

## RESIDENT GROUP REQUESTS SECTION 270 REVIEW AFTER HEFTY RATE RISE ANNOUNCEMENT



Garry Herdegen (CEO)  
District Council of Cooper Pedy  
PO Box 425, Cooper Pedy, SA 5723  
W: [www.cooperpedy.sa.gov.au](http://www.cooperpedy.sa.gov.au)  
6-5-2026

OPEN LETTER TO CEO GARRY HERDEGEN  
Subject: Request for Review Under Section 270 – Rate Increases and Financial Accountability

Dear Mr. Herdegen,

On behalf of 183 members of the Cooper Pedy Community Alliance, we formally request a review pursuant to Section 270 of the Local Government Act 1999 (SA) in relation to recent and proposed rate increases affecting the Cooper Pedy community.

Councils are empowered under the Local Government Act 1999 (SA) to raise revenue through rates to deliver essential services, maintain infrastructure, and ensure long-term financial sustainability. However, this authority must be exercised with a high degree of transparency, accountability, and responsible financial management, particularly in a community as unique and economically sensitive as Cooper Pedy.

In the case of Cooper Pedy, the use of rate increases to address ongoing financial pressures raises serious and legitimate concerns within the community. While councils may lawfully adjust rates to meet budgetary requirements, doing so without clearly identifying and addressing the root causes of financial instability risks placing an unfair and disproportionate burden on residents and local businesses.

Cooper Pedy is not a typical municipality. Its remote location, fluctuating population, and economic reliance on mining and tourism mean that many ratepayers already operate under significant financial constraints. In this context, rate increases, especially substantial ones, cannot be justified as a default solution to financial shortfalls, particularly where those shortfalls may be linked to past decisions, governance issues, or inadequate financial oversight.

Accordingly, we submit that ratepayers in Cooper Pedy should not be expected to absorb the consequences of financial mismanagement without:

1. Full and transparent disclosure of the factors contributing to the council's financial position
2. Clear identification of any past decisions or practices that have led to the current situation
3. Demonstrated evidence that cost-saving measures, efficiencies, and alternative solutions have been properly explored
4. Genuine accountability for financial decision-making at both administrative and governance levels
5. A fair, accessible, and clearly communicated right to review or appeal rate increases

Without these safeguards, the imposition of higher rates risks being perceived not as responsible governance, but as a mechanism to offset financial mismanagement at the direct expense of the community. This undermines public trust and is inconsistent with both the intent and the principles of the Local Government Act 1999.

For Cooper Pedy, where economic resilience is already fragile, the stakes are significantly higher. Rate-setting must be approached with heightened care, meaningful community consultation, and enforceable accountability measures. Anything less risks long-term damage to both the community's financial well-being and confidence in local governance.



Cooper Pedy Community Alliance Meeting held on Saturday 2 May discussed hefty council rate increases

### REQUEST FOR REVIEW

Pursuant to Section 270, we formally request that the Council:

1. Initiate a review of the processes, decisions, and financial considerations underpinning recent and proposed rate increases;
2. Provide full transparency regarding the council's financial position and the drivers of any budgetary shortfalls;
3. Assess whether appropriate governance, financial management, and consultation obligations have been met;
4. Identify and implement corrective measures where deficiencies are found;
5. Ensure that a clear and accessible mechanism exists for ratepayers to seek review or appeal of rate decisions.
6. 2018-2019, the DCCP total debt reached roughly \$9–10 million. What is the Current debt in 2026 under administration?

We request that this review be conducted transparently and that its findings be made publicly available to the Cooper Pedy community.

We look forward to your formal response and to constructive engagement on this matter.

Kind Regards,  
John Di Donna

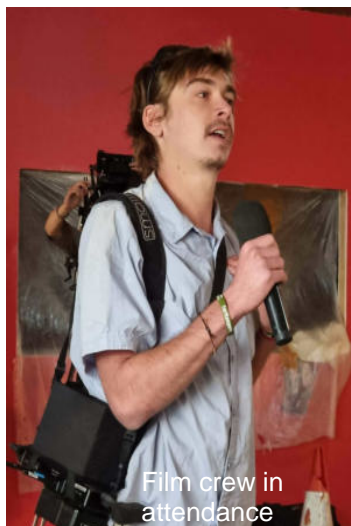
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PO Box 361, Cooper Pedy SA 5723  
Email: [cpca.chairperson@gmail.com](mailto:cpca.chairperson@gmail.com)  
Mob: 0427 649 389  
UNITED WE STAND DIVIDED WE FALL



Back Row: Marcus H. John D. and Lily Tan  
Front Row: Steve Z. Nicko F. and Andy Sheils.



Snr Sgt Simon Haebich provided a police update



Film crew in attendance



Residents ready with questions and commentary

## ABOUT US

**Coober Pedy Regional Times** became a FREE Newspaper in 2006 and increased its distribution to 5,000 hard copies + and simultaneously provided a **Free Online Digital Newspaper**, to accommodate the new digital era.

**Distribution** covers a vast area including World Wide Web; nearby communities and towns, social media, website and mailing lists. By 2026 the Social Media following alone totals over 20,000 and rising.

The COOBER PEDY REGIONAL TIMES is 'WORLD WIDE'

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**Next PUBLICATION DATE**

Friday 22 May 2026

**DEMOCRACY...** *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:** Can 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.

**Groups & Sponsorships:** 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.

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

**Advertisers** may be entitled to editorials








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## WEATHER COOBER PEDY

### Coober Pedy

Forecast issued at 3:45 am CST on Friday 8 May 2026.

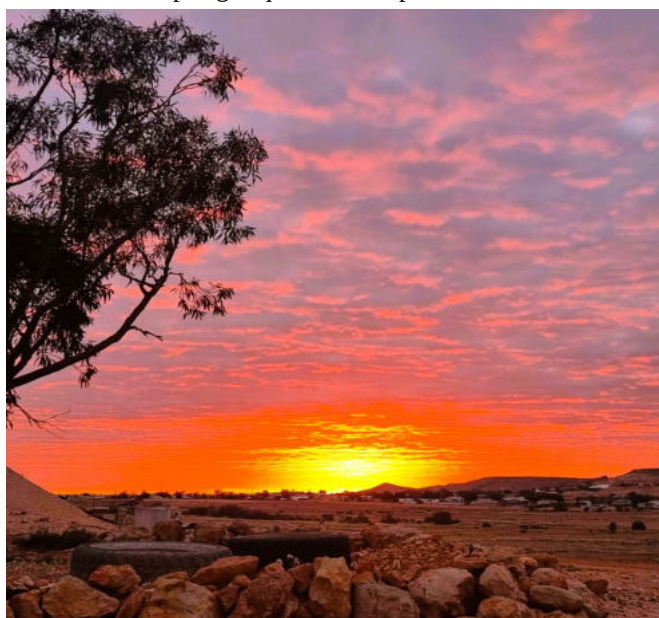
	Fri. 8 May	Sat. 9 May	Sun. 10 May	Mon. 11 May	Tue. 12 May	Wed. 13 May	Thu. 14 May
	 Sunny.	 Partly cloudy.	 Partly cloudy.	 Sunny.	 Mostly sunny.	 Partly cloudy.	 Partly cloudy.
Max. Temperature	19 °C	21 °C	21 °C	22 °C	23 °C	23 °C	23 °C
Min. Temperature		9 °C	9 °C	9 °C	10 °C	11 °C	11 °C

