

2026 AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL BRONCO BRANDING CHAMPIONSHIPS HELD AT WILLIAM CREEK

by Hollie Williams

The Australian National Bronco Branding Championships were held at William Creek on Saturday, 15 August, with competitors travelling from across South Australia, Queensland and the Northern Territory to compete for the national titles.

The weekend kicked off on Friday with Cow Work, a popular event for local riders who bring their horses along and have a go.

It has been fantastic over the past few years to see how much the local kids have improved and developed their skills. This year, Kate Ozolins from Carrieton, Harvey Williams from Nilpinna Station and Laura Hewitt from Pernatty Station were the place-getters in the Open Draft.

Saturday morning began with the BHP Novice Class, with seven teams nominated. Local Oodnadatta team Macumba 2, with catcher Justin Nunn, took the title, followed by Laura Hewitt's team in second and Kaeli May's team in third. With the win, Justin now moves out of the Novice class and into the Open competition.

Next up was the Hughes Mining Services Labour Singles, with 21 teams nominated. It was great to see the skills and experience of the older competitors alongside a number of rising young competitors. The six fastest teams from the first round progressed through to the final.

Three-time Australian Singles Champion Tony Williams, catching for the Mount Barry team, secured his fourth Australian Singles Championship.

Harvey Williams from Nilpinna Station, competing for the Connemarra team, finished second, with Colin Greenfield's Billa Kalina team taking third.

The Australian Meat Group Doubles Championship was won by the B41 team of Bully Booth and Gregg Warren.

Second place went to the Hard Rated team, featuring Logan Williams from Nilpinna Station and former Cooper Pedy resident Jason Jones.

The all-Williams Mount Barry team, with Tony and Cameron Williams as catchers, rounded out the place-getters in third.

The catchers demonstrated some amazing skills throughout the competition, working closely with their horses to select the right beast, get the rope on and pull it up to the panel.

It is evident that those with experienced crews on the ground can work cleaner and quicker, making what is a highly skilled job look easy.



Steer Ride Harvey Williams 1st



Singles Champions: Mount Barry Station



Magenta Williams Cow Work 1st Juvenile

Following the conclusion of the Bronco Branding, the action continued with an exciting afternoon of arena events. The Steer Ride was won by local rider Harvey Williams, who continued his successful weekend by teaming up with Dylan Nicholls to take out the Chute Dogging.

The younger competitors also had their chance to shine, with the Kids Paddy Ride won by Roy Nunn, while his sister Ada Nunn took out the Mutton Busters. It was fantastic to see so many of the younger riders getting involved and enjoying the action.

After a scrumptious roast meal, the night concluded with presentations and an auction featuring some amazing items generously donated by businesses and individuals who are strong supporters of the event. With the bar open and the rum pouring, the crowd was then treated to DJ Tania from Choons and Moovs, who kept everyone entertained and the dance floor busy well into the night. It was a fantastic way to round out a big weekend of competition, community and celebration at William Creek.

Congratulations to all competitors who took part in the 2026 Australian National Bronco Branding Championships. Bronco Branding is a fantastic sport where people of all ages and genders can compete, and it is wonderful to see the sport continuing to grow and attract new competitors.

For more information, follow Bronco Branding SA on Facebook or visit www.broncobrandingsa.com.au, where you can find competition history, results and information about upcoming events.

EVENT RESULTS - INSIDE

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 3:45 am CST on Friday 21 August 2026.

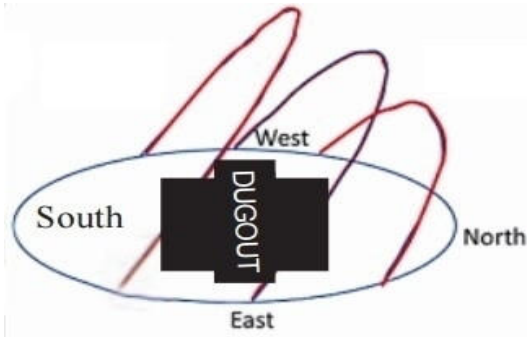
	Fri. 21 Aug	Sat. 22 Aug	Sun. 23 Aug	Mon. 24 Aug	Tue. 25 Aug	Wed. 26 Aug	Thu. 27 Aug
	 Partly cloudy.	 Partly cloudy.	 Shower or two.	 Rain. Storm clearing.	 Partly cloudy.	 Partly cloudy.	 Partly cloudy.
Max. Temperature	20 °C	19 °C	19 °C	20 °C	19 °C	19 °C	22 °C
Min. Temperature		8 °C	10 °C	11 °C	9 °C	7 °C	9 °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-

