* Hitting the "off" button because they found safety features "annoying", "distracting", and "too sensitive" (69 per cent).
- \* Believing they "don't need" the assistance of in-car safety features (23 per cent).
- \* Concerns that they just "don't trust" the safety features (13 per cent).

\* The safety features most commonly dialled down or turned off were; lane departure warning and lane keeping assist (45 per cent), adaptive cruise control (17 per cent), parking assist (17 per cent), automatic emergency braking (16 per cent) and forward collision warning (11 per cent).

BUT... we know it's good for us

More than half of Aussie drivers (59% per cent) agreed safety features are proven methods for improving road safety, and that they reduce the severity and frequency of accidents.

AAMI's claims data supports this with insights from February 2024 through to February 2025 showing ADAS enabled vehicles (with autonomous braking) are less likely to be involved in an accident when compared to vehicles which do not have this technology\*.

When looking to purchase a new or second-hand car, the top safety features most important to all drivers are:

- 1.Reverse camera
- 2.Blind spot detection/monitoring
- 3.Parking assist
- 6.Automatic emergency braking
- 7.Adaptive cruise control

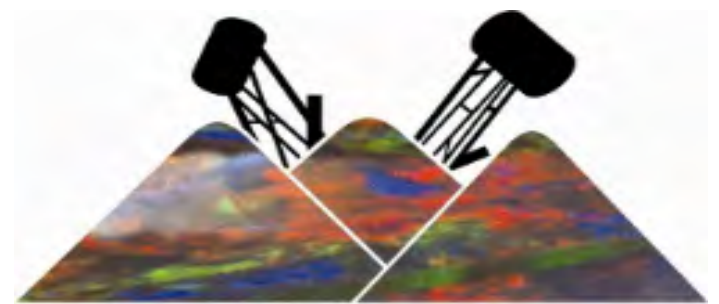
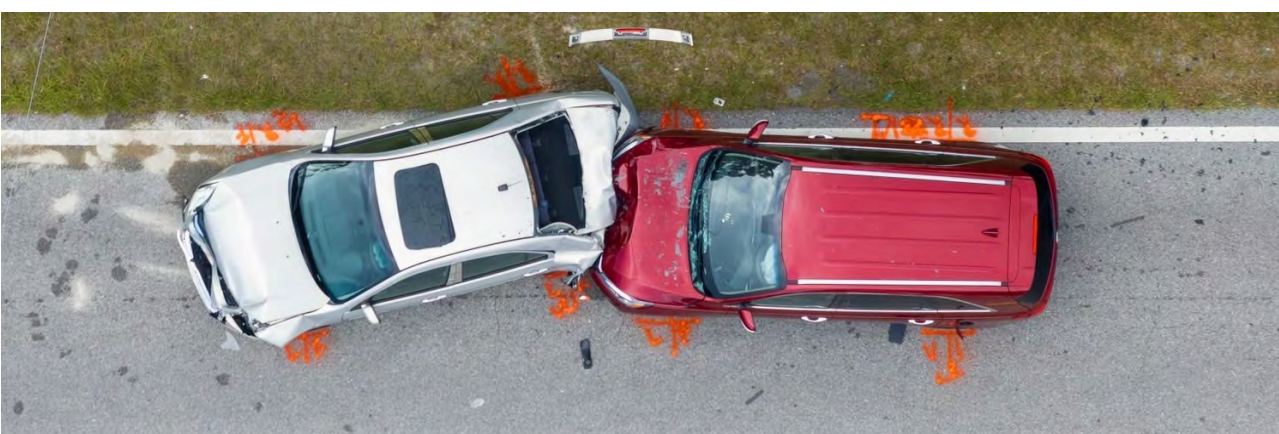
AAMI Motor Prevention Manager Mary Kennedy said, ""In car safety features aren't just gadgets, they're designed to help protect us and make our roads safer. We should be embracing these features, not turning them off.

"Nose to tail collisions are the most common type of crash on our roads - they're expensive, occur frequently, but most importantly many are preventable."