**AVERAGE ANNUAL RAINFALL**  
Approximately 144 mm to 175 mm  
(roughly 5.7 to 6.9 inches).

**Wettest Month:** February is typically the wettest month.

**Driest Months:** April is generally the driest, though the area experiences low, erratic rainfall throughout the year.

Winter Solstice on June 21,  
Spring Equinox on September 23



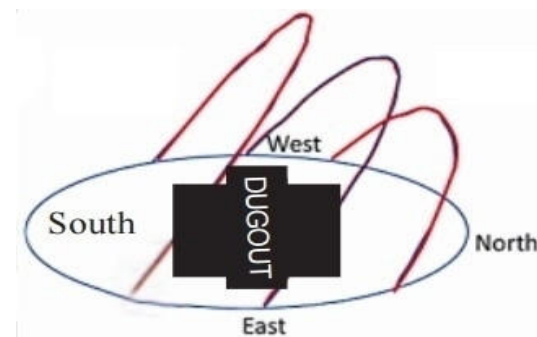
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## LOCAL SCRIBES

**MARGARET** Reporter, Coober Pedy been the Editor 2005 and a contributor 1990s,



news stories, photography, advertising and the coordinating of community contributions.

**MACKAY** News Resident and Ratepayer has of CPRT since volunteer since the mid covering general

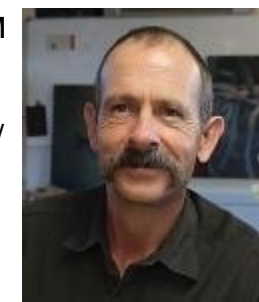
**Sgt Angus** the Coober Station after experience on Lands, and Marla in the West Coast



Sgt Lovelock is previously from Adelaide where he began his career in policing 12 years ago.

**Lovelock** joins Pedy Police gaining local the APY also 2 years at Far North, and Penong.

**MIKE GILLAM** writer- who divides his his Art Gallery and his Dugout Mike also for the Alice



is a freelance photographer time between in Alice Springs in Coober Pedy. writes essays Springs News.

**JOHN DI** raised in the Australian a long-term Coober Pedy. person John is commuter



the entire Far North & East and Outback of South Australia.

**DONNA** was South Outback and is resident of As a business a regular, along the Far

# FOSSICKING FOR OPAL

## The Rules

### 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!

### Hidden Dangers!

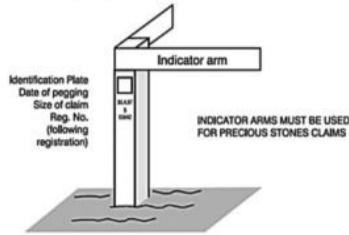


**Look where you place your feet, and never walk backwards!**

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 taping / pushing into the material, is a good way to identify these hazards.

### 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 posts must be at least 70 mm thick and stand at least 0.750 mm 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!

### 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.

Active Claims as at the 08/05/2026

Andamooka 157; Cooper Pedy 431;

Mintabie 10; Stuart Creek 1



Government of South Australia  
 Department for Energy and Mining

# Opal Mining Act 1995

## Part 3—Precious stones tenements

### 25—Unlawful entry on tenement

(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.



**Maximum Penalty:**

**\$10,000.**

### FIRST AID & EMERGENCY

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
  - Cooper 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](http://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](mailto:Kosta.Christopoulos@sa.gov.au) | Ph 08 86789061





# POLICE NEWS



Sgt Dave Finlayson, and Brevet Sgt Austin Taylor, with L - R: Rob Dempster, Mick Cox, and Michael Stocks at the RSL on Sunday night. Local Police attended the ANZAC Day Dawn Service on Saturday morning.

**Think first then dial**

**000 EMERGENCY**  
Triple Zero  
Police, Fire, Ambulance  
in an emergency

**POLICE ASSISTANCE 131 444**  
Police Assistance Line for non-urgent police assistance

**CRIME STOPPERS .com.au**  
1800 333 000  
Crime Stoppers  
report crime anonymously

## COMMUNITY REJECTS AEC PROPOSED CHANGES TO GREY



**TOM VENNING MP**  
Member for Grey  
1300 301 742  
tom.venning.mp@aph.gov.au  
facebook.com/TomVenningGrey

43 Taylor St Kadina SA 5554 | 83 Florance St Port Pirie SA 5540 | 45a Playford Ave Whyalla SA 5600

AEC SUBMISSION DATA: <https://www.aec.gov.au/redistributions/2025/sa/objections.html>

The people of Grey, councils, and relevant stakeholders have delivered a rejection of the Australian Electoral Commission's (AEC) proposed changes to the electorate, with figures formed using publicly available AEC submissions revealing near-unanimous community opposition.

**The data shows** that 97.93% of public respondents and 100% of local government submissions formally opposed the AEC's plan to expand the regional electorate's boundaries into outer-metropolitan areas. The community has made it clear that Grey is already vast enough, and the incorporation of metropolitan suburbs would dilute the voices, economies, and unique priorities of rural, regional, and remote South Australians.

**This community pushback** is backed by enrolment data, which indicates the boundary expansion is not required. While the AEC projected Grey would reach 132,595 electors by 2030, actual enrolment as of April 2026 has already hit 130,852. The electorate is projected to surpass the AEC's projections before June 2027 and organically reach over 137,000 electors by the end of the decade, satisfying requirements without absorbing outer metropolitan populations.

The proposed renaming of the Federation-era electorate was similarly rejected by the community, with 75.18% of public respondents and 77.78% of local councils against the change due to the loss of established identity and financial transition costs. Crucially, while many constituents, and current Federal Member for Grey Tom Venning, expressed profound respect for the legacy of Dr Lowitja O'Donoghue, the overarching consensus is that her contributions should be honoured in other ways, rather than by undertaking an expensive electorate rebrand and overwriting a century of local history.

### Data Summary:

- The AEC received 415 submissions in relation to South Australia's redistribution:
  - o Of the 241 submissions addressing the proposed redistribution of Grey, 236 opposed and 5 supported the proposal (97.93% opposed). Of the 282 submissions addressing the proposed renaming of Grey, 212 opposed and 70 supported the proposal (75.18% opposed).
  - o The AEC received 11 submissions from local governments regarding the proposed redistribution and renaming of Grey. Of the 11 submissions addressing the proposed redistribution of Grey, 11 opposed and 0 supported the proposal (100% opposed). Of the 9 submissions addressing the proposed renaming of Grey, 7 opposed and 2 supported the proposal (77.78% opposed).
- AEC Projections Query: Current enrolment of 130,852 is on track to surpass the AEC's 2030 projection of 132,595 before June 2027.

### REPORT: Coober Pedy - 24/04/2026 til 08/05/2026

Anyone with information on the following incidents is asked to call crime stoppers on 1800 333 000. You can remain anonymous.

**23/04/2026** – On the evening of Thurs 23rd April 2026 unknown persons have entered a vehicle parked on Paxton Road and stolen a small amount of property.

