

UMOONA COMMUNITY, 50TH YEAR CELEBRATIONS

Hundreds of people came together this week to celebrate the 50th anniversary of Umoona Community Council, marking five decades of Aboriginal leadership, culture and community service in Coober Pedy.

The two-day celebration coinciding with NAIDOC celebrations, brought together Elders, community members, visitors and Government in a program that honoured Umoona's past while looking confidently to its future.

Festivities began with a well-attended Comedy and Music Night featuring Aboriginal comedian Kevin Kropinyeri, the Australian Army Band and DJ Stano. The official anniversary celebration at Umoona included a Welcome to Country, Smoking Ceremony, cultural performances, Elders' stories, historical presentations, awards and a community lunch.

Founding members and their families were recognised for their vision in establishing Umoona in 1975 as an Aboriginal community-controlled organisation. Today, Umoona continues to provide culturally responsive services and support for Aboriginal families while playing an important role in the broader Coober Pedy community.

Deputy Premier and Minister for Aboriginal Affairs, Hon. Kyam Maher MLC, joined community leaders and guests in recognising Umoona's achievements and the contribution it has made over the past 50 years. CONTINUED INSIDE - PAGE 4



Dean Walker, Chairperson of Umoona Community Council, past mentors Wanda Goldberg, Arnold McCormac, Rose Temple, and George Cooley cutting the 50th Birthday Cake at Umoona

COOBER PEDY HOSTS REMOTE CAREER EXPO AND BUSINESS SHOWCASE IN REGIONAL SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Complete Personnel Group, through the Remote Australia Employment Service (RAES) Program's Community Projects funded by the National Indigenous Australia Agency (NIAA), has delivered a Career Expo and Small Business Showcase event in the remote opal mining town of Coober Pedy on Tuesday, 30 June 2026.

The event was held at the iconic Greek Community Hall; the event was organised through the initiative of Complete Personnel Group to help bridge the gap by creating remote community opportunities for career paths for remote job seekers and students.

Residents in isolated locations like Coober Pedy are hundreds of kilometres away from metropolitan or regional hubs. The event highlighted that investing in remote areas proves that young people and job seekers can build thriving and diverse careers. Ultimately, it is about bringing job and economic vitality back to the remote areas.

The Greek Community hall buzzed with energy as local school students' years 10 and 11, job seekers from across the region, and community members including CPH (Umoona Health Service), Umoona Community Council, Aboriginal Family Support Services (AFSS), Coober Pedy Area School (CPAS), engaged face-to-face with a diverse lineup of high-profile exhibitors spanning law enforcement, mining, education, health, agriculture, employment, and regional development.

Key exhibitors included the South Australia Police (SA Police), Primary Industries and Resource South Australia (PIRSA), AMYAC (AMY Nominees) (Antakirinja Matu-Yankunyjatjara Aboriginal Corporation), Peak Iron Mines, Aboriginal Access Centre, TAFE SA, UniHub, TwinView Health, Career Employment Group (CEG), Complete Personnel Group, Regional Development Australia Far North, Coober Pedy Business and Tourism Association.

The expo also showcased two small business participants supported through our Interim Community Projects, funded by the National Indigenous Australians Agency. The featured exhibitors were Opal Digger Salvage and The Desert Phoenix Jewellery.

Dean Liebelt – Small Business Mentor and organiser from Complete Employment Service noted that the overwhelming turnout from both the community and exhibitors signals a massive shift in how remote employment is approached. By utilising Federal Government funding to gather industries, local enterprises, and educational bodies under one roof at the Greek Community Hall, the expo has established a new benchmark for how remote communities can proactively drive their own economic futures.

Following the immense success of this event, Complete Employment Service is exploring opportunities to make the Coober Pedy Career Expo an annual fixture, while also looking to expand the model to other remote communities across the Flinders Far North Region.

Complete Personnel Service would like to thank the Greek Community for the venue and the high-quality services. CONTINUED INSIDE - PAGE 6



Year 10 & 11 Classes from Coober Pedy Area School visiting the Career Expo



Dean Liebelt, Economic Development Mentor and Clarissa Lamb, Senior Case Manager

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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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

Sponsorship for clubs or community programs is by arrangement.

WEATHER COOBER PEDY

Coober Pedy

Forecast issued at 9:15 am CST on Friday 10 July 2026.

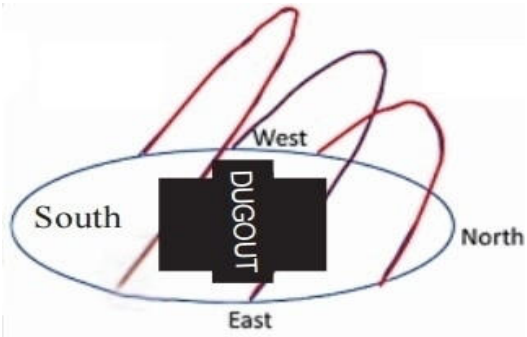
	Fri. 10 Jul	Sat. 11 Jul	Sun. 12 Jul	Mon. 13 Jul	Tue. 14 Jul	Wed. 15 Jul	Thu. 16 Jul
	 Partly cloudy.	 Mostly sunny.	 Cloudy.	 Partly cloudy.	 Becoming cloudy. 1°	 Partly cloudy.	 Sunny.
Max. Temperature	17 °C	19 °C	16 °C	17 °C	18 °C	19 °C	18 °C
Min. Temperature		8 °C	7 °C	8 °C	7 °C	8 °C	7 °C

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.

Spring Equinox on September 23



LOCAL SCRIBES

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



MACKAY News
Resident and
Ratepayer has
of CPRT since
volunteer
since the mid
covering general
news stories, photography, advertising and the
coordinating of community contributions.

MIKE GILLAM
writer-

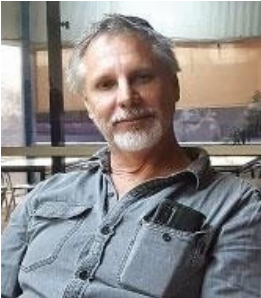
who divides his
his Art Gallery
and his Dugout
Mike also
for the Alice



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



North and Flinders highways and byways, covering 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

POLICE REPORTS



Sgt Dave Finlayson



Snr Sgt Simon Haebich



Sunset behind Tom Cat Hill Coober Pedy

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Active Claims as at
10/07/2026

Andamooka – 167

Cooper Pedy – 461

Mintabie – 11

Stuart Creek – 1



Opal Mining Regulations 2012
Working conditions—precious stones
claims—Part 5

- 14—Working conditions
(1) Unless otherwise determined by the Warden's Court, a precious stones claim must, after 14 days from registration or, if the claim is over native title land, after 14 days from registration of an agreement or determination under Part 7 of the Act
(a) in the case of a claim within a major working area under section 13 of the Act—be diligently worked by the holder of the claim personally;
(b) in any other case—be diligently worked by or on behalf of the holder of the claim.

(2) The following will be taken to be within the concept of diligently working a claim:
(a) the performance of mining operations on the claim;
(b) work associated with the extraction of, or making merchantable, precious stones located within, or recovered from, the claim where that work is carried out on the claim;
(c) the preparation, erection or maintenance of machinery or equipment used in connection with mining operations where that work is carried out on the claim.
(3) The requirements of this regulation do not apply between 15 December in each year and 14 March in the following year (both dates inclusive – Amnesty Period).