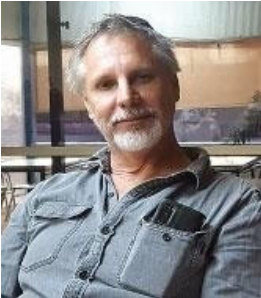
who divides his his Art Gallery and his Dugout Mike also for the Alice



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



DONNA was South Outback and is resident of As a business a regular, along the Far North and Flinders highways and byways, covering the entire Far North & East and Outback of South Australia.

POLICE REPORTS



Sgt Dave Finlayson



Snr Sgt Simon Haebich



Sturt Desert Peas at Coober Pedy

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DECLARED EQUIPMENT OPAL MINING ACT 1995

Preliminary—Part 1

declared equipment means—

- (a) a trench digger or excavator; or
- (b) mechanically driven equipment, equipped with a blade or bucket of a width exceeding 750 mm, capable of ripping, gouging, scooping or digging earth or rock material; or
- (c) equipment that is capable of digging, boring or tunnelling underground, generally in a horizontal plane, with a cross sectional dimension greater than 750 mm; or
- (d) equipment of a kind prescribed by the regulations for the purposes of this definition,

but does not include surface drilling equipment;



LICKERS

- opal industry news

Active Claims as at 19/08/2026

Andamooka – 173

Cooper Pedy – 460

Mintabie – 12

Stuart Creek – 1



SO, YOU WANT TO BE AN OPAL MINER?

Q: How do I obtain a Precious Stones Prospecting Permit (PSP)?

A: You must apply personally at any office of the Opal Mining Registrar, either in Andamooka, Cooper Pedy or Adelaide Office at 11 Weymouth Street Level 4 Customer Service.



How to obtain a permit and the basic requirements to prospect and mine for opal are outlined in:

MG32: Opal prospecting and mining (PDF 3.5 MB)
<https://sarigbasis.pir.sa.gov.au/WebtopEw/ws/samref/sarig1/image/DDD/MRGMG32.pdf>

Frequently asked questions about opal mining in South Australia. https://energymining.sa.gov.au/minerals/mining/opal_mining/frequently_asked_questions (Copy and paste links)

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



25 (1) A person must not, without lawful authority or excuse, enter or remain on land comprised in a registered precious stones tenement without first obtaining the permission of the holder of the tenement.

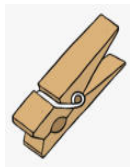
(2) However, this section—

(a) does not apply—

(i) to a police officer acting in the course of official duties; or

(ii) to a person appointed under an Act acting in the course of official duties; and

(b) does not affect any civil liability.



PEGS !!



All miners should make sure their pegs are in order

It is the miner's duty to ensure the following things are done:

- Pegs are in an upright position
- PSPP plate firmly attached to posts.
- Date of pegging must be clearly marked on all four pegs.
- Registration Number clearly marked on all four pegs.
- Claim size (L, S, or X) on all four pegs.

If you don't know these details please contact the mines department -86725800
mining inspectors are out and about as of now.

A DANGEROUS LACK OF EMERGENCY TRANSPORT & POST-HOSPITAL SUPPORT IN COOBER PEDY

Dear Editor, I am writing to share a deeply concerning experience that occurred following my release from the local hospital.

After arriving by ambulance at 2:20am following a heart attack, I was discharged roughly 13 hours later at 3:30pm.

It was raining lightly, and I had no means of transport. Due to the complete absence of local taxi services or an accessible town transit network, I was forced to walk 1.2 kilometres home in a highly vulnerable medical state.