**25/04/2026** – A female has been arrested after crashing her car into an embankment on Hutchison Street. At about 12.20 am on Saturday 25th April 2026 police and ambulance crews responded to a vehicle collision on Hutchison Street. Police located a white 5-seater HYUNDAI Station Wagon crashed at the intersection with Flinders Street. The driver, a 36 year old female from the states Far North was arrested at the scene. 7 passengers also present in the vehicle were not injured in the crash and taken to Coober Pedy hospital as a precaution. The driver was charged with dangerous driving and driving unlicensed and will appear in court at a later date. The vehicle has been impounded.

**28/04/2026** – On the morning of on Tuesday 28th April 2026, a residential premises on Alp Street was broken into and cash stolen.

**06/05/2026** – A residential property on Henri Street was broken into and a small amount of property stolen.

## SAPOL HITS MAJOR WORKFORCE MILESTONE

South Australia has its full complement of police officers for the first time in nearly a decade, as the State Government launches a new recruitment ad campaign to boost the state's police force even further.

South Australia Police will reach the authorised Police Establishment level this week, following record investment in police establishing South Australia as having the highest number of sworn police per capita of any state. This marks a significant improvement from September 2023, when the shortfall stood at 227 FTEs

The State Government is investing an additional \$172 million over six years to further grow our police force to 5,000 - adding an additional 326 sworn officers.

This is in addition to an extra \$29 million invested to recruit an extra 98 Police Security Officers (PSOs). PSOs perform roles currently undertaken by sworn officers and the additional hires enables sworn officers to be redirected back to frontline operations.

On Wednesday 5/5/2026, 28 international police officers were sworn in with a further 22 local cadets being sworn in on Thursday taking South Australia's frontline policing capability to 4,674.2 strong

This is a major milestone and follows a massive recruitment drive by SAPOL with the support of the State Government over the past three years. It strengthens frontline policing capacity and visibility across metropolitan and regional South Australia to enhance overall community safety.

New officers have joined SAPOL from the United Kingdom, New Zealand, and Canada.

The State Government's determination to boost our police force is being further strengthened with the launch of a new ad as part of SAPOL's refreshed campaign Career Search: Find Where You Belong in Blue to let more people know about the benefits of a career with SA Police.

### POLICE REPORT: COOBER PEDY - 10/04/2026 to 23/4/2026

Anyone with information on the following incidents is asked to call crime stoppers on 1800 333 000. You can remain anonymous.

**11/04/2026** – At about 4.00am on Saturday 11th April 2026, police responded to a break in at a business premises on Hutchison Street. Staff from the business arrived and assisted police to arrest one of the offenders who was still present. Two other offenders fled on foot. Anyone with information about the identity of the two other offenders is asked to call crime stoppers. The arrested male was charged with Serious Criminal Trespass and Breach of Bail and will face the Coober Pedy Magistrates court at a later date.

**15/04/2026** – At about 6.00 am on Wednesday 15th April 2026, a business premises on Hutchison Street was broken into. A small amount of alcohol and food was stolen.

**15/04/2026** – On the morning of on Wednesday 15th April 2026, a residential premises on Cave place was broken into and a television was stolen.

**16/04/2026** – At about 4.00pm on Thursday 16th April 2026, police responded to a reported theft after a male had stole a donation tin from the counter of a store on Hutchison Street. Police have arrested a 40 year old male from the States Far North who was charged with theft and will face court at a later date.

**Police investigate Coober Pedy crime series.** Police have arrested a youth following an investigation into a series of break-ins and thefts from businesses in Coober Pedy.

**18/04/2026** - About 3.30am a business on Hutchison Street was broken into and a Toyota Landcruiser was stolen. On the same night, the stolen Landcruiser was used to break through a fence and gain entry to a business on Umoona Road where two Toyota Hilux's were stolen. Patrols responded and located the Hilux and Landcruiser on Hutchinson Street, and the second Hilux was located on Burke Street.

Following investigations, a 13-year-old boy from Port Augusta, was arrested and charged with serious criminal trespass, theft and driving without a licence. He was refused police bail and appeared in the Adelaide Youth Court yesterday. CO26000166539

**20/04/2026** Police are also investigating a break-in that occurred about 2am at a business on Hutchinson Street, Coober Pedy. A white Toyota Hilux, a grey Toyota Kluger, a white Ford Ranger and a white Isuzu truck were stolen. The vehicles were seen driving in the Coober Pedy area in an un-safe manner however were later recovered by police on Ward Street, Coober Pedy.

**22/04/2026** just after midnight a business on Seventeen Mile Road at Coober Pedy was broken into and a white Toyota Hilux was stolen. (now recovered) The vehicle was sighted at an incident on Van Brugge Street where the occupants caused damage to numerous vehicles.

Investigations are continuing and police believe the break-ins and thefts to be linked to the same group of suspects. Anyone with information or has any CCTV that may assist in the identification of the offenders or to assist with the investigation is asked to contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000 or online at [www.crimestopperssa.com.au](http://www.crimestopperssa.com.au) – you can remain anonymous. Please quote reference 104396.

# GROWING UP UNDERGROUND: A PHOTOGRAPHER'S JOURNEY INTO COOBER PEDY'S CULTURE

For more than two decades, Sunshine Coast photographer Matt O'Brien has built a career capturing moments of movement, culture and everyday life across the globe. His work has taken him through the worlds of surf, sport, travel and street photography, shooting for major brands and magazines throughout Australia, Asia, Europe and the United States, including campaigns for Red Bull and Billabong.

Along the way, Matt's photography has appeared on twelve magazine covers, while his documentary work has carried him into places far removed from the commercial world, including Syria in 2010, shortly before the outbreak of war.

Now based on Queensland's Sunshine Coast, O'Brien runs a café and gallery called TOME in Maroochydore, while also working as a painter, a practical shift brought on when rising costs and inflation forced many creative pursuits onto the back burner.



But photography, he says, has remained the work he truly cares about, and that passion is drawing him toward a new long-term documentary project in Coober Pedy.

The project, titled Youth Underground, aims to document the lives of young people and families living in the town's famous dugouts.

While Coober Pedy has long fascinated photographers and filmmakers, O'Brien believes much of the attention has traditionally focused on the older generations, miners, long-time locals and the rugged outback landscape itself.

What interests him instead is what it means to grow up underground.

From teenagers carving out their own spaces in sandstone bedrooms, to young couples building homes beneath the earth, to children sleeping underground while summer temperatures soar above 45 degrees, O'Brien wants to capture the quieter realities of daily life rarely seen by outsiders.

Equally important to the project is the connection between home and work. O'Brien says the story of youth in Coober Pedy cannot be separated from the industries that shape the town. He hopes to document the rhythms of families whose lives move between the dugout and the workplace, whether at the Desalination Plant, the Power Station, on the Opal Fields, or across generations working side by side in the same local industries.

Rather than arriving with a fixed narrative, O'Brien describes the project as an open-ended exploration shaped by the people he meets along the way.

"Sometimes the best photographs come from the moments you never planned for," he says.

Fatherhood has also changed the way he sees the world through a camera. Watching his own children grow up has made him increasingly drawn to the small, ordinary moments that often become the most meaningful with time, breakfast before school, quiet evenings at home, preparing for work, family routines and the everyday details that define a life.