"Many of the safety features drivers are turning off, like collision warning and automatic emergency braking, are really effective at preventing these types of crashes, along with many others including reversing into another vehicle or object such as a trolley or bollard.

"Drivers should understand and use these safety features to enhance their own awareness, reduce the risk of human error, and avoid getting into an accident in the first place.

"For more than three decades, the AAMI Crash Index has been educating drivers on the importance of using safe driving habits and avoiding those that lead to accidents. We know through our claims data that Friday continues to be the worst day of the week, and afternoons are the most dangerous time on our roads, which is why we are sharing these insights in the hope of creating safer roads for everyone."



**COOBER PEDY**  
RETAIL, BUSINESS AND  
TOURISM ASSOCIATION

**Opal  
Is The  
National  
Gemstone  
Of Australia**



**COOBER PEDY**  
RETAIL, BUSINESS AND  
TOURISM ASSOCIATION



**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 - AGM



Coober Pedy CFS  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
(AGM)  
Monday 18th August 2025,  
6.30pm at the CFS Station in  
Hutchison Street

ACCOUNTANT - COOBER PEDY

Arid Areas Accounting  
Audit & Tax  
Richard Younger



These services include:

- Business Activity Statements (BAS)
- Income tax returns
- Book-keeping
- Payroll Services
- Business advice
- Audit
- Forming partnerships, trusts and companies
- Obtaining Australian Business Number (ABN)

Mob: 0422 428 850  
richard@aaaat.com.au

We specialise in providing practical, sound accounting, auditing & tax services & advice to individuals, families & businesses

Office: Business Centre, Hutchison Street (next to Centrelink)  
PO Box 711 Coober Pedy

Supporting "Shop Local at Coober Pedy"

Defibrillators Save Lives;  
now Mandatory in Certain  
Buildings



In South Australia, Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) will become mandatory in certain buildings, facilities, and vehicles from January 1, 2026.

This requirement is part of the Automated External Defibrillators (Public Access) Act 2022 and is being rolled out in stages. Crown-owned buildings, facilities, and emergency service vehicles were required to comply from January 1, 2025.

Mandatory AEDs:

The legislation mandates AEDs in various public-access environments, including schools, libraries, sporting facilities, local council offices, theatres, swimming pools, and places of worship.

Phased Implementation:

The law is being implemented in phases, with Crown-owned entities and emergency services first, followed by non-Crown owned entities and prescribed vehicles (trains, trams, and public buses) on January 1, 2026.

Registration:

AEDs installed under the Act must be registered on the South Australian AED Register.

Who is responsible:

The owner of the building, facility, or vehicle is responsible for installing, maintaining, and registering the AED.

Public Access:

The legislation aims to ensure AEDs are accessible to the public in case of a cardiac arrest emergency.

Grants:

Grants are available to assist community and sporting organizations with the cost of purchasing and installing AEDs.

Emergency Response:

Anyone calling Triple Zero (000) during a cardiac arrest emergency will be directed to the nearest AED.

For more information:

<https://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/wps/wcm/connect/06d99cd8-89bf-4bef-8348-8c669e89b7da/241212+AED+Best+Practice+Guide.pdf?>

FUNDING

Great Artesian Basin  
(GAB) Water Security  
Program

Expressions of Interest

The Australian Government has made funding available for the installation and maintenance of wells and associated distribution networks. These funds are available on a cost sharing basis for landholders who are accessing water from the Great Artesian Basin.

Owners of wells completed within the Great Artesian Basin are invited to lodge an expression of interest to be involved in this program which will co-fund eligible water supply infrastructure projects that contribute to water security and drought resilience in the Great Artesian Basin.

This includes:

- \* replacement of aging wells
- \* decommissioning of wells
- \* Installation of water-tight distribution infrastructure
- \* replacement of aging water distribution infrastructure.

Funding will be provided through the Commonwealth Government's \$27.6m Improving Great Artesian Basin Drought Resilience (IGABDR) program. This is a cooperative multi-state and territory (SA, NSW, QLD and NT), five-year program that commenced on 1 July 2019.