While our town has localised transport programs, such as those managed by the Umoona Tjutagku Health Service, these are strictly restricted to specific client groups and clinic appointments due to their funding structures.

This leaves a dangerous, life-threatening gap for the rest of the Coober Pedy community.

My question to the community and health authorities is this: How can a remote town allow a patient recovering from a major cardiac event to walk home? Why do we not have a functional emergency welfare or community transport backup for residents in crisis?

The hospital's discharge protocols and the town's lack of basic, inclusive community transport options need urgent review before a tragedy occurs.

Sincerely, (NAME & DETAILS SUPPLIED)



BIRD FLU WEBINAR FOR OWNERS OF PET BIRDS & BACK YARD POULTRY.

South Australians who have pet birds or backyard poultry will have the opportunity to join a targeted information session and hear directly from the experts leading the state’s H5 bird flu response.

AN ONLINE FORUM will be held from 6.30PM on TUESDAY, 25 AUGUST, to provide the latest information about bird flu and provide helpful advice on how people can better protect their backyard chooks, pet budgies and other pet birds.

The session will be hosted by Chief Veterinary Officer Dr Skye Fruean and representatives from the Department for Environment and Water and SA Health.

They will speak about biosecurity measures that can help reduce the risk of wild birds transmitting the H5 virus to backyard birds, such as keeping free-ranging birds in enclosed areas if possible and covering food and water sources.

Outbreaks elsewhere in the world have demonstrated that backyard poultry, pet birds, cats and dogs are susceptible to H5 bird flu.

Advice will also be provided on managing the risk to humans. While the human health risk from H5 bird flu is low and risk of transmission between people is very low, there have been a very small number of human infections overseas.

This webinar forms part of the South Australian Government’s continuing efforts to directly engage with key stakeholders including primary industries, the wildlife sector, and the broader community.

To register attendance for the webinar for backyard poultry and pet bird owners, as well as any upcoming community forums, visit birdflu.sa.gov.au/community-forums.

South Australians are encouraged to continue being vigilant in reporting sick and dead birds and other wildlife.

Avoid touching sick or dead birds and other wildlife. Record what you see. Report it to the Emergency Animal Disease Hotline on 1800 675 888.

For the latest updates, information and advice about H5 bird flu in South Australia, visit birdflu.sa.gov.au.

NT Police seize alcohol destined for Wadeye



Wadeye Police in the Northern Territory have seized 10 cartons of beer and recommended the revocation of five liquor permits following alleged breaches of the Wadeye Liquor Permit System.

Police received information that several liquor permit holders were allegedly attempting to purchase alcohol in excess of their authorised weekly allocation, commonly referred to as “double dipping”.

Under the Wadeye Liquor Permit System, permit holders are restricted to a set quantity and type of alcohol each week.

Police received information that alcohol allegedly exceeding those limits was due to arrive in Wadeye yesterday.

Officers attended Wadeye Airport and conducted checks of baggage and freight associated with the arriving flight.

Five liquor permit holders were identified as allegedly receiving quantities exceeding their authorised weekly allocation.

Police subsequently seized and destroyed a total of 10 30-pack cartons of beer.

As a result of the alleged breaches, police have recommended that the liquor permits of all five individuals be revoked.

Superintendent Virgina Read said police would continue to actively enforce liquor restrictions designed to reduce alcohol-related harm in Wadeye.

“Liquor permits come with clear conditions, and those conditions are there for a reason. Attempting to circumvent the system and bring additional alcohol into the community, especially given the recent community unrest, undermines the measures in place to keep people safe.

“This seizure prevented 300 cans of beer from entering Wadeye, where excess alcohol contributes to violence, antisocial behaviour and harm within the community.

“Anyone who holds a liquor permit has a responsibility to comply with its conditions. Those who choose not to can expect police to take action and their permit may be put at risk.”

COOBER PEDY YOUTH CRIME: WHERE ARE THE SERVICES AND WHERE IS THE ACCOUNTABILITY?

Eight police (19 positions) have been allocated to the Opal Mining Town of Coober Pedy to try and keep the community safe. With overnight crime at an all time high, there is still no provision for 24 hours policing on the agenda.