OPAL MINING FEES effective 1st JULY 2026

New or Renew PSPP		\$108
2nds & ODL		\$11.60 + \$11.60

Replacement Plates

X1	\$9.10 + \$21.50 = \$30.60
X2	\$18.20 + \$21.50 = \$39.70
X3	\$27.30 + \$21.50 = \$48.80
X4	\$36.40 + \$21.50 = \$57.90



Recovery of Posts

\$31.00

Claim Registration – 3 months

Small	\$63.50
Large	\$127.00
X/Large	\$192.00
ODL	\$152.00



Claim Renewal – 12 months

Small	\$192.00
Large	\$384.00
X/ Large	\$576.00



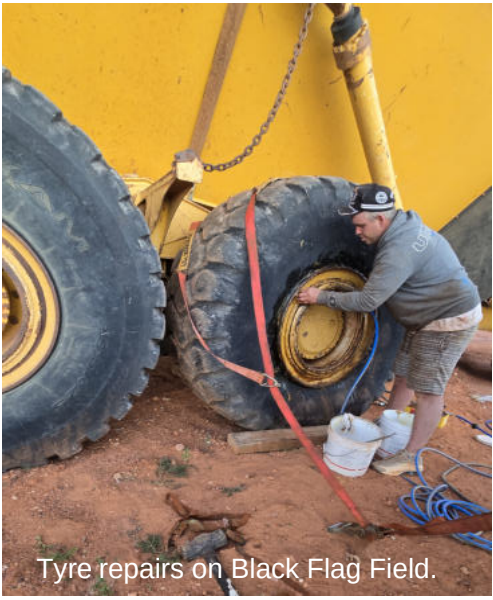
OPAL MINER'S GALLERY



Opal Ridge Cooper Pedy
OPAL TERRA AUSTRALIS



Opal Ridge Cooper Pedy



Tyre repairs on Black Flag Field.



Sunset from Opal Miner's Enterprises

UMOONA COMMUNITY, 50TH YEAR CELEBRATIONS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1
 The anniversary theme, Honouring our past, celebrating our present, strengthening our future, was reflected throughout the celebrations, which highlighted the resilience, culture and leadership that have shaped Umoona and continue to inspire future generations.

Organisers thanked the many Elders, volunteers, staff, sponsors, partner organisations and community members whose support helped make the milestone celebration such a memorable success.



Geoff Brock MP, Hon. Kyam Maher MP. Dawn Brown, & Hon. Rhiannon Pearce MP,



Ian Crombie - Smoking Ceremony



Dean Walker, Ian Crombie & George Cooley



George Cooley and Dean Walker



Jeremy Whiskey and Nathan May



The Hon Kyam Maher MP partaking in the smoke cleansing ceremony.



Visitors on the day were able to indulge in the smoke cleansing ceremony



The new Minister for Local Govt Hon. Rhiannon Pearce MP at the Smoking Ceremony.



Dora Mushongera Umoona General Manager, Member for Stuart Geoff Brock MP, Dawn Brown & George Cooley



Historical presentation by early mentors, George Cooley, Wanda Goldberg, Rose Temple, Arnold McCormac



Traditional Inma dance, involving local youth and including the Hon Kyam Maher Minister for Aboriginal Affairs.



Cooper Pedy community members attending the Umoona Community's 50th Anniversary on Thursday 9th July 2026

HOW CHANGES TO THE CHILD CARE SUBSIDY HOURLY RATE CAPS WILL IMPACT FAMILIES

Changes to the Child Care Subsidy (CCS) hourly rate caps are implemented nationwide across all Australian states and territories (including NSW, VIC, QLD, WA, SA, TAS, NT, and ACT). The adjusted caps went into effect on 6 July 2026. The exact dollar increases across the primary care categories include: Centre-Based Day Care (under school age): Rises from \$14.63 to \$15.19 per hour (3.83% increase).

Family Day Care: Rises from \$13.56 to \$14.08 per hour (3.83% increase).
Outside School Hours Care (OSHC): Rises from \$12.81 to \$13.30 per hour (3.82% increase).
In-Home Care: Rises from \$39.80 to \$41.31 per hour (3.79% increase).

The family income thresholds used to determine your overall subsidy percentage have also been adjusted upward by a similar margin. For instance, the threshold for the maximum 90% subsidy has increased from \$85,279 to \$88,520.

These annual adjustments are based on the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and apply universally regardless of your specific state or territory.

You can check the specific rate caps for your care type or estimate your family's new subsidy thresholds on the official Australian Government Department of Education portal. <https://www.education.gov.au/early-childhood/providers/child-care-subsidy>

An RMIT expert explains what it means for families, and whether it will help with affordability.

Dr Karen Villanueva, School of Global, Urban and Social Studies, said, "For families, the rising cost of childcare is a considerable barrier to participation. Childcare costs vary across Australia, and access to the Child Care Subsidy (CCS) depends on family income."

"The rise in Child Care Subsidy hourly rate caps and family income thresholds is generally a positive thing for families. It can help to support childcare affordability by reducing out-of-pocket costs, and higher income thresholds may mean families can earn more before their subsidy rate drops."

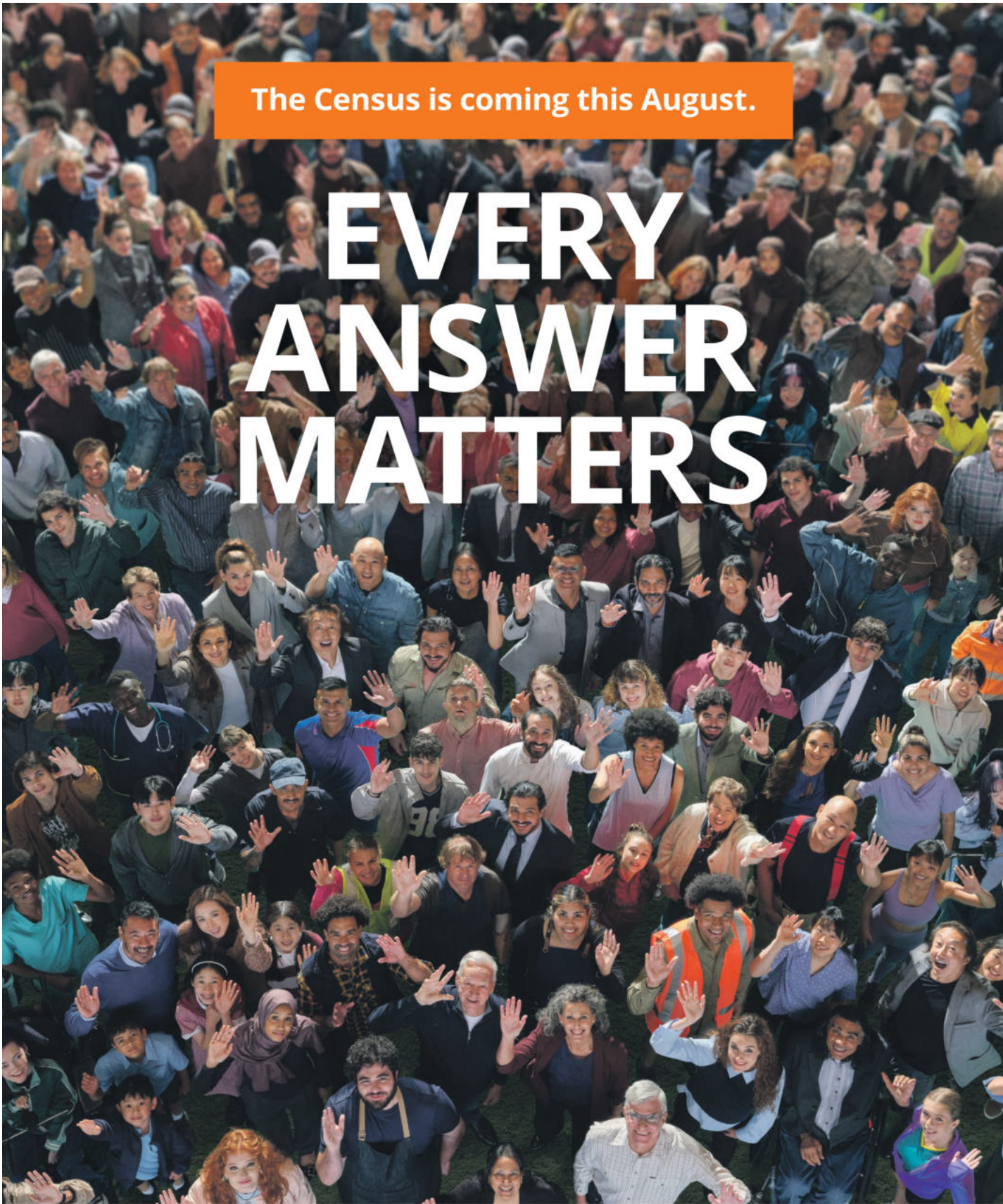
"However, even with subsidies in place, out of pocket fees for many families continue to rise if changes in the CCS don't keep up with increases in childcare fees. This is especially tough for households that are already stretched financially."