Application due 31 AUG 2025  
View details & apply

<https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/topics/water-and-river-murray/legislation-projects-plans-and-security/water-projects/great-artesian-basin-water-security-program>



PUBLIC NOTICE



Government of South Australia  
Department for Energy and Mining

Mining Act 1971

Notice under section 56H of the Mining Act 1971

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 56H of the Mining Act 1971 that an application for a Mining Lease over portion of the undermentioned exploration licence has been received:

Applicant: Central Iron Pty Ltd  
(ACN 143 503 397)

Exploration  
Licence Number: 6395

Location: CL 6304/473 and  
CL 6211/148, Kalkaroo  
area, approximately 55 km  
northeast of Olary

Area: 9,282 hectares approximately

Purpose: Metallic Mineral – Iron Ore

File Reference: 2025/000005

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 56H of the Mining Act 1971 that an application for a Miscellaneous Purposes Licence over the undermentioned area has been received:

Applicant: Central Iron Pty Ltd  
(ACN 143 503 397)

Location: CL 6304/668, Coondambo  
area, approximately 36 km  
southeast of Kingoonya

Area: 670.22 hectares approximately

Purpose: Haul Road

File Reference: 2025/000001

To arrange an inspection of the proposal at the Department for Energy and Mining, please call the Department on 08 8463 3103.

An electronic copy of the proposal can be found on the Department for Energy and Mining website: <https://www.energymining.sa.gov.au/industry/minerals-and-mining/mining/community-engagement-opportunities>

Written submissions in relation to this application are invited to be received at the Department for Energy and Mining, Mining Regulation, Attn: Business Support Officer, GPO Box 618 ADELAIDE SA 5001 or [dem.miningregrehab@sa.gov.au](mailto:dem.miningregrehab@sa.gov.au) by no later than 15 August 2025.

The delegate of the Minister for Energy and Mining is required to have regard to these submissions in determining whether to grant or refuse the application and, if granted, the terms and conditions on which it should be granted.

When you make a written submission, that submission becomes a public record. Your submission will be provided to the applicant and may be made available for public inspection.

Cathy Lacar  
Manager Mineral Tenements  
Department for Energy and Mining  
Delegate of the Minister for Energy and Mining

VS0029

<http://energymining.sa.gov.au>



See something,  
say something.

You don't have to talk to the police to share  
information that can help solve a crime.



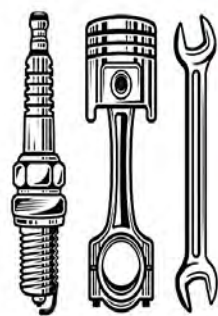
Call 1800 333 000 or visit  
[www.crimestoppersvic.com.au](http://www.crimestoppersvic.com.au)

DISCLAIMER

Opinions, Letters and Public Notices published in the Coober Pedy Regional Times are not necessarily the views of the Editor, or Publisher.

2) The Coober Pedy Regional Times reserves the right to edit or decline copy, in accordance with newspaper policies.

3) Due to concerns 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 CP PTY LTD

Automotive Repair Shop

Coober Pedy & Odnadatta

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

Guardian Interlock  
Service Centre



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



Coober Pedy & Andamooka Opal Fields - Outback SA

Opal Adventures

Umoona Opal Mine & Museum:

A great starting point to learn about opal mining, Aboriginal and European settlement, and see the underground living quarters.

Old Timers Mine:

Explore a historic opal mine dating back to 1916, including an underground home built in the 1960s.

Tom's Opal Mine:

Offers interactive opal mining experiences, including using UV torches, and caters to both adults and children.

Noodling:

A popular activity where visitors sift through mining leftovers for opals, often enjoyed by kids inside the town boundary at "The Jeweller Shop" off Umoona Road.

Underground Experiences:

Faye's Underground Home:

A specialty museum showcasing an underground home with spacious rooms and preserved memorabilia.

Underground Churches:

Visit the Serbian Orthodox Church, St Peter and Paul Catholic Church, or the Catacomb Church, all unique examples of underground construction.