An alleged act of vandalism at the Coober Pedy Police Station recently

Dear Mr Venning,

The Coober Pedy Community Alliance is asking for your assistance in addressing the growing youth crime and community safety problems affecting our town.

We are particularly concerned about the apparent gap between government funding intended to support young people and the services actually visible on the ground.

The National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) lists the Career Employment Group's EMU (Employment, Mentoring and Understanding) program as a four-year project worth \$4,895,664, with Coober Pedy – Umoona specifically listed as a service area.

The program is intended to help First Nations young people aged 15–24 develop skills, obtain training and move into employment. NIAA documentation states that the project is expected to support at least 260 young people across its South Australian delivery locations.

Coober Pedy is an important service centre for the Far North and the APY Lands, yet the town itself appears to have only limited and intermittent access to the youth, employment and justice services needed on the ground.

If governments expect Coober Pedy to carry a regional service responsibility, then the resources provided to the town need to reflect that responsibility.

WE ARE THEREFORE ASKING YOU TO SEEK ANSWERS ON BEHALF OF THE COMMUNITY AND TAXPAYERS:

- Q: How much of the \$4.895 million is allocated to Coober Pedy – Umoona?
- Q: How many Coober Pedy young people have participated in EMU to date?
- Q: What training, mentoring, employment placements and other services have actually been delivered in Coober Pedy?
- Q: How many young people have obtained employment as a result?
- Q: How often are EMU staff physically present in Coober Pedy?

We believe these are reasonable questions when almost \$4.9 million of Commonwealth funding has been committed to this program.

There is also an urgent connection between employment support, youth disengagement and the current youth justice situation.

A report published by the ABC on 13 August quoted Police Association of South Australia president Wade Burns as saying a high-risk young offender in Coober Pedy had been granted supervised bail without electronic monitoring because there were no local Youth Justice staff available to fit or monitor the device.

The same report highlighted the serious shortage of police resources in the town, with only eight of 19 positions filled at the time of the report.

This leaves our small and already struggling community carrying the consequences when essential services are not available locally.

We are not asking for more money to simply be announced. We are asking for accountability, measurable outcomes and services that actually reach the young people who need them.

We would appreciate you taking this matter up with the appropriate Federal Ministers and the NIAA, and asking what is being delivered in Coober Pedy under the EMU program and whether the current arrangements are achieving their intended purpose.

At the same time, we ask that you raise with the South Australian Government the serious gap in Youth Justice resources identified by the Police Association.

Coober Pedy needs practical intervention, not another round of announcements. We would be grateful for your assistance in obtaining clear answers for the community.

Yours sincerely,

Coober Pedy Community Alliance (Committee)
John Di Donna Chair
George Rosewarne Vice Chair
Teena Rosewarne JP
Margaret Mackay Media

**Complete your
Census now.
It's not too late.**



Census night was Tuesday 11 August.

It's compulsory for each household to complete the Census to help plan for Australia's future. For help, visit census.abs.gov.au or call 1800 181 227.

Every answer matters.



Census

Authorised by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, Canberra



CRIME UP IN REGIONAL SOUTH AUSTRALIA WHILE THE STATE FIGURE FALLS



Tom Venning MP with a group from the Coober Pedy Community Alliance

Federal Member for Grey Tom Venning MP has called on the State Government to explain why reported crime has climbed in Grey's largest centres since Labor came to government, while the statewide figure has fallen.

South Australia Police figures, published by the State Government, show that over Labor's four years in office, reported offences rose 17.6 per cent in Port Augusta, 36.9 per cent in Port Pirie and 9.1 per cent in Ceduna. Port Augusta has gone up in every one of those four years.

Across South Australia, reported offences fell 1.3 per cent.

"Crime is going down across South Australia and up in Port Augusta, Port Pirie and Ceduna. This Government wants the credit for the first number and takes no responsibility for the second," Mr Venning said.

"Port Augusta has gone up every single year Labor has been in office. That is not a bad patch. That is a trend."

Since Labor came to government, break-ins to houses are up 56.5 per cent in Port Pirie, 51.9 per cent in Port Augusta and 22.5 per cent in Whyalla. Across the state, the increase was 2.3 per cent.