"At the same time, providers are under pressure to absorb rising operating and quality related costs without substantially raising their fees."

"Long waitlists, not enough local centres or places, and other physical access issues such as limited public transport, can also prevent children from participating in high-quality childcare."

"We need to ensure that all children, especially those from the most disadvantaged families, can access quality childcare when and where they need it."

Dr Karen Villanueva is a Research Fellow at the RMIT University Social Equity Research Centre.



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Census

Authorised by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, Canberra

COOBER PEDY HOSTS REMOTE CAREER EXPO AND BUSINESS SHOWCASE IN REGIONAL SOUTH AUSTRALIA



SAPOL Officers Senior Sgt Cheryl Wills and Senior Constable Lia Avgimeri were in Coober Pedy promoting South Australia Police as a career option for local communities in regional areas, including Coober Pedy. Later in the day, the two officers attended Coober Pedy Area School and spoke with students, parents and teachers.



Suzanne Bunker Lecturer in Skills for Education & Employment, and Zara Kyrtzaliotis Aboriginal Community Liaison Coordinator. TAFE Aboriginal Access Centres provide tailored educational and personal support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to help with their vocational training by individual case management, tutorial assistance, personalised learning plans, and e-learning resources.



Fay Summers-Rouda, Penny Hartley Student in Cert 3, and Sonia Singh Administrative Officer TAFE SA., handed out information for: Online & Virtual Classroom Courses including; Arts & Design, Building & Construction, Business & Marketing, Community Services, Education and Languages, Government, Property & Legal, Health & Lifestyle, Hospitality & Tourism, Information Technology, Mining, Engineering & Automotive, Primary Industries & Science



Pictured is Anthony Russell (right) from AMY Nominees Pty Ltd, which is the commercial entity of AMYAC, consisting of a Board of Traditional Owners and Business Specialists. Established for the purpose of undertaking on behalf of AMYAC and its members, sustainable business opportunities that promote indigenous employment and training in all operations.Pictured left and centre are Ian Gentle from CEG, andJeremy Williams from Theiss.



Fay Summers-Rouda is an Accomplished Lecturer at TAFE SA in APY Lands and Coober Pedy, also teaching Certificate III Community Services. Other courses on offer include nationally recognised Early Childhood Education and Care courses. Programs blend theory with hands-on practice, including 160+ hours of mandatory vocational placement in regulated childcare services, preparing students for roles as educators, team leaders, or centre directors.



Above James Nagel of Peak Iron Mines, chatting with locals Chris Pantelis and Nicko Farantouris, at the Coober Pedy Careers Expo. Peak Iron Mines owns the assets and drives major project developments, including the Peculiar Knob restart, the greenfield Buzzard mine, and the Hawks Nest project, while Agile Mining Services acts as the primary contract operator managing logistics and extraction.



Promoting Nurse-Led Excellence in Care L_R: Fay Summers-Rouda; Ian Gentle Support Officer CEG; Doris Chipendo Twinview Health; and Sonia Singh Administrative Officer TAFE SA.Elevating patient outcomes across South Australia - Building advanced clinical, leadership, and care-coordination skills in the Nurse-Led Excellence in Care program.



Complete Personnel Job Network supporting Self Employment Program. Pictured: Martin Sulja, and Jirayr Ayanian at the Career Expo. Complete Personnel provides services designed to connect local job seekers with sustainable employment, as well as aiding businesses with recruitment.



Ian Gentle Support Officer from CEG on the left. CEG can help find apprenticeships and traineeships in over 70 industries, including: Building & Construction, Mining, Engineering, Aged Care, and Disability Support. Craig Shirley from Unihub Spencer Gulf is introducing students in Years 7 to 11 to regional university pathways, STEM opportunities, and how to stay in the outback while entering professional careers.

Tropical low: Rewards and risks

By Mike Gillam

On March 3 the Bureau of Meteorology recorded an impressive monsoon trough containing four tropical lows each with the potential to develop into a cyclone, hugging the coast of northern Australia.

The Tropical Low, designated 34U by the BOM, developed into Category 5 Severe Tropical Cyclone Narelle before making landfall at Cape York Peninsula on March 20 as a high end Cat. 4.

This late season cyclone impacted widely, causing extensive flooding across Queensland, Northern Territory and Western Australia.

It caused catastrophic damage to the remote town of Exmouth, triggered record flooding along the Daly River, and affected three states across more than 4,500 km of Australian territory.



Caper whites with chrysalis shells. All photos © Mike Gillam



Unlike Top End communities that endured intense rainfall and serious flash floods, much of Central Australia was treated to protracted misty rain with sporadic downpours. Watching the nightly news and especially the inundation of the Daly River community I experienced a form of survivor guilt.

I called to check on friends in Katherine before beginning this essay, much delayed as it happens by other imperatives such as controlling resurgent buffel. While the response of endemic plants, fungi and insects is dazzling I'm conflicted in the knowledge that a shocking weed, buffel grass is reaching a new peak, one that will threaten far flung communities throughout inland Australia.



March rainfall varied across our region with Hele Crescent experiencing somewhere north of 300mm, a mostly gentle, soaking rain, the amazing benefits of a tropical low without the violence of a cyclone proper.



Bent Nail & Miniature Orange Fungi

Road conditions made travel problematic and the surging price of fuels a great incentive to focus on the town and environs and enjoy the art of walking.

Someone asked if I thought this was the new normal and sure, it seems probable that we will experience a growing subtropical influence and hopefully that might help to offset rising temperatures.

That said, the town has experienced similar conditions in the past. There's an often quoted statement that the Todd River ran for nine months, in 1974 I believe, but it would be more accurate to add that sometimes it was a trickle between significant flows.



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Australian Government

For more information visit

www.medicare.gov.au/1800



CONTINUED
ON PAGE 9

Authorised by the Australian Government, Canberra

Cooper Pedy Police ask that if anybody is aware of any information relating to any of these unsolved crimes to please ring SA Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000. You can remain anonymous.

Do your part to help us so we can do ours and together we can make a safer community

On the early hours of the morning on Friday the 10th of July, 2026 Police attended a Non Government Services Office Building as a result of an alarm activation.

Police observed two people get out of a vehicle which was parked in the front yard and they decamped over fences.

Police gave chase and a male youth from Coober Pedy was arrested a short distance away. The second youth was arrested later that morning.

Both youths have been charged with serious criminal trespass, theft, illegal use and hinder police.

They will face the Coober Pedy Youth Court at a later date and are now on a nighttime curfew which police are actively enforcing.

10/7/26
Between 1/9/25 & 10/7/26 a dugout was broken into in Ferrall Street,
COOPER PEDY and a large number of household items were stolen and
damaged.

10/7/26
Two male youths were arrested on 10/7/26 for the illegal use of a Coober Pedy Council Truck as a result of an ongoing investigation from 20/4/26. They will face the Coober Pedy Youth Court at a later date and are now on a nighttime curfew which police are actively enforcing.

7/7/26
An unoccupied and unlocked home was broken into in Hutchinson Street, COOPER PEDY and personal items were stolen.

Between 5/7/26 & 8/7/26 the Coober Pedy Council Depot, Golf Club, Drive In and other premises were broken into. These offenders were targeting alcohol, drinks, cash and vehicle keys. Coober Pedy Police are still actively investigating this matter.

5/7/26
A 44 year old man was arrested after he allegedly stole items from the Coober Pedy Shell Service Station and threw a rock through a window. He was arrested and charged and will face the Coober Pedy Magistrates Court at a later date.

2/7/26
Police reported a male youth for smashing the windows of the Tjitji Tjapu Tjuta Child Care Centre on 15/6/26. He will face the Coober Pedy Youth Court at a later date.