He believes young people in Coober Pedy are experiencing the same universal moments as families anywhere else in Australia, only against the extraordinary backdrop of underground living.

The project will unfold over multiple visits across 2026 and 2027, with O'Brien's first foundation trip scheduled for May 15 to 22. During that time, he hopes to connect with families and young people willing to share a glimpse into their daily lives.

His approach, he says, is slow, respectful and entirely collaborative, focused not on staged images, but on authentic moments as they naturally happen.



**VACCINATION  
 IS THE BEST  
 PREPARATION**

Influenza and COVID-19 viruses are always changing, and the risk of serious illness goes up if you're over 65. By vaccinating regularly, you can protect yourself before a new strain goes around.

**Speak to your health professional and book your vaccinations today or visit [health.gov.au/winter-vaccinations](https://health.gov.au/winter-vaccinations)**



Australian Government

Authorised by the Australian Government, Canberra

# ANZAC DAY at COOBER PEDY 2026

Once again, Anzac Day was very successful. The weather was perfect with a beautiful sunrise for the dawn service.

The ANZAC Dawn Service was attended by over a hundred locals, tourists and members of the Coober Pedy Police. Numbers were down slightly from previous years, but it was still a great turnout. Thank you to everyone who made the effort to get out of bed early.

Pastor Dave Wood led the Service, with readings from Father Harold Camonias and Chaplain in Training Ernest Warrior. It was lovely to have a combined service. Thank you all for your help in providing this service; we are truly grateful.

The Dawn Service was followed by the traditional Gunfire Breakfast, with generous donations from IGA. Thank you to Paul, Erica, Roz, Shane and those who helped to cook and serve the breakfast. IGA have sponsored the Gunfire Breakfast over the past few years, for which we are truly grateful.



ANZAC Day Dawn Service at Coober Pedy saw over a hundred visitors



L - R: Brevet Sgt Mason Waterhouse  
 Senior Sgt Simon Haebich; Sgt David Finlayson



Julie Johnston played a selection of wartime music in the background during Gunfire Breakfast.

A selection of wartime music was played by Julie Johnston, which provided a great atmosphere to the morning.

Numbers were down for the ANZAC March, but it was great to see Veterans and members of the public proudly walking in memory of loved ones who had once served this country.

Thank you to the Community Volunteer Services that assisted in the March; SES, CFS, SA Ambulance, and the Council for the wreath laying and assisting in monitoring the road closures; SAPOL for their attendance, and the Veterans and members of the public who marched to the Cenotaph for the laying of the wreath and service.

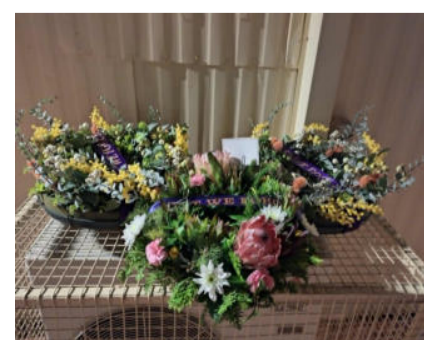
Lunch was provided by RED Kusina, which proved very popular.

Two Up was very popular once again.... what's Anzac Day without Two-Up? Of course, there were winners and losers, but all had a good time.



Thank you to Barney and Kenny for keeping the pennies spinning. RED Kusina were back in the kitchen for dinner service and diners were entertained with toe tapping music by Double Jay's always great to listen to.

All in all Anzac Day 2026 was a fantastic day and we are grateful to everyone who volunteered to make this day successful.



# AUSTRALIAN BIGGEST SHEEP STATION AGGREGATION - IS FOR SALE, JUST SOUTH OF COOBER PEDY

Elders Ltd (ASX: ELD) has been appointed by Jumbuck Pastoral to undertake the divestment of a contiguous aggregation of three pastoral stations spanning 1,289,700 hectares.

The aggregation is an iconic powerhouse of wool and sheep meat production, having the prescribed capacity to carry over 83,300 sheep. It is located in a core sheep-producing district of South Australia's Far North pastoral zone, supporting large-scale, low-input merino enterprises with demonstrated long-term resilience and strategic highway access. The aggregation is comprised of the following stations:

- Commonwealth Hill: 553,100 hectares
- Mobella: 426,600 hectares
- Bulgunnia: 310,000 hectares

The aggregation will be offered as a whole and in parts on a walk in walk out basis, including a significant merino sheep flock.

"This represents a rare opportunity to acquire Australia's largest contiguous sheep station aggregation during a period of unprecedented growth in demand for quality Australian fibre and protein," said Elders Real Estate CEO, Tom Russo.

"These assets offer exposure to globally relevant production. Global sheep meat export volumes have grown faster than overall production over the last decade, resulting in rising reliance on international trade and reinforcing Australia's role as a key exporter."

Investing now to participate in the response to this ever growing demand is a compelling opportunity, especially when it is anchored by quality and finite real assets."

The aggregation is being offered to the market in the context of excellent seasonal and market conditions. The country is well managed and has benefited from recent favorable seasonal conditions, currently offering an abundance of feed.

The Australian wool market is in its strongest position for many years and current low inventory and stronger processor demand suggests that the market can hold materially above long term averages moving forward. In addition, sheep meat prices remain historically strong at near record levels.

The aggregation spans an area that is larger than more than forty sovereign nations around the world.

"Given the strategic advantages and efficiencies that can be achieved by operating an enterprise at this scale, we anticipate receiving offers from both large private and corporate investors within Australia and internationally.

Having said that, we will be running a flexible expression of interest process that will accommodate bids on single stations or the entire aggregation, thereby providing the opportunity for a large range of interested parties to participate in the process."



Mustering sheep on Bulgunnia Station. Image courtesy Jumbuck Pastoral.

Jumbuck Pastoral is one of the largest livestock production enterprises in Australia. Established in 1888, it is owned by the MacLachlan family and has vast pastoral land holdings throughout the country. The aggregation has been held by Jumbuck since the 1940's and the sale is being undertaken as part of an orderly succession planning process being conducted by the family.

"The portfolio of pastoral assets that has been acquired by Jumbuck nationally over many years of sustained investment is truly extraordinary", said Mr Russo. "The decision to divest some of that portfolio is clearly one that is not taken lightly in the context of such a storied and much admired dynasty. That said, the time has come to undertake this restructure and set the platform for the next chapter of that story." The sale process will commence in mid May.

**GIVE UP FOR GOOD**



Australian Government

## Every time you choose not to smoke, you improve your health.

While quitting smoking can be hard, it's possible with the right support.



Download the new My QuitBuddy app, search 'Give Up For Good' or call Quitline.



My QuitBuddy



Quitline 137848

[health.gov.au/GiveUpForGood](http://health.gov.au/GiveUpForGood)

Authorised by the Australian Government, Canberra

# CFS AWARDS FIREFIGHTER OF THE YEAR

Receiving the Firefighter of the Year 2025 award came as a complete surprise for the local firefighter Brad Porter, who said he felt both humbled and honoured by the recognition.

Having only been involved with the fire service for one year and five months, he admitted the award was something he hadn't expected. "It didn't even cross my mind," he said.