"That gap did not happen by accident. It shows where this Government has sent officers and resources, and where it has not."

In May, the State Government announced that South Australia had its full complement of police officers for the first time in nearly a decade.

Three months later, the Coober Pedy Police Station has eight of its 19 positions filled. In January the figure was 10.

"Labor spent this year telling South Australians the police force is full. Coober Pedy is at 42 per cent, and going backwards," Mr Venning said.

The Police Association of South Australia has written to the Deputy Premier warning of critically inadequate policing resources in Coober Pedy, raising the case of a repeat offender described as 'high-risk' who was released on bail without an ankle monitor, and a separate incident in which the police station was allegedly attacked.

In May, the South Australian Employment Tribunal recommended measures to attract officers to Coober Pedy. SA Police rejected them, citing budget constraints.

"That is not an operating decision. That is a budget decision, and budgets are set by this Government." Mr Venning said.

Mr Venning said councils across Grey had been left dealing with a problem they did not create and cannot fix. Whyalla has introduced a city-wide dry zone after a long consultation with residents, with the council noting at the time that a lasting fix would need a multi-agency response including increased police resources.

"Councils can run a consultation and draw a line on a map. They cannot recruit a police officer," Mr Venning said.

"Only the State Government can do that. Only the State Government can decide what it takes to get people to regional, rural and remote South Australia and keep them there."

Mr Venning said Member for Giles, Eddie Hughes MP, whose electorate covers both Whyalla and Port Augusta, has been missing in action as regional South Australia grapples with a growing crime crisis.

Hughes' dismissal of criticism from frustrated community leaders as "unfair" shows just how out of touch he is with the concerns being raised across the region.

RE: "Crime up in Regional South Australia, while the state figure falls"

Dear Editor,

I have read this article in full, and some parts have merit, but not all of the issues are being addressed.

It fails to mention that there has been a significant increase in people who left Alice Springs when they implemented curfews, and those people came to Coober Pedy to gain better access to drugs, alcohol, and the pokies.

We need to address the situation of minors roaming the streets after dark unaccompanied by adults and a better court system that is stricter in monitoring offenders and dealing with repeat offenders with jail time instead of turning them back on the streets with little or no monitoring of their activities.

As for blaming the lack of police, yes, there is a shortage, but the problem is that their hands are tied; they can work hard to catch offenders, but the courts turn them back on to the streets, which makes it very frustrating for the police as they have to continually deal with repeat offenders, with no end in sight.

As for the lack of people moving to remote areas, one reason is the lack of housing, and the reason for this is certain individuals are burning houses down or vandalising houses that make them untenable, with little or no recourse for the owners to receive restitution. You only have to drive around Coober Pedy to see the number of houses destroyed.

Another reason that is keeping people away is that when you buy a property, you are charged exorbitant rates because your property is valued considerably higher than what you are able to sell it for.

The property that I live in is a small dugout on the edge of town; it is valued at \$ 168,000 and yet when I had it valued by a local real estate agent, I was told that the most I could ask for was about \$ 90,000 considerably below the valuation.

The rates that I pay entitle me to one bin pick-up per week, and yet I am forced to drive on extremely poorly maintained roads, with no line marking and full of potholes and jagged edges. On top of that, I am charged high prices for water, which in most cases is unfit for consumption; if you put it into the windscreen washer is blocks them, and if I don't wipe it off, the windscreen dries with a residue.

I have been living in Coober Pedy permanently for 22 years and have been associated with the town for about 10 years more over that. I have watched what used to be a great place with everyone interacting with each other become a town that is going down the drain at a rapid pace, and it's really sad to see.

One more item that I failed to mention is that the cost of living has spiraled out of control and this is having a major impact on communities in rural and remote regions so blaming one government for all of the problems is in itself not helping the situation. If government parties could learn to

communicate better with each other, we might be able to come up with a workable solution but instead they continually try to undermine each to either stay in power or get into power, which doesn't help the situation or constructively address the problems.

Let's all work together and try to make our rural and remote areas better for all, not just a few.