30/6/26
An unlocked vehicle was illegally interfered with in Flinders Street, COOPER-
PEDY during the hours of darkness. Nothing was stolen.

27/6/26
Two unlocked and undriveable cars were interfered with and some items
stolen from them in Hutchinson Street, COOPER PEDY during the hours of
darkness.

10/1/26
A Telstra Hut south of Coober Pedy on the Stuart Highway was broken into
and damage was caused by a deliberately lit fire.

22/6/26
A home was broken into in Marquardt Road, COOBER PEDY while the owners were away. A safe was targeted and items were stolen. This is still an active police investigation.

19/6/26
A 36 year old man from Coober Pedy was arrested for an alleged assault and breach of a barring order which occurred at the Italian Club. He will face the Coober Pedy Magistrates Court at a later date.

16/6/26
A 30 year old man from Coober Pedy was arrested for affray and breaching an intervention order in Hutchinson Street, COOBER PEDY during the day. He will face the Coober Pedy Magistrates Court at a later date.



With four weeks to go, the anticipation builds for the annual Coober Pedy Gymkhana and Motorkhana.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, August 8th, and prepare for a fun filled day out with horses, bikes and plenty of novelty events.

IMAGES OF BREAKIN SUSPECTS RELEASED BY COOPER PEDY POLICE



Coober Pedy police have released images of two suspects allegedly involved in a break-in last week.

About 10.45pm on Sunday 5 July, police responded to an alarm activation at a business on Hutchison Street. When patrols arrived, they discovered a window had been smashed, and a door forced to gain entry.

Despite an extensive search of the area, the suspects could not be located.

Police have released CCTV footage of the two suspects and are seeking help from the public to identify them.

Anyone with information on the break-in or who can identify the suspects is asked to come forward. If you witnessed any suspicious activity in the area, or have CCTV or dashcam footage, please contact Crime Stoppers online at www.crimestopperssa.com.au or on 1800 333 000 and quote #176005 – You can remain anonymous.

Tropical low: Rewards and risks

The tropical low of early 2026 proved a delight for anyone interested in Centralia's moisture loving detritivores during a period of perfect rain and humidity. Fortunately the town has made a strong investment in native gardens and these provide a wonderland for inquisitive adults and children alike. For those with manicured lawns and little else, exploration further afield to less traumatised terrain is strongly recommended.

Landcare restoration sites and nature strips where residents have removed buffel over the years are the best places to observe the fecund response of nature to this sublime autumn rain.

Low cloud occludes the early morning sun and I feel the silken tension of spider webs across my face before backing up and circling around, more attentive now to the webs stitching the gaps between mulga and witchetty.

Every leaf blade wider than spinifex holds, tiny lenses of water creating sparkling scintillas of light in the morning mist while underfoot the ground has acquired a new sponginess.

The germination of new plants, profoundly satisfying for the Landcare community, has stimulated a notable insect and therefore insectivorous bird response, a pattern repeated wherever buffel grass is absent.



Caterpillar on a Snake Vine

As I explore the nature strip of Hele Crescent it occurs to me that I'm still doing at 70 years of age what motivated me at five, searching out the secrets of miniature gardens and mysterious invertebrates. The Jesuits famously claim that a child of seven reveals the adult of the future, implying that certain interests, passions and individual characteristics are forged early.

In a regional town where the natural world is so close, albeit bedevilled by the presence of buffel grass, I worry that some children are missing out but I know of passionate teachers who also assume a lay environmental educators role in the town's schools.

The resplendent nature strips have come a long way from the days when they accommodated two vehicles abreast and parents were forced to navigate the perilous bitumen road wheeling their prams or shepherding children.

Restoration of the compacted soil with endemic plants has attracted sacred moths while active lines of hairy processionary caterpillars diligently announce the start of cooler autumnal weather.

Moths and butterflies are everywhere and I don't believe it's an exaggeration to say that every genus of plants is supporting at least one distinctive species of caterpillar.

Hawkmoths, often called sphinx or humming bird moths, lunge and pirouette expertly back and forth across the night sky as they try to shake hungry bats, "dog fights" briefly illuminated in the street lights. Each morning I take a meditative walk through our native gardens, including the nature strips of the crescent.

Within one week the cascading green wall of snake vines were stripped of leaves by the crazily beautiful larvae of the fruit piercing moth, spectacular eye spots rear up in display while tucking their vulnerable heads out of harm's way.

One visitor asked how we were controlling the clearly destructive caterpillars, I mean where's the spray response, some canned version of acid rain? I pointed to the ground, peppered by bright green dung, the nitrogen that will promote luxurious fresh growth in a few weeks.



Carcass Beetle

The fruit piercing moth is also very beautiful with its vivid orange underwings and strange horn like appendage used for stabbing fruit.

After dark and between heavy downpours, tarantula like barking spiders take the opportunity to emerge, digging new burrows in the soft soil, a decision sometimes stimulated when their homes are flooded.

Underground fungi erupt in a wondrous display of fruiting bodies, for some, a rare opportunity to proliferate in the glorious misting rain. The fungi habitat of every fallen rotting log is verified by colonies of fruiting bodies, at times so abundant they begin to resemble a maritime coral reef.

For a story published by the Alice Springs News in March 2021 I photographed a community of fungi decorating a large fallen coolabah log, part of a registered sacred tree that had been gutted by fire. The logs quickly transformed and assumed the important role of habitat.

I was intrigued by one delicate fungi, a group of three umbrellas that I didn't recognise issuing from a crack in the rotting log. Five years later the spores of this fungi appear to have colonised another log some thirty metres away and I'm finally able to photograph the lurid yellow individuals that ultimately grow into those delicate umbrellas I'd included in the earlier story.

Among the familiar tan coloured and vivid yellow green slime moulds I notice curious patches of green, resembling astro turf, clearly masticated by what? I'm walking on the edge of town where watercourse meets mulga and rocky hills. Here and there are small piles of euro dung and a mound of fresh soil where something has decided to dig a burrow alongside, probably a beetle.

In the half-light an outpouring of insect biodiversity, centipedes, beetles and various sci-fi characters emerge from the pores of the saturated earth. Curious puffs of "smoke" indicate a rising exodus of ant and termite alates performing their ritual of mating and dispersal, protein packages that will soon attract the attention of circling kites.

I managed to photograph a small "carcass beetle" returning home and I know they are fond of dung but I'd like to confirm this. How to confirm the astro turf maker without digging it up and rendering it homeless?



I found a tasty looking turd several times greater than the diameter of the hole and placed it over my known beetle entrance. After a few minutes the dung began to wobble.

Returning to the miscellaneous beetle hole thirty minutes later, the euro dung had disappeared so I'm able to confirm it was a beetle but have no idea how many species of detritivores are processing dung.

I count 24 holes in a square metre, each aerating the soil, improving moisture absorption and transporting fertiliser parcels underground. Density of "beetle" holes, doubtless including centipedes and spiders, are discontinuous and the relationship with euro dung is sporadic.

Early one morning I photograph a tight grouping of three dung that have begun their slight downward movement, taken overnight by unseen subterranean force/s. With an absence of entrance holes this might be the work of the larval offspring of beetles.

There are some convenience costs to all that seed production.

Grasshopper numbers were peaking by early April and news of a mouse plague in South Australia does not come as a surprise. Furtive diamond and bar shouldered doves have discovered the metre high tussocks of native panicum growing under our clothes line and the clouds of caper white butterflies jostling for space on perching branches of the native passionfruit, rustle gently as cellulose wings clash at sunset.

It's the first of May when I finally return to finish this story, the butterflies are still numerous and the lighting even more perfect. The sun has moved north and its early rays find a gap in the trees illuminating the chrysalis cases of the caper whites turning them into tiny lanterns.



Panicum with butterflies

CONTINUED
ON PAGE 10

Tropical low: Rewards and risks

According to weatherzone, there are signs a very strong, or super El Nino could develop in the tropical Pacific Ocean in the coming months.

Buffel is holding its moisture longer around Alice Springs but in areas of lower altitudes with hotter autumn temperatures and drier geography the fire season has already arrived. In our town area, grass fires are imminent.