Outback Adventures:

Kanku-Breakaways Conservation Park:

A beautiful area with dramatic, colorful landscapes, including the iconic Breakaways.

Dog Fence:

A long fence built to keep dingoes away from livestock, offering a glimpse into the region's unique environmental challenges.

Other Notable Attractions:

Josephine's Gallery and Kangaroo Orphanage:

A gallery and sanctuary where visitors can see and learn about kangaroos.

The Big Winch:

Offers panoramic views of the town and surrounding landscape, especially stunning at sunset.

Crocodile Harry's Underground Nest & Dugout:

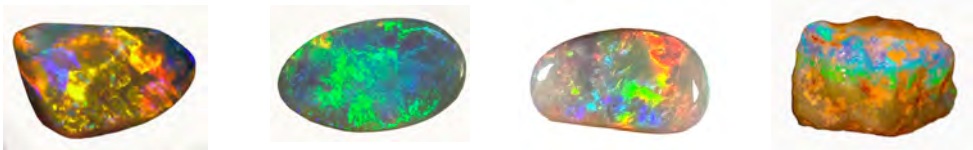
A unique and quirky underground attraction.

Outback Mail Run

Join Bruce on his journey Mondays and Thursday leaving from Coober Pedy and visiting Oodnadatta and William Creek. Or, on Saturdays departing from Coober Pedy and visiting the stations to the west and the Painted Desert.

Coober Pedy Tourist Information Centre:

A place to get information about tours and other activities.



Friday to Sunday

Coober Pedy RSL

Weekly - Sunday afternoonS from 4.00pm.  
Happy hour and members draw between 5.00pm and 6.00pm

Coober Pedy CROATION CLUB

Weekly on Saturdays - Happy Hour 6-7pm

Coober Pedy parkrun.

Weekly, 8am Saturday mornings Town Oval

Coober Pedy Greek Charcoal BBQ.

Most Fridays at Greek Hall.  
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100063689523307>

OUTBACK SA FEATURING the SOUTH AUSTRALIAN OPAL FIELDS  
with easy access to Lake Eyre (Marree or William Creek)







WILL YOU STEP UP  
TO PROTECT **YOUR**  
**COMMUNITY?**

We're run by volunteers (not full-time staff),  
so here is the best way to get in touch:

COOPER PEDY CFS BRIGADE

-  David Frost 0478 669 035
-  david.frost2@sacfsvolunteer.org.au
-  502 Hutchinson Street,  
Cooper Pedy SA 5723

OUR TRAINING TIMES

Every Wednesday night.  
Doors open at 6pm, training starts 6:30pm

We look forward to chatting with you soon.

**1300 364 587** | [cfs.sa.gov.au/volunteer](https://cfs.sa.gov.au/volunteer)



A **SAFE**  
**COMMUNITY**  
STARTS  
WITH  
**YOU.**

THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN  
COUNTRY FIRE SERVICE  
IS **RECRUITING NOW.**

Please note:

All training and protective clothing is provided by the CFS. All volunteers are required to consent to a Nationally Coordinated Criminal History Check. We will provide consent forms for this free-of-charge service.



Government  
of South Australia



VOLUNTEER FOR  
A **LIFE-CHANGING**  
**EXPERIENCE.**

It takes a mighty team of all  
different ages, genders and abilities  
— and we welcome everyone!

WHY VOLUNTEER?

You'll be equipped to help your community when  
it's needed most. A volunteer role opens you to  
training in life-changing skills, including:

-  **Basic  
firefighting**
-  **Structural  
firefighting**
-  **Mapping**
-  **Communications**
-  **Leadership**
-  **Teamwork**
-  **First aid**
-  **Operational  
support**

WHAT DO WE NEED FROM YOU?

- The desire to help protect your community as part of a dedicated team.
- Willingness to be trained in providing assistance in emergency situations and/or providing support to the team on the ground

HOW MUCH TIME DOES IT TAKE?