Andrew Girvan - RATEPAYER

REGIONAL GEM, MINERAL & LAPIDARY CLUB SHOWS

September 2026 Ipswich Gem Show (Sept 5, QLD)	October 2026 Beenleigh GemFest (Oct 3, QLD)
Bribie Island Gemfest (Sept 12–13, QLD)	Inverell Gem & Craft Show (Oct 9–14, NSW)
Kalamunda Lapidary (Sept 12–13, WA)	Toowoomba Gemfest (Oct 17–18, QLD)
Caloundra Gem Show (Sept 19, QLD)	Canberra Spring Gemcraft Show (Oct 17–18, ACT)
Waverley Gem Show (Sept 19–20, VIC)	Northern Districts Show (Oct 24–25, NSW)
Gemkhana NSW State Show (Sept 26–27, NSW)	Geelong Gem & Jewellery Show (Oct 31–Nov 1, VIC)

November 2026
Canberra Crystal Show (Nov 17–22, ACT)

COOPER PEDY COMMUNITY ALLIANCE

MEETING: Saturday 5 September, 2026 at 2PM, Italian Club

AGENDA

- 1.) POLICE REPORT / DISCUSSION - Snr Sgt Simon Haebich
- 2.) CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT / DISCUSSION
- 3.) SPECIAL GUEST: The Hon Carlos Quaremba MLC

Introducing Carlos Quaremba

Carlos Quaremba is a South Australian politician with a strong working-class and regional background.

Born in Argentina, Carlos came to Australia with his family as a young child and grew up in Adelaide. Before entering politics, he worked in a variety of industries, including manufacturing, music, construction and the oil and gas sector in the Cooper Basin.

His political career began in local government, where he served as a councillor for the City of Victor Harbor. His experience there gave him a close-up understanding of the challenges faced by councils, ratepayers and local communities.

In 2026, Carlos was elected to the South Australian Parliament as a One Nation member of the Legislative Council.

Carlos is visiting Cooper Pedy to listen to residents and discuss the town's future as it prepares to return from administration to elected local government. His visit is an opportunity for residents to have their say about what they want from their council and how local government can better serve the community.



Carlos Quaremba MLC (centre) met up with the Community Alliance Committee recently; John Di Donna, George Rosewarne, Margaret Mackay, Teena Rosewarne, and President of the Cooper Pedy Miner's Association Matt Graham.

**4.) JOIN US FOR A SAUSAGE SIZZLE,
COMPLIMENTS OF THE ITALIAN CLUB**



Survey forms will be available
at the next Cooper Pedy
Community Alliance meeting
Saturday 5th May 2 pm
Italian Club



Dear Managers/Business Owners and Others

We are seeking some very quick feedback from local organisations about VOCATIONAL training in Cooper Pedy.

With concerns about youth employment and the current level of teenage crime in our community, we are looking at whether local training opportunities could do more to help young people gain useful skills and find employment.

We would greatly appreciate it if you could take a couple of minutes to answer the five questions below.

We are particularly interested to know how many of your employees/children/attendees currently undertake TAFE or OTHER training, and whether you find the training beneficial, and what additional courses you believe would be useful in Cooper Pedy for all youth equally.

No names or personal information are required.

Thank you very much for your assistance. Your organisation's experience could help identify practical training opportunities that meet the needs of our local community, employers and school leavers.

Kind regards, **Cooper Pedy Community Alliance**

SURVEY

How many people employed by or attending your organisation currently attend a vocational course in Cooper Pedy or elsewhere?

___ people.

Overall, how satisfied are you with the TAFE training available in Cooper Pedy?

☐ Very satisfied ☐ Satisfied ☐ Not satisfied ☐ Not applicable

Do you believe the local TAFE courses currently available provide useful skills and employment opportunities for local people?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Partly

Are there any courses or skills you believe TAFE could offer in Cooper Pedy to help all local people, particularly young people, obtain employment?

Eg. Hairdressing, mechanics, hospitality, construction, administration, aged care, childcare, community services and similar

Would your organisation be interested in employing or supporting trainees/apprentices who completed locally relevant TAFE training?

☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ Possibly

Optional final question:

5. Is there anything else you would like to offer about vocational training needs in Cooper Pedy?

.....

2026 NATIONAL BRONCO BRANDING CHAMPIONSHIPS - EVENT RESULTS

Event Results - Cow Work

Mini Cow Work: 1st Missy Reynolds (Harley) 51, 2nd Missy Reynolds (Matey) 35, 3rd Lenny Williams (Sam) 34

Junior Cow Work: 1st Reeve Reynolds (Summer) 76, 2nd Reeve Reynolds (Bouquet) 53, 3rd George Williams (Reign) 45

Juvenile Cow Work: 1st Magenta Williams (Summer) 66, 2nd Pippa Reynolds (Diva) 64, 3rd Magenta Williams (Matey) 57

Cow Work Encouragement: 1st Kaeli May (Wolf Pack) 112, 2nd Ellen Litchfield (Rupert) 106, 3rd Ben Hewitt (River) 101

Open Cow Work: 1st Kate Ozolins (Fancy) 162, 2nd Harvey Williams (Maxine) 154, 3rd Laura Hewitt (Savings) 149

Event Results – Bronco Branding

NOVICE

1st - Macumba 2: CATCHER Justin Nunn BACK LEG Jamie Kunze FRONT LEG Dylan Nicholls BRANDER Gregg Warren 4:41.74

2nd - LH: CATCHER Laura Hewitt BACK LEG Colin Greenfield FRONT LEG Ben Hewitt BRANDER Harvey Williams 5:36.82

3rd - Patsy Springs: Catcher Kaeli May BACK LEG Chris Reynolds FRONT LEG David May BRANDER Dylan Nicholls 6:27.33

OPEN SINGLES

1st - Mount Barry: CATCHER Tony Williams BACK LEG Cam Williams FRONT LEG Matt Williams BRANDER Logan Williams 7:48.29

2nd - Connemara: CATCHER Harvey Williams BACK LEG Corey Ferguson FRONT LEG Koby Geiger BRANDER Lachie Hoddle 8:50.40

3rd - Billa Kalina: CATCHER Col Greenfield BACK LEG Matt Williams FRONT LEG Cam Williams BRANDER Ben Hewitt 9:42.70

DOUBLES

1st - B41: CATCHERS Bully Booth & Gregg Warren BACK LEG Chris Reynolds FRONT LEG David May BRANDER Bridie Ferguson 9:07.75

2nd - Hard Rated: CATCHERS Jason Jones & Logan Williams BACK LEG Ben Hewitt FRONT LEG Chris Reynolds BRANDER Corey Ferguson

3rd - Mount Barry: CATCHERS Tony Williams & Cam Williams BACK LEG Harvey Williams FRONT LEG Matt Williams BRANDER Logan Williams 10:19.02

Hale River Fastest Catch: Novice Justin Nunn, Singles Logan Williams, Doubles Tony Williams

Wonambi Opals Mystery Calf Catch: Chris Reynolds

Billa Kalina Station Grounds Person Of the Day: Matt Williams

Steer Ride: 1st Harvey Williams, 2nd Tommy Hoddle

Chute Dogging: 1st Harvey Williams & Dylan Nicholls 2nd Trent Coleman & Josh Barry 3rd Cody Phillips & Trent Cleary



Matt Williams on the back leg



Jason Jones - Hard Rated - 2nd Doubles



Justin Nunn
Novice Champion Catcher

The buffel grass time-bomb

Centralia's buffel grass time-bomb mirrors the experience of desert regions in the United States. The rise of environmentalism in Arizona shares remarkable similarities with semi-arid Australia while Queensland's obsession with buffel fed beef seems more politically aligned with Texas and possibly Mexico.

Threatening the entire Lake Eyre Basin, buffel grass is now rampant in Coober Pedy and both the SA and federal Governments are missing in action.

"After World War II, the Western Australian Department of Agriculture deliberately planted buffel grass, in Queensland the first plantings occurred in 1926 in Cloncurry, trials occurred in NSW in the 1920's.... Since the 1950's, buffel grass has been sown at scale across northern Australia..." from the ALEC position paper Firestorm.