I fear we are in for a horror spring and summer but fire danger throughout the winter months will also be taxing and scary. Sales of weed-eaters, slashers and fire units are doubtless soaring.

In Alice Springs, the impacts of tropical cyclones are typically benign, nature's fury attenuated and calmed somewhat by time and especially distance.

The same can be said of flooding events and although there is much hand wringing and very little action invested, we don't experience the annual flooding of our FNQ or Daly River friends so here its business as usual.

We'll have to wait patiently for the essential tragedy to cut through the complacency of our leaders. There is however one natural disaster of our own creation that we can't escape and that's the terror of fast moving and potentially lethal grassfires.

As a young man in the 1970s I remember walking and hopping through a grassfire in mulga country before the dust suppression madness of buffel planting really took hold in communities and even national parks where better bollards would have sufficed. The buffel invasion has radically increased fire intensity, behaviour and risks.

With Territory day celebrations accompanied by a fire-works bonanza on 1st of July I do hope the town has the common sense to plan to review and adapt in the clear interests of public safety. Maybe, restricting the act of discharging explosives by all and sundry to within designated public areas, for example the show grounds and several large green ovals, attended by ambos with fire services on standby.



Gold Fungi (Leucocoprinus birnbaumii)

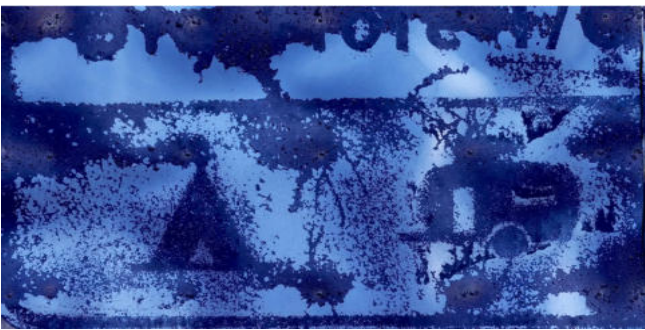
Hell, we might come to appreciate the benefits of behaving like the rest of the country, their "nanny state" policies doubtless well informed. Dare I say behaving like responsible grown-ups, members of a civil society.

Yes, there will be economic impacts, doubtless some of our retailer mates will sell fewer explosives and the vets will prescribe less drugs to quell pet neuroses. I also predict the fire services, police, hospital and organisations such as the RSPCA and Landcare will pick up the savings!

Perhaps some families who go without essentials so parents can play out fantasies of being #1 powder monkey or Rambo for a couple of days might benefit also.

Thinking for a moment, beyond our town of 25 square kiometers, there are much bigger risks to citizens of inland Australia where people live with NO fire-fighting services and backup.

Out of sight and out of mind, some families will of course take their bumper pack of skyrockets to outlying communities. From my observation slashing of the buffel peak is at best, barely adequate, limited by a lack of skills, equipment and resources.



Signage: Tjoritja / MacDonnell Ranges following wildfires in 2023 that burnt out more than 50% of the national park.

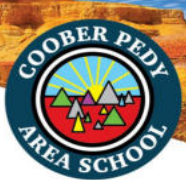
Typically fire-fighting options involve a garden hose rarely located where it's needed at short notice. Competent and effective buffel control has added a huge extra cost burden on communities that is still not seen as a priority by funding agencies.

Timing of the fireworks season is also very er, rubbery. Yes, a couple of days soon becomes months because there is no way this stupid shit is confined to the legal period and no-one to my knowledge has been charged under the Dangerous Goods Act for misusing fire-works illegally in our town.

If our police are unable to enforce existing legislation, then surely that's reason enough to make changes! I'm dreaming of course, we must wait patiently for a substantial disaster to shore up our lack of courage and validate some-one in authority taking action.



LATEST CPAS NEWSLETTER IS NOW AVAILABLE - GET YOUR COPY



NEWSLETTER

Term: 2 | Issue: 2 | Date: 02.07.2026

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK



We are very appreciative of your support in making our school a centre of **quality teaching and learning**.

We have had a great term where our students have accessed many learning opportunities both in their classes/learning areas and outside.

Our SA Curriculum implementation work is ongoing in the learning areas of English, Mathematics, Science, Humanities and Social Sciences (HASS) and Health and Physical Education (HPE). We have seen a great engagement from our staff with this very important work. Our staff engaged in some Professional Learning at our recent Student Free Day to support us with this work. There will be another Staff Professional Learning engagement at our next Student Free Day in Term 3 2026. Building staff capacity and confidence is a very key feature of our work here as a school and this will continue throughout the school year and beyond.



Please speak to our leadership team if you require further information about this exciting work happening at our school.

Our Years 3-10 Students completed the PAT Adaptive Testing in Reading and Mathematics during the term. The Data from these testing would continue to support our work here at the school in line with monitoring for impact. This is also part of our Site Learning Plan (SLP) work.

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

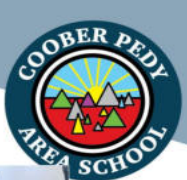
School finishes at **2.00pm Tomorrow (Friday, 03/07/2026)** and school will resume on **Monday, 20/07/2026** from **8.50am** for the start of Term 3 2026.

Students will be dismissed from the school Gym after our school values recognition awards. We wish all our students and staff a restful and relaxing school holiday break

Mr Maurice Saah
Principal

Government of South Australia
Department for Education

RESPECT • RESILIENCE • RESPONSIBILITY



TEACHING AND LEARNING SPOTLIGHT

Preschool- Ms Vicki & Ms Benzin

Our connections with families and community partners continue to provide meaningful learning opportunities for children. This term, children welcomed the **SA Ambulance team** and collaborated to create a thank you card to show their appreciation. We also hosted fully booked onsite **CaFHS** and **Hearing Australia** sessions, improving access to health services for families. Guided by the knowledge and expertise of our **Aboriginal Education (ABEd) team**, children engaged in authentic learning through Yankunytjatjara language, culture and Caring for Country experiences, fostering respect and a deeper connection to Country, culture and community.



We also celebrated a successful mid-year transition, warmly welcoming new children into our preschool and supporting others as they confidently embarked on their next learning journey. We wish the children transitioning to Reception a wonderful start to their exciting new chapter and every success in their learning. We look forward to continuing to learn and grow together with our families and community partners in Term 3. 🌟

Ms Vicki & Ms Benzin
Preschool Teachers

www.cooperpedy.sa.edu.au

RESPECT • RESILIENCE • RESPONSIBILITY

NEXT GENERATION OF PRODUCERS FRONT AND CENTRE AS LIVESTOCK SA LAUNCHES INAUGURAL NEXTGEN EVENT



Chair of Livestock SA, Gillian Fennell

Livestock SA will host its inaugural NextGen Producers Mixer during LambEx 2026, marking a significant step in supporting and connecting the next generation of South Australia's livestock industry.

Held for the first time, the event brings together young and emerging producers, creating space for connection, conversation and future industry leadership.

The free event, delivered in partnership with Tara Farms and hosted at William Buck, has been designed to remove barriers to participation and ensure young producers can engage with their peers, and industry leaders in a meaningful way.

Livestock SA said the inaugural event reflects a clear commitment to strengthening the pipeline of future leaders in the red meat and wool industry.

"This is about creating space for the next generation to build networks, share experiences and feel connected to their industry," Chair of Livestock SA, Gillian Fennell said.

"By making this event free and highly accessible, we're ensuring young producers, regardless of where they are in their journey, have the opportunity to be part of the conversation."

The NextGen Producers Mixer will feature an informal Q&A with Tara Farms, led by Gillian Fennell, providing insight into building a profile, engaging with industry networks and navigating the challenges and opportunities facing young producers today.

The event forms part of Livestock SA's broader presence at LambEx 2026, where the organisation will be actively engaging with producers, stakeholders and industry leaders across the event.

Livestock SA Board members will be in attendance throughout LambEx, reinforcing the organisation's commitment to direct engagement with producers and ensuring grassroots voices continue to shape policy and advocacy priorities.