For Brad, the honour represents more than just individual recognition. It reflects the support and respect of fellow brigade members and the wider CFS family.

Brad said the award made him feel valued by both the CFS and his team-mates, while reinforcing that his efforts and commitment to the role had mattered.

His journey into firefighting began with a simple but powerful desire, to become involved in something meaningful while helping the community and building long-term friendships.

"Serving the Coober Pedy community is something we all take great pride in. I'm happy to help because I'm part of this community," he said.

While the role comes with many challenges, learning new skills has been one of the most demanding aspects of the job. However, Brad praised the ongoing professional support provided by CFS trainers, staff and fellow brigade members, saying the encouragement from the team had made a significant difference.

Brad said one of the things he enjoyed most about the role is the constant challenge and opportunity to keep learning.

Although every call-out is different, he explained that each incident leaves a lasting impression in its own way.

"All the incidents I have attended have unique differences that make them memorable," he said.



Brad Porter is presented with Coober Pedy's Firefighter of the Year Award by 2nd Lieutenant Ann Gerschwitz

When asked what makes a good firefighter, Brad said commitment, teamwork and supporting fellow members are the essential ingredients.

"To me, a firefighter should give their all at every incident and training session, both practical and theory, while always trying to apply their best," he said.

"Supporting your team members both on the job and back at the station is also very important." Teamwork within the brigade, he explained, is critical, particularly in a small regional community where everyone must work together and rely on one another.

"With smaller numbers, everyone has to pitch in and help with the workload," he said.

"We also need to trust and rely on each other so we can perform our duties safely and look out for one another while getting the job done."

Brad also highlighted the close working relationship between the brigade and other emergency services, saying many people may not realise firefighters regularly work alongside SAAS and the Coober Pedy Mine Rescue/SES during incidents.

Behind the scenes, he credited much of his success to the support of his partner, Bear, as well as the camaraderie shared within the brigade.

"I'd like to thank my partner Bear for being my biggest supporter, and my brigade for their camaraderie," he said.

Looking to the future, Brad hopes to see more local people step forward to join the brigade and help strengthen emergency services within the community.

For young people considering joining the CFS or MFS, their advice was simple:

"Stop procrastinating, just do it!"

Despite being relatively new to the role, his passion for firefighting and helping the Coober Pedy community remains the driving force behind his dedication.

Outside of firefighting, Brad enjoys spending quality time with Bear and their pets, as well as motorbike riding.

The Firefighter of the Year award serves as a reminder of the important role local volunteers and emergency service workers play in protecting and supporting regional communities every day.



Coober Pedy's Firefighter of the Year Brad Porter displays his award.

**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:

**COOBER PEDY CFS BRIGADE**

Admin & Finance enquires: Ann Gerschwitz 0459 325 806 or [ann.gerschwitz@cfsvolunteer.org.au](mailto:ann.gerschwitz@cfsvolunteer.org.au)

Recruiting enquires: Linda Buckenidge on 0401507690 or [linda.buckenidge@cfsvolunteer.org.au](mailto:linda.buckenidge@cfsvolunteer.org.au)

**OUR TRAINING TIMES**

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

502 Hutchinson Street,  
Coober Pedy SA 5723

We look forward to chatting with you soon.

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

**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.

**A SAFE COMMUNITY STARTS WITH YOU.**

**COOBER PEDY**

**IS RECRUITING**

**COOBER PEDY**

**IS RECRUITING**

Right: Annual Awards presented to the Albert MacCormack Firefighter of the Year.



# ANZAC "WEEKEND" at COOBER PEDY 2026



Marchers from the RSL enter the Cenotaph area after their walk along Hutchison St.



Pastor Dave Woods addresses the 10am ANZAC service



Coober Pedy Police officers attending the 10am service.



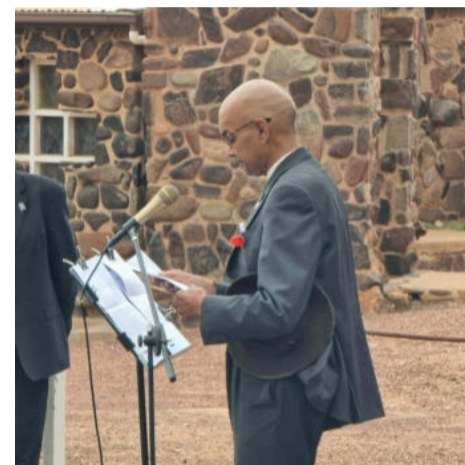
Marchers arrive at the Cenotaph in Hutchison Street Coober Pedy.



Flag bearers relax the flags after the march.



District Council of Coober Pedy representative Gary Herdegen (CEO) lays a wreath at the Cenotaph.



Former Airforce Officer Ernest Warrior contributed to the ANZAC Service at the Cenotaph.



RSL's Miriam Kammerman, Barney Boswell, Tim O' Reilly and Fr. Harold Carmonias

COOBER PEDY  
**REGIONAL TIMES**  
*Thank you!*  
 To our amazing community,  
 we couldn't have done it without you!  
**20,000**   
*Followers!*   
**THANK YOU**  
 for your support, your stories,  
 and for being part of our community.  
 Local news. Real stories. Your community.  
 Coober Pedy. We're proud to share it with you.



Local Emergency Services took part in the street parade.



Barney Boswell delivering the ODE



Marchers approaching the Cenotaph

**WE HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO BRING OUR NATION TOGETHER**  
 INDIGENOUS PEOPLE & AUSTRALIANS TOGETHER FOR THE BETTER OF OUR BEAUTIFUL NATION

Kangaroo Jack: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61588105485795>



Jason Pache and Julie Johnstone known locally as the Double Jays play for the patrons at the Italian Club



Camera Crew Isaac, Thomas and Henry film the locals enjoying their Friday night out at the Italian Club.



L-R: Slavi Gaitt, Isaac Eadon, Thomas Sandler, Henry Harte



Thomas Sandler filming the Double Jays at the Italian Club



Thomas Sandler lining up a Coober Pedy sunset



**COOPER PEDY COMMUNITY ALLIANCE**

**FORMAL NOTICE OF CHANGE OF MEETING DATE.**

Meeting proposed for Sunday 10 May (MOTHER'S DAY)  
 will now be held at the ITALIAN CLUB  
**SATURDAY MAY 30<sup>TH</sup> 2026, 4pm**

A new Agenda will be issued closer to the date. Form 5 for affected parties is due on or before July 21<sup>st</sup>.

Enjoy your regular Sunday lunch this weekend and  
**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY TO ALL THE MUMS.**



Sausage Sizzle Courtesy of Italian Club.



**SAVE THE DATE!**

**MEET & GREET**

**07, 08, 26**  
**GYMKHANA & MOTORKHANA**

**08, 08, 26**

Please Refer to our Facebook Page for more information or contact Kelsey on 0438 480 354  
 Poster to come Later with more details!

**POSITIONS VACANT**

**MAKING A DIFFERENCE SO SOUTH AUSTRALIA THRIVES**  
 Government of South Australia

**PROJECT OFFICER, SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPES**

Landscape South Australia – Alinytjara Wilurara  
 Adelaide or Ceduna  
 Full-time position  
 Short Term Contract (12 months)  
 Vacancy ID: 843284  
 \$89,007 to \$98,991 p.a. (ASO5)

Are you passionate about nature conservation and the environment? Join us in safeguarding South Australia's landscapes, apply today!