Cooper Pedy CFS trains on Wednesday nights each week. Doors open 6pm and training begins at 6:30pm.

We encourage you to attend training regularly to stay familiar with equipment, skills and your team.

Many CFS volunteers also work full-time or part-time. Employers often release CFS volunteers from work to respond to emergencies as they arise. If your employer is unable to release you, you can commit to volunteering outside of work hours.

ABOUT THE SOUTH  
AUSTRALIAN **COUNTRY**  
**FIRE SERVICE (CFS)**

The CFS is a volunteer-based fire and emergency service dedicated to protecting life, property and environmental assets in regional and semi-metropolitan South Australia.

We couldn't do it without people like you!  
With approximately 14,000 volunteers, the CFS cares for more than 425 communities across the state through a range of fire and emergency services.

Our volunteers are people from all walks of life, with one extraordinary difference — they step up to regularly commit their time and energy to assist their communities when it's needed most.

YOUR COMMUNITY COUNTS  
ON THE CFS FOR:

- Suppressing bushfires
- Suppressing structural fires
- Motor vehicle accidents
- Hazardous materials incidents
- Advice on building fire safety
- Risk and response planning
- Community education and awareness programs

Our volunteers can also play vital roles through:

- Administration
- Radio operations
- Finance
- Mapping
- Logistics
- Brigade and group meeting participation
- Equipment and brigade maintenance
- Organising cadet programs



# Keeping SA's youth crime rate low

The State Government is moving to strengthen youth bail and sentencing laws, to ensure they effectively deal with serious repeat young offenders.

Although ABS data shows SA has the lowest youth offender rate of any state, and behind only the ACT, we know a small number of serious repeat young offenders are responsible for a disproportionate level of offending, with data from the Courts Administration Authority showing 20 youths were responsible for between 11 and 13 percent of all charges laid in the Youth Court.

The State Government is taking action under the Young Offender Plan, aimed at strengthening laws for repeat offenders, and investing to break the cycle of offending before young offenders become entrenched in the criminal justice system.

As part of the Young Offender Plan, the Government has proposed draft laws that would automatically declare those who repeatedly commit serious crimes as recidivist young offenders.

The draft laws would also add a presumption against bail in cases where a recidivist young offender has been taken into custody for a serious offence.

These changes would mean it would be harder for recidivist young offenders to get bail and more serious consequences would apply if they offend in the future.

Additionally, the Government is investing \$3 million over 3 years from the Justice Rehabilitation Fund (JRF) for targeted intervention programs to break the cycle of a small group of repeat young offenders.

The Department of Human Services will lead the development of these individualised and clinically and culturally-informed programs. There will be a particular focus on ensuring the young people can access relevant schemes which already exist, such as the National Disability Insurance Scheme.

The State Government is today releasing the draft bill for consultation with key stakeholders, as well as making it available to the general public.

To view the draft bill, and to make a submission, click here.  
<https://www.agd.sa.gov.au/law-and-justice/young-offenders>  
Submissions are due by Wednesday 20 August 2025.

Kyam Maher MLC, South Australia's Attorney-General said, "While South Australia has the lowest young offender rate of any state in the nation, we know that there are a small cohort of young offenders who are responsible for a disproportionate rate of offending. The justice system needs improvements to better respond to these serious repeat young offenders."

"These changes are designed to ensure courts have the power to hand down tough penalties when needed to ensure the most serious youth offenders find it more difficult to get bail and will face more serious consequences for their actions."

"At the same time, we're investing \$3 million in intervention programs to break the cycle of reoffending, and help young offenders avoid becoming adult offenders."

"While we strengthen bail and sentencing laws, it is crucial that targeted, effective treatment, diversion and therapeutic responses are in place to ensure that the young offenders of today do not come become adult offenders in the future."

## To contact the Courts Administration Authority

(CAA) for information about courts in the Far North region of South Australia, you can use the following contact details:

Phone: +61 8 8204 2444 or Freecall 1800 571 191. Email: [enquiry@courts.sa.gov.au](mailto:enquiry@courts.sa.gov.au).