LambEx provides a critical platform for Livestock SA to showcase its work representing South Australian producers, including its policy and advocacy efforts across key areas such as biosecurity, market access, workforce and industry sustainability.

"Being at LambEx is important for us, it's where conversations happen, where issues are raised and where we can engage directly with industry about what matters most to their businesses," Gillian Fennell said.

"We're there to listen, to share our policy work and to make sure South Australian producers have a strong, unified voice in decisions that impact their future."

The NextGen Producers Mixer will be held on Wednesday 8 July at William Buck - Adelaide, from 5pm – 6.30pm. Attendance is free, with registrations encouraged due to limited capacity

Inspire. Inform. Innovate.
LambEx
Adelaide Convention Centre
7-10 July 2026

New Unpaid Carer Laws Active in South Australia



CARER RECOGNITION

South Australia has updated its Carers Recognition Act 2005 to expand support for the state's 245,000 unpaid carers, whose combined care value is estimated at 6.36 billion dollars annually.

Broadened Definition: Care no longer needs to be ongoing. People assisting those with short-term, episodic, chronic, or terminal conditions, as well as dementia or substance dependence, are now recognised.

Expanded Obligations: All public sector agencies and their contractors must now adhere to the newly embedded South Australian Carers Charter, expanding from just seven agencies previously.

Accountability: Public sector agencies must now report annually on how they support carers and foster inclusive workplaces.

Human Services Minister Katrine Hildyard said, "These changes directly respond to what carers and stakeholders requested: stronger recognition, greater transparency, and services reflecting the realities of caring. The newly embedded Carers Charter legally signals that South Australia values unpaid carers, while new annual reporting ensures clear public sector accountability."

Carers SA Chief Executive Julia Overton said, "These reforms are a significant step forward. The broader definition ensures more South Australians are acknowledged, while expanding obligations to all government agencies embeds carer support into everyday practice."



Coober Pedy's Wind Turbines in the late afternoon sun

NEW DATE FOR OODNADATTA BRONCO BRANDING



Coober Pedy Fire Brigade
SPECIAL AGM
Wednesday 10 August 2026
All positions will be voted on
Where: CFS Station, Hutchison Street
Start Time: 6pm



AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL BRONCO BRANDING CHAMPIONSHIPS WILLIAM CREEK FRIDAY 14TH & SATURDAY 15TH AUGUST 2026

FRIDAY AFTERNOON
COW WORK EVENTS 2:00PM START/ LOCAL CRICKET MATCH 2:30PM
PLUS MEET & GREET/ SAUSAGE SIZZLE DINNER & BAR
FREE CAMPING & SHOWER FACILITIES
FREE ENTRY THANKS TO BHP COMMUNITY GRANTS PROGRAM

ALL DAY SATURDAY
BRONCO BRANDING 8:00AM START
ALL DAY CATERING/ BAR/ BBQ DINNER

- 1. WILLIAM CREEK HOTEL MINI COW WORK (8 & Under)**
ALSO SPONSORED BY: Outback Mail Run Tour
Nominations \$10/ One round only
Combined prize money of \$100
- 2. MY ENERGY ENGINEERING JUNIOR COW WORK (12 & Under)**
ALSO SPONSORED BY: Circle C Contracting
Nominations \$10/ One round only
Combined prize money of \$230
- 3. DUNNS EARTHMOVING JUVENILE COW WORK (16 & Under)**
ALSO SPONSORED BY: Coober Pedy Regional Times
Nominations \$10/ One round only
Combined prize money of \$330
- 4. THOMAS FOODS INTERNATIONAL OPEN WITH ENCOURAGEMENT COW WORK**
ALSO SPONSORED BY: McArdle Freight & Farinola Diesel Services
Nominations \$25/ 2 Rounds
Combined prize money of \$1600
- 5. BHP NOVICE BRONCO BRANDING**
ALSO SPONSORED BY: Roxby Earthmoving & Nutrien Livestock Balaklava
Nominations \$20/ One round only
1st- \$1300/ 2nd- \$650/ 3rd- \$325
+ Horse Envelope of \$100 for 1st place.
- 6. HUGHES MINING LABOUR HIRE SINGLES BRONCO BRANDING**
ALSO SPONSORED BY: Flying Fuels & Fire Equipment Maintenance Group
Nominations \$40/ Top six to finals
1st- \$2700/ 2nd- \$1350/ 3rd- \$675
+ Horse Envelope of \$100 for 1st place.
- 7. AUSTRALIAN MEAT GROUP DOUBLES BRONCO BRANDING**
ALSO SPONSORED BY: One Stop Water Shop & Sheehan Transport & Cattle Contracting
Nominations \$50/ One round only
1st- \$2700/ 2nd- \$1350/ 3rd- \$675
+ Horse Envelope of \$100 per horse for 1st place.
- 8. OMS MECHANICAL CHUTE DOGGING**
ALSO SPONSORED BY: Southern Wire
Nominations \$20
1st- \$400/ 2nd- \$200/ 3rd- \$100
- 9. GOOLAGONG ANGUS STUD LEWIS BRUHN MEMORIAL STEER RIDE**
ALSO SPONSORED BY: Leon, Deb & Molly Bruhn
Nominations \$20
1st- \$400/ 2nd- \$200/ 3rd- \$100
- 10. WELKE TRANSPORT KIDS PODYDY RIDE (8 to 12 years of age)**
ALSO SPONSORED BY: Pink Roadhouse
Nominations \$10
1st- \$50/ 2nd- \$25/ 3rd- \$10
- 11. WILLIAMS CATTLE COMPANY KIDS MUTTON BUSTERS (7 & Under)**
1st- \$50/ 2nd- \$25/ 3rd- \$10
- BUCKING BULL & KIDS JUMPING CASTLE**
THANKS TO MARLA OODNADATTA ICPA & OODNADATTA COMMUNITIES AUTHORITY
NOMINATIONS open 1 August via FACEBOOK William Creek Sporting Events. Cow work noms will close on 7 August & Bronco Branding Noms will close on the night of 14 August. Contact Hollie Williams via email nilpinna_stn@bigpond.com. Early noms receive free competitors insurance. Bronco Branding draw on Friday night. Bronco Branding SA rules apply. All competitors compete at their own risk and are required to sign for personal accident insurance on the day.
President: Matthew Williams Phone: 0427 707 975

MANY THANKS TO OUR VALUED SPONSORS

PLATINUM: HUGHES, BHP, WILLIAMS CATTLE COMPANY, OMS, REM, Nutrien, THOMAS FOODS

GOLD: WELKE, DUNNS, FLYING FUELS, FLYING DEELS, REM, Nutrien, THOMAS FOODS

SILVER: D & G TYRE SALES, RIG DRILLING, COSTELLO CATTLE COMPANY, SENTURION STEEL SUPPLIES, WINDY CREEK PASTORAL, BEN DU BOIS ELECTRICAL & REFRIGERATION, WRIGHTSAIR, WONAMBI OPALS

BRONZE: TREVOR & HELEN WILLIAMS, KENT SADDLERY

LEON, DEB & MOLLY BRUHN



COOBER PEDY RSL SUB—BRANCH INC

A G M

2.00 pm

SUNDAY 19th JULY 2026

REMINDER

Nomination forms

must be submitted by
Sunday 12th July 2026

Nomination forms are available at the Coober Pedy RSL Sub-Branch or can be emailed to you;
Email: CooberPedy@rslsa.org.au

41st BHP OODNADATTA BRONCO BRANDING and COW WORK JULY 18TH, 2026



EDDIE NUNN



ASH JONES

COW WORK EVENTS - 8:00 AM START

SMULDERS CONTRACTING ENCOURAGEMENT (U8) COW WORK
Nominations \$10 — One round only - Combined prize money of \$100

NEALES RIVER LIVESTOCK JUNIOR COW WORK
Nominations \$10 — One round only - Combined prize money of \$230

FENNELL PASTORAL JUVENILE COW WORK
Nominations \$10 — One round only - Combined prize money of \$330

TODMORDEN OPEN COW WORK WITH ENCOURAGEMENT
Nominations \$25 — Top six to finals - Combined prize money of \$1350

NOMINATIONS: Close July 1st.
Contact: Hollie Williams 0428752285 or nilpinna_stn@bigpond.com.