1 x Full-time ASO5, 12 months position available immediately.

The Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board is seeking a Project Officer, Sustainable Landscapes to lead the delivery of sustainable land management projects that support the Alinytjara Wilurara Landscape Board objectives and the Regional Landscape Plan, with a focus on sustainable agriculture and climate change adaptation. The Project Officer, Sustainable Landscapes will manage projects to meet contracted funding outputs and outcomes, and foster strong, collaborative partnerships with regional partners to ensure projects are culturally appropriate and delivered through a cooperative, place-based approach.

**Enquiries to:** Damon Ezis, Manager, Strategy and Sustainable Landscapes; Phone 0457 512 769; Email damon.ezis2@sa.gov.au

To apply and for more information visit the I WORK FOR SA website: [www.iworkfor.sa.gov.au](http://www.iworkfor.sa.gov.au) and search by vacancy number. Applications will only be accepted through I Work for SA.

The South Australian Public Sector promotes diversity and flexible ways of working including part time. Applicants are encouraged to discuss the flexible working arrangement for this role.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people are strongly encouraged to apply.

**Applications close:**  
**11:30pm, Sunday 17 May 2026**

[IWORKFOR.SA.gov.au](http://IWORKFOR.SA.gov.au)

**FOR SALE**

\* DAY OLD CHICK \$6.50,  
 \* 16 WEEKS POL PULLETS \$26.00,  
 \* 574 MAGILL ROAD MAGILL,  
 \*MAGILL GRAIN STORE, 08 8331 8159

**ACCOUNTANT - COOPER 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@aaaaat.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 Cooper Pedy**

**Supporting "Shop Local at Cooper Pedy"**

**EMERGENCY CONTACTS**

Other situations that seem urgent and overwhelming can be dealt with using local services such as a handyperson, electrician or local council.

For non-urgent situations visit [085.55.gov.au](http://085.55.gov.au) or refer to the following numbers.

<b>000</b> When to call 000	<b>132 500 (SES)</b> When to call 132 500 (SES)	<b>085 55 55 55</b> SES helpline	<b>08 8331 8159</b> Police	<b>08 8331 8159</b> Fire and rescue	<b>08 8331 8159</b> Ambulance	<b>08 8331 8159</b> Accident reporting	<b>08 8331 8159</b> Road closures	<b>08 8331 8159</b> Council	<b>08 8331 8159</b> Health & medical
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**Cooper Pedy Amateur Race Club Inc**  
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064694198407>

EMERGENCY 000 131 444 POLICE ASSISTANCE

**DISCLAIMER**

1. Opinions, letters, and Public notices published in the Cooper Pedy Regional Times are not necessarily the views of the Editor, or Publisher.
2. The Cooper Pedy Regional Times reserves the right to editor of refuse copy in accordance with newspaper Policies.
3. Due to concerns of bureaucratic victimisation, and allegation of bullying, community members may use a pen name, providing full name and details are provided to the Editor.

**COOPER PEDY REGIONAL TIMES**

Display EGN \$6.75 pcm/pcol (7 col)  
 Classi \$8.35 pcm/pcol (4 col)  
[editor@cooperpedytimes.com](mailto:editor@cooperpedytimes.com)  
 Tel: 08 86725920

**WEDNESDAY**

**Cfs Training**

CFS TRAINING WEDNESDAY EVENING - 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 Cooper Pedy

Thursday 5-10pm and Friday nights 5 - 1a m.

**Greek Charcoal BB**



Friday nights at the Greek Hall.

**Alcoholics Anonymous**

Meet Fridays 7pm at the side of the Catholic Church. If you have a drink ing problem and need help. Call 1800222222, Or call Dave on 0409349753

**SATURDAYS**

**parkrun**

8am Saturday mornings Town Oval

**KIDS CHURCH/CLUB**  
**Catacomb Anglican Church**  
 Every Sunday at 10 am ( 40 mins) - church starts at 9:30 am



**GOLF 8.30 am**

**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

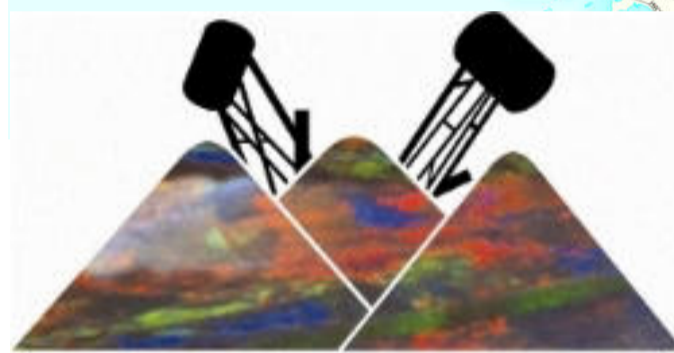
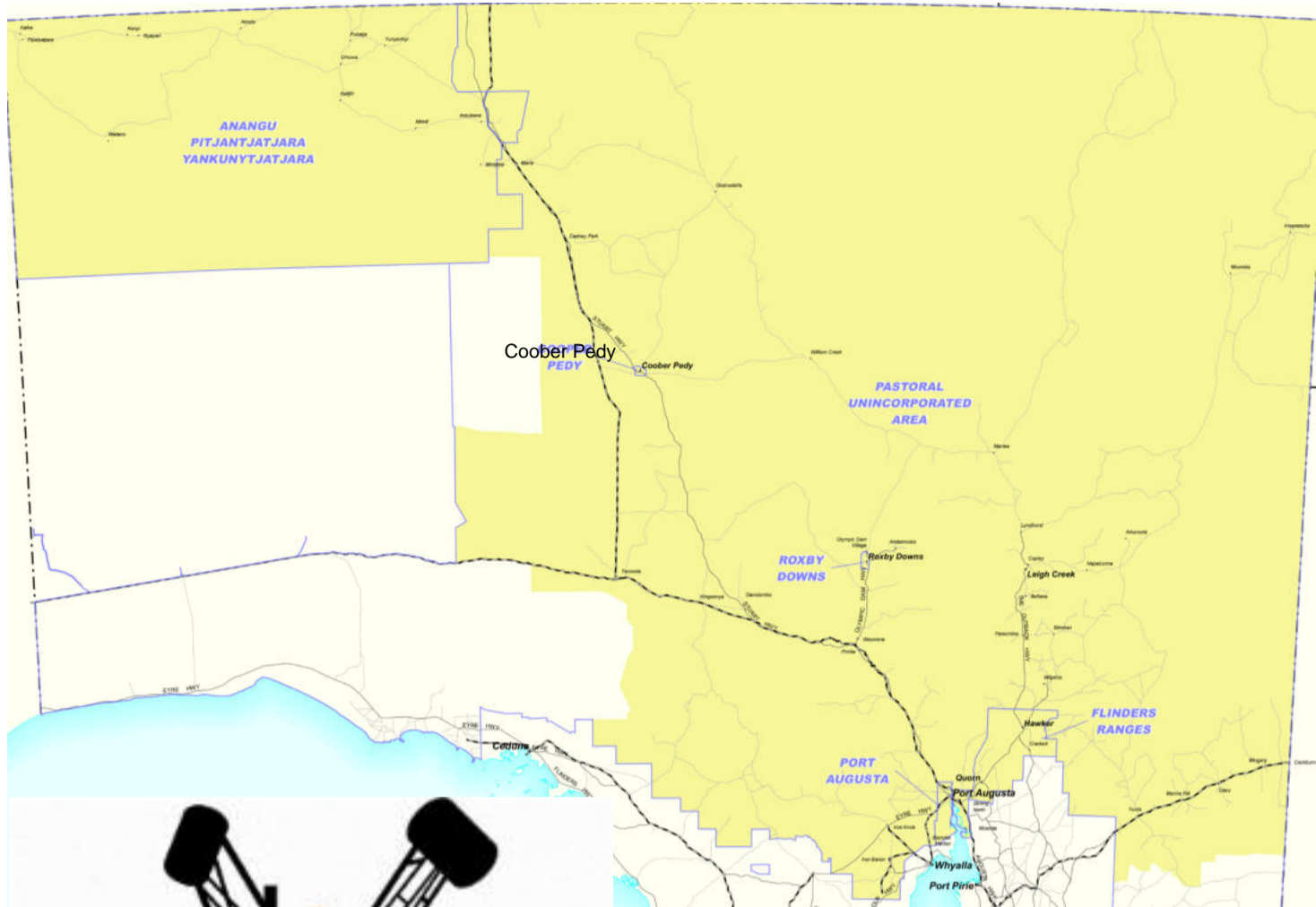
**SUNDAYS**