Live Chat: Available in the bottom right corner of the CourtSA website: [www.courts.sa.gov.au](http://www.courts.sa.gov.au).

The CourtSA Registry Services team is available from 8:30 am to 5:00 pm, Monday to Friday.

They can assist with inquiries, but cannot provide legal advice.

# Coober Pedy Magistrate Court

Malliotis Blvd. Coober Pedy (08) 8672 5601



## Coober Pedy Sitting dates in July 2025

Monday 28 July  
Tuesday 29 July  
Wednesday 30 July  
Thursday 31 July

### Court attendees can check case lists here

<https://www.courts.sa.gov.au/wp-content/uploads/caselists/copcr.pdf>

<https://www.courts.sa.gov.au/case-lists/coober-pedy-list/>



# Historic Ruling: ICJ Declares States Must Act on Fossil Fuels

23 July 2025 – The Hague In a landmark decision, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) has ruled that "governments are legally obligated" to take urgent action on climate change, including addressing fossil fuel production and use.

### Key Outcomes:

**Climate action is a legal duty:** The ICJ confirmed that addressing climate change is not optional, it is a "binding international obligation", grounded in human rights and environmental law.

**Fossil fuel activities may be illegal:** The court found that fossil fuel production, subsidies, and licensing "may constitute internationally wrongful acts".

**International cooperation is essential:** States must work together through agreements like the "Fossil Fuel Non-Proliferation Treaty" to meet their legal responsibilities.

**No excuse for delay:** The ruling makes clear that "business as usual is incompatible" with international law. Countries must "rapidly phase out fossil fuels" and support vulnerable nations with funding and adaptation.

**Stronger legal footing for climate justice:** The decision will "strengthen climate lawsuits and advocacy" worldwide.

### Voices from the Pacific:

Vanuatu's Climate Minister called the ruling a "concrete contribution" to speeding up global action after 30 years of delay.

Pacific youth leaders said the decision gives "hope and legal backing" to frontline communities. Global climate advocates described it as a "wake-up call" for high-polluting nations to act decisively.

This ruling sets a powerful precedent, reinforcing that "climate commitments are not just political promises, they are legal obligations."



ASSOCIATIONS

COOPER PEDY MINERS ASSOC.

Cooper Pedy SA 3723  
**Committee Elected for 2024/25**  
President: Matt Graham,  
Secretary:  
Treasurer: John Olsson,  
Committee Members: Rod Wells, Mish  
Blanusa, Dean Kennelly, Sebastian Crisa,  
Mike Eakins, Steve Perkins,  
Lachlan Blanchford, Shannon Blanchford,  
Bailey Stevens

Cooper Pedy Opal Fields  
Golf Club Inc.

Cooper Pedy SA 3723  
**Committee Elected for 2025**  
Club Captain: Stephen Borrett  
President: Chevahn Hoad  
Vice President: Miro Markovic  
Secretary: Nadine Lewis  
Treasurer: Father Paul Crotty  
Grounds Keeper: Dylan Lewis  
Bar Manager: Stephen Borrett  
Committee Members: Sue Britt, Bob Martin  
**Contact:** cooperpedygolfclub@gmail.com

Cooper Pedy Area School  
Governing Council

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  
Gary Herdegen DCCP  
We are currently waiting on our  
representatives from the Umoona Community

Outback Open Air Cinema Inc  
(Cooper Pedy Drive In )2025

Chantelle Bamford Chairperson  
Lyndal Price Deputy Chairperson  
Tanya Lauder Secretary/Treasurer  
Gemma Hoad- Committee member  
Mitchell Hoad - Committee member  
Clydine Carboni - Committee Member  
Kaysy Clet de Leon-Committee member  
Gary Herdegen (Council) Committee Member  
**http://www.cooperpedydrivein.org.au/  
documents.html**

Cooper Pedy Italian Club Inc  
Committee Elected 19/10/2024

Brett Smith President,  
Nicko Farantouris Vice Pres  
Deanna Smith Secretary,  
Cat Bell (Treasurer)  
Tara Jane Smith,  
Izzy Zelenko,  
Nick Farantouris (Jr)  
Karen Harvey,  
Rosslyn Jazepczyk;  
Peter Cech,  
Brad Jeffree.