BRONCO BRANDING EVENTS

WILLIAMS CATTLE COMPANY NOVICE BRONCO BRANDING
ALSO SPONSORED BY: Costello Cattle Company & IGA Coober Pedy
Nominations: \$20 ~ One round only
Prize Money: 1st ~ \$1000 2nd ~ \$500 3rd ~ \$300

BHP OPEN SINGLES BRONCO BRANDING
ALSO SPONSORED BY: Nutrien Livestock Balaklava
Nominations: \$40 ~ Top 6 into finals
Prize Money: 1st ~ \$2000 2nd ~ \$1000 3rd ~ \$500

THOMAS FOODS INTERNATIONAL DOUBLES BRONCO BRANDING
ALSO SPONSORED BY: KLR & Circle C Contracting
Nominations: \$50 ~ One Round Only
Prize Money: 1st ~ \$2000 2nd ~ \$1000 3rd ~ \$500

GILLEN CLUB CHUTE DOGGING
ALSO SPONSORED BY: The Pink Roadhouse
Nominations: \$20: Prize Money: 1st ~ \$400 2nd ~ \$200 3rd ~ \$150

ASH JONES MEMORIAL STEER RIDE
ALSO SPONSORED BY: Outback Communities Authority
Nominations: \$20: Prize Money: 1st ~ \$400 2nd ~ \$200 3rd ~ \$100

FASTEST CATCH: \$250 ~ Sponsored by Hale River Homestead

NOMINATIONS: Friday evening and Saturday morning. Bronco gear and horses available for loan on the day. The committee reserves the right to refuse admission or events nominations. The judge's decision is final. Bronco Branding SA rules apply. Competitors compete at their own risk and are required to pay personal accident insurance when nominating.

PATRON: Mr Lins (John) Pearson **PRESIDENT/ SECRETARY:** Tony and Jackie Williams (08) 86070961; mountbarrystation@bigpond.com
FIND OUT MORE: www.broncobrandingsa.com.au and www.oodnadattaraceclub.org.au

FOR SALE

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

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

WHEN TO CALL 000

Is your situation life-threatening due to any of the below?

- All fires, including bushfire and house fire
- Dangerous or life-threatening situations - Police
- Health & Medical - Ambulance
- Major gas leaks
- Accidents where there is a need for assistance

WHEN TO CALL 132 500 (SES)

Flood or storm assistance:

- Serious damage to home
- Property at risk of flooding
- Tree fallen on car or home

NON-EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Often situations that seem urgent and overwhelming can be dealt with using local services such as a handyman, arborist or local council.

For non-urgent situations visit SES.SA.gov.au or refer to the following numbers:

SES Infoline 1800 362 361	Police Non-urgent matters 131 444	Crime Stoppers (report crime anonymously) 1800 333 000	Local Councils (fallen trees on local roads, footpaths and parks) sa.gov.au/councils
Roads and traffic Accidents resulting in a traffic hazard 131 444	Major arterial roads (dangerous conditions, road hazards and signal faults) 1800 016 313	Electricity Power network faults and emergencies, including loss of supply 13 13 13	SA Water Burst water mains 1300 650 950
Sewer blockage or overflow 1300 883 121	Gas leaks 1800 GAS LEAK 1800 427 532	Health & medical Health Direct - free! health advice from trained clinicians 1800 022 222	Mental health emergencies 13 14 65
Poisons information 13 11 26			

EMERGENCY 000

131 444 POLICE ASSISTANCE

DISCLAIMER

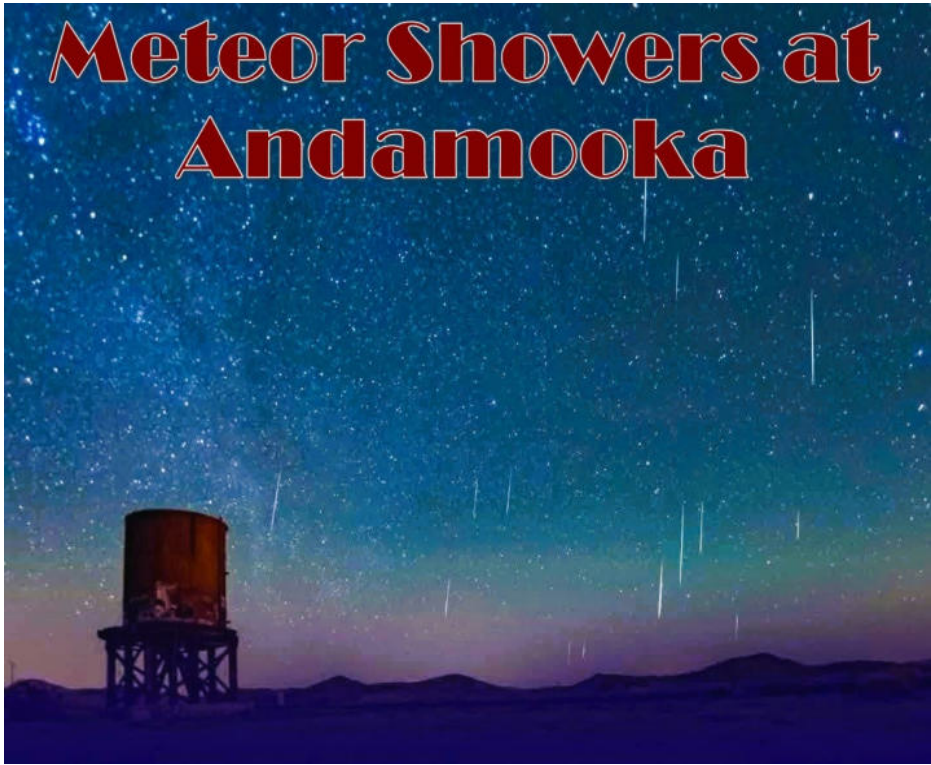
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- The Coober Pedy Regional Times reserves the right to editor of refuse copy in accordance with newspaper Policies.
- Due to concerns of bureaucratic victimisation, and allegation of bullying, community members may use a pen name, providing full name and details are provided to the Editor.

COOBER PEDY REGIONAL TIMES



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

Travelling North - Stuart Highway



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)

COOPER PEDY
DRIVE-IN THEATRE



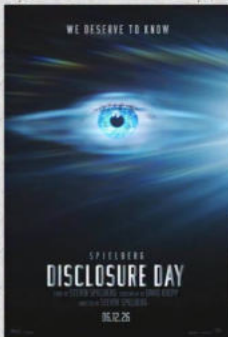
COOPER PEDY DRIVE IN JULY MOVIES

4th- The Drama
11th- Goat
18th- Scary Movie 6 (R18+)
25th- E.T (flashback)
31st- Disclosure Day

Gates open at 6pm for a 6:30 start (times subject to change)

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

*children are to be supervised at all times
*no walk ins under 15 years without parent or guardian



Saturday 4th July:
The Drama (M)
gates open: 6 pm
movie starts: 6:30pm

Saturday - 11th July
Goat (PG)
gates open: 6pm
movie starts: 6:30pm

STUART HIGHWAY
Corridor & Byways
2026

Andamooka: After Dark Stargazing (Daily)
The Andamooka Observatory is an off-grid art space/ observatory that offers astronomy, opal mining, and tag-along tours. <https://www.facebook.com/andamookaobservatory>

TOURS at COOPER PEDY

Cooper Pedy: The Painted Desert Tour (Every Saturday) with the **Outback Mail Man** who runs 4WD expeditions north to the Arkaringa 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 Cooper Pedy
Mornings Town Tour 8.30am
Late Afternoon – Breakaways Sunset Tour 4.45 pm

NOBLE TOURS - COOPER PEDY



(Duration approx. 4.5 - 5 hours - including pick ups and drop offs)
The best of Cooper Pedy and the Breakaways in one tour! Experience Cooper Pedy in the comfort of our spacious and air-conditioned 4WD bus.