**CP SHOOTERS CLUB**

See BACK PAGE for latest updates Ring John DiDonna on 0427649389

**COOPER PEDY RSL**

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



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

**SOUTH AUSTRALIA PUBLIC HOLIDAYS 2026**

<b>JAN 1</b> New Year's Day	<b>JAN 26</b> Australia Day	<b>MAR 9</b> Adelaide Cup Day
<b>APR 3</b> Good Friday	<b>APR 4</b> Easter Saturday	<b>APR 5</b> Easter Sunday
<b>APR 6</b> Easter Monday	<b>APR 25</b> Anzac Day Lest We Forget	
<b>MAY 4</b> Labour Day	<b>JUN 8</b> King's Birthday Crown, royal emblems	
<b>OCT 5</b> Labour Day (SA specific) Workplace unity, family time	<b>DEC 24</b> Christmas Eve	<b>DEC 25</b> Christmas Day
<b>DEC 26</b> Proclamation Day / Boxing Day Beach, sports	<b>DEC 28</b> Additional Holiday for Proclamation Day Holiday activities, family fun	

**STUART HIGHWAY CORRIDOR Pit -Stop Check**

**Andamooka:** A quirky, historical gem where 'noodling' for opals is a way of life. Don't miss the world-class stargazing under some of the darkest skies on the planet Best for an overnight detour to experience underground history and the world's rarest opals.

**Kingoonya :**A slight detour off the highway, but worth it for the Outback charm and the friendly Kingoonya Hotel.

**Pimba:** A tiny, remote outback settlement in South Australia, located 441 km north of Adelaide at the junction of the Stuart Highway and the turn-off to Woomera/Roxby Downs. Primarily a key pitstop for travellers, it is renowned for Spud's Roadhouse , offering fuel, food, and accommodation. It also acts as a stop for the Ghan and Indian Pacific trains.

**Glendambo** is the crucial "halfway" point between Port Augusta and Cooper Pedy for fuel and a classic pub meal.

**Cooper Pedy: Opal Capital of the World:** Sleep underground, noodle for opal, explore the breakaways at sunset, and experience a town where the 'fairway' is dirt and the treasures are hidden beneath your feet."

**William Creek:** Australia's smallest town with a big personality. Located on the world's largest cattle station, and a gateway to scenic flights over the Painted Hills and Kati Thanda - Lake Eyre.

**Marree:** Where the Oodnadatta and Birdsville Tracks meet. Discover the rich Afghan cameleer history and take senic flights to witness the filling of Lake Eyre, amazing outback wildlife and the mysterious Marree Man from above.

**Oodnadatta:** Home of the iconic Pink Roadhouse. A must-stop for a 'burger and a photo' before you tackle the legendary red tracks of the deep outback.

**Cadney Park Homestead:** located 150 km north of Cooper Pedy on the Stuart Highway in South Australia, is a remote, family-friendly oasis offering motel-style rooms, cabins, and pet friendly caravan/camping sites. It features a restaurant, bar, swimming pool, and fuel services, making it a popular stop for travellers.

**Marla:** The essential rest point before the long stretch toward the NT border; great for early morning starts.

**Travelling North - Stuart Highway**

**May 2026**



**ANDAMOOKA: Fuel, food, and a stop-over; PLUS:**  
 Historic Cottages (1930s homes); Opal Noodling (Fossicking);  
 Underground Museum (Opal display); Yacht Club (Cafe/Gallery);  
 Duke's Bottlehouse Museum & Motel; Stoner's Studio (Sculptures);  
 Mining Machinery (Historic); Observatory Tours (Stargazing);  
 Lake Torrens (Salt lake); Op-Shop (CWA)

**Andamooka: After Dark Stargazing (Daily)**  
 March offers incredible night sky clarity. The Andamooka Observatory runs its nightly "Nocturnal Tours" starting at 7 PM, combining high-tech telescope stargazing with UV-light opal "noodling".

**Coober Pedy: The Painted Desert Tour (Every Saturday)** with the **Outback Mail Man** who runs 4WD expeditions north to the Arckaringa Hills and the Moon Plains. It's another great way for tourists to see the colorful breakaways without navigating the remote tracks themselves

**Twice Daily Tours – Oasis Tourist Park Coober Pedy**  
 Mornings Town Tour 8.30am  
 Late Afternoon – Breakaways Sunset Tour 4.45 pm

**Twice Daily Tours – Oasis Tourist Park Coober Pedy**  
 Mornings Town Tour 8.30am  
 Late Afternoon – Breakaways Sunset Tour 3.30 pm



**37th COOBER PEDY OPAL FESTIVAL - 2026**  
 12, 13, 14 JUNE. Save the date

**Coober Pedy Drive In**  
**May Movies**

Saturday 9th : Hoppers Gates open 7pm  
 Saturday 23rd : Project Hail Mary Movie starts 7:30pm

Car (2-7 people) \$30, Adult \$15, Student/ Concession \$10, Child \$5



\*No walk ins under 15 years without parent or guardian  
 \* Children to be supervised at all times

**JOIN THE ARMY OF PLAY-COLOUR!**  
 PLAY. COLOUR.

**FANTASTIC RESPONSE**  
 Local sponsors and our usual heavy hitters have stepped up in a huge way this year. Amazing to see the community rally around the town, even in tough times.

**SPONSORS WANTED**  
 Lock in your sponsorship today and be part of something special for the whole town. We'll be finalising our sponsors list at the end of April - don't miss out!

**STALL HOLDER BOOKINGS NOW OPEN!**  
 Thanks to brave and generous sponsorship, this year's festival will be bigger and better - a fantastic opportunity to showcase your products to thousands of locals and visitors.