Cooper Pedy GEM TRADE SHOW

**Committee Elected 19-12-2024**  
President - Corey Edwards  
Secretary - Tara-Jane Smith  
Treasurer – Emily Pennisi  
**Committee members**  
Catherine Bell,  
Rachel Crothers,  
David Hammermeister

Cooper Pedy Country Fire Service

COMMITTEE  
Captain: Interim Captain David Frost  
2nd Lieutenant: Geoff Squires  
3rd Lieutenant: Ann Gerschwitz  
Senior Firefighter: Linda Buckeridge  
Contact: David.Frost@sacfsvolunteer.org.au  
**https://www.facebook.com/groups/813853775367739**

Cooper Pedy Retail, Business &  
Tourism Assoc. Inc

**Committee Elected for 2025**  
President: George Kountouris  
Vice President: George Russell OAM  
Treasurer: Nick Brellas  
Secretary/Public Officer: Nicky Kountouris  
Committee Members: Irene Spillman, Mim  
Ward, Daniel Tsharke, Clarissa Bigelow  
**https://www.cooperpedy.com/contact-2/**

Cooper Pedy Sports & Rec Assoc. Inc

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

COOPER PEDY, SA 5723  
**Committee Elected for 2024-2026**

Cooper Pedy Shooters Club Inc

COOPER PEDY, SA 5723  
**Committee Elected for 2024/2025**  
President Daniel Lamb  
Senior Vice President Stephen Scott  
Junior Vice President John Mc Dermott  
Secretary John Di Donna  
Treasurer Suzanne Bunker  
Public Relations Jason Wright  
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**

Cooper Pedy RSL (Sub)

President: Anthony Goodacre  
Vice President: Mick Cox  
Secretary: Kingsley Kammermann  
Treasurer: Miriam Kammermann  
Committee Members:  
Raylene Hagel  
Rebecca Adnum  
Linda Buckeridge

**Cooper Pedy RSL, Edward Street**  
**COOPER PEDY SA 5723 (08) 8672 5477**

Cooper Pedy Historical Society Inc

**Committee Elected 20/10/2024**  
Chairperson: Trish Turner  
Secretary: Jenny Davison  
Treasurer: Sue Britt  
Public Officer: Judy Harper (30-3-25)  
**Contact:** cooperpedyhs@gmail.com

DUSTY RADIO INC

**Committee 2025**  
**Chairperson**  
Secretary: Patsy Anne Noble  
Treasurer:  
Public Officer: Patsy Anne Noble  
Social Media Officer:  
Committee member:  
Committee member:  
**https://www.dustyradio.com.au/**

Updated Local Service  
Provider Listings

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

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

**Cooper 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

**Cooper Pedy Area School**  
17/18 Paxton Rd. Cooper 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. Cooper Pedy  
13 24 68

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

**Cooper 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. Cooper Pedy  
(08) 8672 5077

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

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

**Uniting Country SA**  
Paxton Rd  
1300 067 777


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

**Cooper Pedy Magistrates Court**  
Malliotis Blvd. Cooper Pedy  
(08) 8672 5601

**Child Abuse Report Line (CARL)**  
131478


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





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 Military

19 July

26 July

2 August

9 August

16 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 50m Rapid Fire

20 July

27 July

3 August

10 August

17 August

SHOOTER'S CLUB ANNUAL FEES

MEMBERSHIP Renewal Now Due 2025

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](mailto:cpssc.treasurer@gmail.com)  
John Di Donna - Mobile 0427 649 389 - Email. [jdidonna@dodo.com.au](mailto:jdidonna@dodo.com.au)

The Cooper Pedy Shooter's Club is affiliated with the  
Sporting Shooters Association of Australia (South Australia) Incorporated.  
<https://ssaasa.org.au>