The tour includes: Visit the tour guide's modern underground house (dugout) the Serbian Underground Church. Dingo Fence; Moon Plains; The spectacular Breakaways; A visit to our private claim in the opal fields (large tunnel formations) for an underground mine tour.

<https://nobletoursaustralia.com.au/new-page>

COOPER PEDY GYMKHANA & MOTORKHANA
Saturday 8th August 2026

FRIDAY
Meet & Greet at the Racecourse with Tea & Bar facilities from 4pm - 11pm

SATURDAY
Bar opens at 11am till late
Presentation & Tea after Events

Starts at: 9am
Admission \$15.00 under 18 free
No wristband = No service
EFTPOS available
FREE camping at the race track

Surprise DJ Saturday night at the Racecourse

Adult & Childrens Novelty Events

No Eskies, No BYO & No Glass

Over \$14,000 in Prize Money & Prizes

Feature Motorbike and Horse Event: Barrels

Ladies Motorbike Events: *Bending *Barrels

Events

Peak Iron Junior Gymkhana 9 & Under/10-15yrs

1. Barrel Race
2. Bending Race
3. Musical Chairs
4. Thread the needle
5. Keyhole
6. Apple Race (9 & under)
7. Monte Carlo (9 & under)
8. Potato Race (10-15yrs)

BHP Junior Motorkhana 9 & Under/10-15yrs

1. Father Frank Cresp Memorial Barrel Race
2. Bending Race
3. Bang & Go Back
4. Go Slow Race
5. Night Horse Race
6. Keyhole
7. Monte Carlo (9 & Under)
8. Swap Over Race (10-15yrs)

Senior Gymkhana

1. Jenny Gough Tilting the Ring
2. Toms Opal Mine Stock Horse Challenge
3. YOWY Bending Race
4. Umoona Opal Mine Flag & Barrel
5. Oasis Tourist Park Potato Race
6. Flinders Ranges Butchers Relay Race (3)
7. Ingomar Station Barrel Race
8. Williams Cattle Company Stock Whip Challenge
9. Desert Shore Designs Thread the Needle
10. Peak Iron Walk, Trot, Gallop
11. Opals By Steed Keyhole

Senior Motorkhana

1. Nutrien Ag Mono Comp Between Flags
2. All Site Services Contracting Swap Over Race (2)
3. Kaye Enterprises Bending Race
4. Old Timers Mine Run & Ride
5. Saltbush AG Enduro Challenge
6. Jumbuck Mono Comp
7. Ben Brown & Family Keyhole
8. John & Yokas Opal & Art Thread the Needle
9. Assetlink Longest Skid
10. BHP Barrel Race
11. Shell Cooper Pedy Stockman Trial

Peak IRON MINES **PLATINUM SPONSORS** **BHP**

GOLD SPONSORS **SILVER SPONSORS**

BRONZE SPONSORS **Ben Brown and Family** **Jenny Gough** **Opals by Steed**

FOR MORE DETAILS - CONTACT TOM ON 0400 442 454



COOBER PEDY 2026
SPEEDWAY
Race Dates

28 March working bee and practice 10 - 3

3 & 4 April 6pm - 9pm

9 May 6pm - 9pm

14 June 2pm - 6pm

11 July 6pm- 9pm

1 August 6pm - 9pm

5 September 6pm - 9pm

3 October 6pm - 9pm

31 October 6pm - 9pm

21 November 6pm - 9pm

28 November Christmas Party

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 Coober 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

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







JUN 8
King's Birthday
 Public Holiday
 (SA wide)



OCT 5
Labour Day
 Public Holiday
 (SA wide)



DEC 24
Christmas Eve
 Part-day Public Holiday
 (SA wide)



DEC 25
Christmas Day
 Public Holiday
 (SA wide)



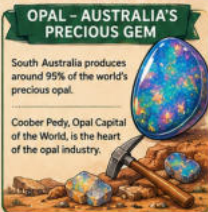
DEC 26
**Proclamation Day /
 Boxing Day**
 Public Holiday
 (SA wide)



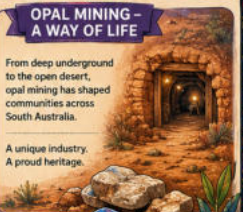
DEC 28
**Additional Public Holiday
 for Proclamation Day**
 Public Holiday
 (SA wide)



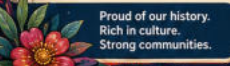
IMPORTANT DATES
NAIDOC WEEK
 5-12 JULY 2026
 Celebrate history,
 culture and achievements
 of Aboriginal and
 Torres Strait Islander
 peoples.



**OPAL - AUSTRALIA'S
 PRECIOUS GEM**
 South Australia produces
 around 95% of the world's
 precious opal.
 Coober Pedy, Opal Capital
 of the World, is the heart
 of the opal industry.



**OPAL MINING -
 A WAY OF LIFE**
 From deep underground
 to the open desert,
 opal mining has shaped
 communities across
 South Australia.
 A unique industry.
 A proud heritage.



REMEMBRANCE DAY
 WEDNESDAY
 11 NOVEMBER 2026
 Lest We Forget.



SOUTH AUSTRALIA
 Where outback spirit shines

STUART HIGHWAY CORRIDOR - Pit -Stops

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 Coober Pedy for fuel and a classic pub meal.

Coober 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 Coober 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.

OUR 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

Committee Elected for 2024-2026

Coober Pedy Shooters Club Inc

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

Email: CooberPedy@rslsa.org.au

Coober Pedy Motor Club - Speedway

Executive Committee Members

Acting President - Mick Frakas Mob

0439596489

Acting Vice President - Verdun Myat

Secretary - Fiona Scutter

Treasurer - Irene Spillmann

General enquires 0428356669

Coober Pedy Community Alliance

Chairperson: John Di Donna

Vice Chair: George Rosewarne

Committee members

Teena Rosewarne (JP)

(Media Officer) Margaret Mackay

Email: cpca.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 Garner

Treasurer:

Public Officer: Patsy Anne Garner

Social Media Officer:

Committee member:

Committee member:

<https://www.dustyradio.com.au/>

COOBER PEDY MINERS ASSOC.

Coober Pedy SA 3723

Committee Elected for 2026/27

President: Matt Graham, Secretary:

Treasurer: Nicko Farantouris

Committee Members: Rod Wells, Mish Blanusa, 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:

Grounds Keeper: Dylan Lewis Bar Manager: Stephen Borrett

Committee Members: Sue Britt, Bob Martin

Contact: cooberpedygolfclub@gmail.com

Coober Pedy Area School Governing Council 2026

Maurice Saah (Principal)

Elected Staff Representative: Veronika Witham

Elected Parent Members: Sabrina Troisi; Jo Anne Vanajek; Roger Vanajek; Ariane Montminy-Roberge; Sarah Rethus; Rukmalee Dissanayake

Elected Community Member; Gary Herdegen

Student Representatives; Satkirat Kaur; Mitchell Hoad

Election of office holders (Chairperson, Secretary and Treasurer) will take place on 16th June, 2026

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,

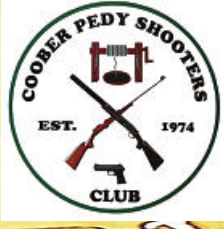
David Hammermeister





Cooper Pedy Shooters Club

Established 1974



Cooper Pedy Shooter Club welcomes all new members, visitors and Sponsors

If you don't have a firearm, come along & our members will assist you with all enquiries.

Minimum age for shooting at the club is 10 yrs (Rifles and Air Pistol)
& 10 yrs (Pistols).

Starting Times 9:00 AM
Saturday — Pistols
IPSC

27 June
4 July
11 July
18 July
25 July

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: 9:00 AM
Sundays
50 m Benchrest
Rapid Fire Match

28 June
5 July
12 July
19 July
26 July



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

Robert Gigos - - Email cpssc.treasurer@gmail.com

John Di Donna - Mobile 0427 649 389 - Email. cpssc.secretary@gmail.com



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