**SPONSOR OR BOOK A STALL TODAY!**  
 BE PART OF THE ACTION. BE PART OF THE LEGACY.

**OPAL FESTIVAL** OUTBACK BY NATURE. LEGENDS BY CHOICE.  
 37<sup>TH</sup> COOBER PEDY OPAL FESTIVAL

**CONTACT US** info@opalfestival.com.au for more information

If you've been thinking about getting involved, now's the time  
 Email: info@opalfestival.com.au  
 to secure your sponsorship or stall and be part of the action.

Please find a link to the sponsorship form -  
[https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aUXVzjrUSoRTm\\_gDaHUZM-c89w6cOmF7/view?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aUXVzjrUSoRTm_gDaHUZM-c89w6cOmF7/view?usp=sharing)

**Reminder** for tourists that the **Coober Pedy Opal Festival** has move to June 2026 (June 12-14). Plan for a return winter trip for the big street parade. Incorporating food, beverage, craft and market stalls, games and entertainment, the festival provides activities for all ages

**LOCAL GROUPS**

**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 & Tourism Assoc. Inc**

**Committee Elected for 2026**  
 President: George Kountouris  
 Vice President: George Russell OAM  
 Treasurer: Nick Brellas  
 Secretary/Public Officer: Nicky Kountouris Committee  
 Members: Irene Spillman, Michael Farkas, Sean Harrison

<https://www.cooberpedy.com/contact-2/>

**Coober Pedy Sports & Rec Assoc. Inc**

Jordan Riessen- Chairperson  
 Gwen Martin - Treasurer  
 Gwen Martin - Secretary  
 Jon Fatt-Clifton - 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 2025/2026** President  
 Daniel Lamb  
 Senior Vice President Stephen Scott  
 Junior Vice President John McDermott Secretary  
 John Di Donna  
 Treasurer Suzanne Bunker  
 Public Relations Greg Sparrow

**Committee Members**  
 Robert Gigos; CharissaLamb; Phil Gerschwitz;  
 Jesse Manfred  
**Contact Secretary: 0427 649 389**

**Coober Pedy RSL Sub-Branch**

President: Rod Hagel  
 Vice President: Mick Cox  
 Secretary: Kingsley Kammermann  
 Treasurer: Miriam Kammermann  
 Committee Members:  
 Rayleen Hagel  
 Roz Jazepczyk  
 Michael Stocks

Edward Street COOBER PEDY SA 5723  
 Email: CooberPedy@rslsa.org.au

**Coober Pedy Community Alliance**

Chairperson: John Di Donna  
 Vice Chair: George Rosewarne  
**Committee members**  
 Teena Rosewarne (JP)  
 Margaret Mackay(Media Officer)  
 Email: [cpc.chairperson@gmail.com](mailto:cpc.chairperson@gmail.com)  
 Meetings held monthly at Italian Club.



**Coober Pedy Historical Society Inc**

**Committee Elected 20/10/2025**  
 Chairperson: Trish Turner  
 Secretary: Jenny Davison  
 Treasurer: Sue Britt  
 Public Officer: Judy Harper  
**Contact: cooberpedyhs@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/>

**COOBER PEDY MINERS ASSOC.**

Coober Pedy SA 3723  
**Committee Elected for 2025/26**  
 President: Matt Graham,  
 Secretary:  
 Treasurer: Nicko Farantouris

**Committee Members:** Rod Wells, Mish Blanus, Mike Eakins, Steve Perkins, Lachlan Blanchford, Bailey Stevens

**Coober Pedy Opal Fields Golf Club Inc.**

Coober 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: cooberpedygolfclub@gmail.com**

**Coober 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,  
 Donna Clements, Sarah Rethus.  
 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 (Coober 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.cooberpedydrivein.org.au/documents.html>

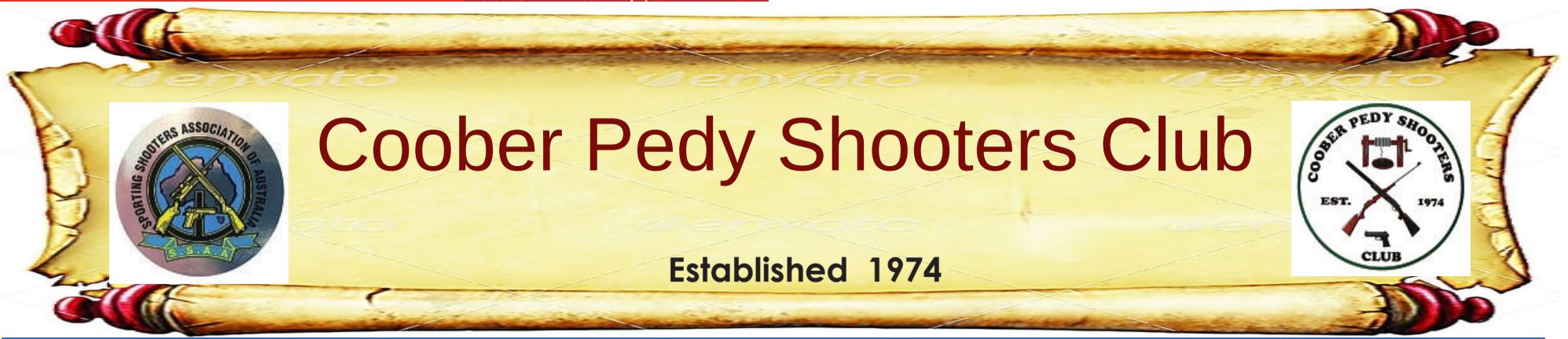
**Coober Pedy Italian Club Inc**

**Committee Elected 18/10/2025**  
 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,  
 Mitchell Rosewarne

**Coober Pedy GEM TRADE SHOW**

**Committee Elected 18-12-2024**  
 President - Corey Edwards  
 Secretary - Tara-Jane Smith  
 Treasurer – Emily Pennisi  
**Committee members**  
 Catherine Bell,  
 Rachel Crothers,  
 David Hammermeister





**Coober 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**  
**50M Rapid Fire**  
**65 Rounds**

<i>18 April</i>
<i>25 April</i>
<i>2 May</i>
<i>9 May</i>
<i>16 May</i>

- DISCIPLINES INCLUDE:**
- ◆ Air Rifle/ pistol
  - ◆ IPSC
  - ◆ ISSF
  - ◆ Rifle Metallic Silhouette
  - ◆ Combine Service
  - ◆ Black Powder
  - ◆ Service pistol
  - ◆ Shotgun
  - ◆ Steel Challenge
- Coober Pedy Shooter's Club supports:
- ◆ Darts
  - ◆ Archery

**Starting Time: 9:00 AM**  
**Sundays**  
**100m Benchrest Match**

<i>19 April</i>
<i>26 April</i>
<i>3 May</i>
<i>10 May</i>
<i>17 May</i>



**MEMBERSHIP Renewal Now Due 2026**  
**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 [cpsc.treasurer@gmail.com](mailto:cpsc.treasurer@gmail.com)  
 John Di Donna - Mobile 0427 649 389 - Email. [jdidonna@dodo.com.au](mailto:jdidonna@dodo.com.au)



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