To say that scientists and politicians failed to consider the risks of exotic grasses wreaking havoc on biodiversity would be a massive understatement.

Weed Legislation: In much the same way as the vulnerability of old growth river red gums have focussed attention on the buffel grass invasion in Centralia, the emblematic Saguaro cactus has galvanised public support for action on this botanical 'plague' in the US state of Arizona.

The early 2000s were la Nina years in central Australia and buffel expanded rapidly igniting greater public concern. Finally, in 2014 the Federal Government's Threatened Species Scientific Commission recommended all states and territories declare buffel grass a weed and act to mitigate the buffel grass threat to 70% of the Australian continent.

In 2015, South Australia acted promptly on this deeply considered advice and all other states ignored it. Following a further decade of prevarication, a public revolt finally forced the Northern Territory Government to act in 2024 and buffel grass was declared a weed.

Recently, "...Buffel grass, an introduced weed that is transforming desert ecosystems across Australia, has been nominated for recognition as a Weed of National Significance (WoNS)...

It's interesting to note that greater voting density in Darwin, the NT Capital, enabled citizens to achieve a WoNS declaration for gamba grass (another CSIRO release) in 2012!

Research from the centre: Long-term resident of Alice Springs and eminent arid zone ecologist Associate Professor Christine Schlesinger of Charles Darwin University, began researching the ecological impacts of buffel grass following large rains in 2000. She has gone on to publish more than ten scientific papers on the impacts of buffel grass. "

...Buffel grass is a serious invader of desert ecosystems worldwide. It promotes more frequent and intense fire episodes, potentially threatening the persistence of large trees...Their widespread decline, globally and in Australia, has serious implications for biodiversity and ecosystem integrity..."

In September 2023 buffel grass made headlines around the world. "Invasive buffel grass that helped fuel deadly Maui fires [is] also threatening Australia..."

"...The Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) has recognised buffel grass's potential to completely take over arid ecosystems, forcing out native plant and animal species..."

BUFFEL GRASS: HAVE YOUR SAY

Parliamentary inquiry finally takes action

South Australia's growing Buffel Grass problem is now the subject of a parliamentary inquiry.

Buffel grass is an invasive weed that can destroy native vegetation, increase fire risk and threaten Aboriginal cultural heritage, communities and infrastructure.

The Parliament's Natural Resources Committee is seeking views from **Aboriginal communities, landholders, pastoralists, scientists, conservation groups and regional communities** about the spread of Buffel Grass, its impacts and what more needs to be done.

Written submissions close Friday 9 October 2026.

If you have experienced the impacts of Buffel Grass or have views about how it should be controlled, **this is your opportunity to be heard.**

Submission information and the Terms of Reference are available on the South Australian Parliament's Natural Resources Committee Current Inquiries page.

<https://committees.parliament.sa.gov.au/committee/391/Natural%20Resources%20Committee/55/55th%20Parliament%205%2F3%2F2022%20-%20Current/55>

The buffel grass invasion in outback towns like Coober Pedy has not improved since being legislated as a declared weed in 2015. Despite heavy annual levies from the Landscape board, residents paying the levy must remove buffel grass and other pest species at their own expense. Local councils are given the responsibility of removing buffel grass in public areas, but it is not enforced.



"A key ingredient in the deadly Maui fires — unmanaged invasive grasses, like buffel grass — is also spreading throughout vast areas of Australia, prompting a warning about the increased risk to people, houses and biodiversity on this side of the globe.... In August 2023, the spread of non-native grasses in Hawaii was put under the microscope, when the island of Maui ignited in one of the deadliest fires in US history. The death toll stands at 97 people, with 31 still missing..."

Industry funding misdirected: The natural environment is being destroyed by political indifference, while a buffel promoting industry receives generous federal funds to prop up this discredited grazing status quo. The federal Government matches, on a dollar for dollar basis, funds raised through producer levies etc. "...Total funding for the program is \$157 million over eight years. All projects will be completed by June 2023..."

Unfortunately this funding was not used to address the concerns of landowners who might oppose reliance on buffel grass and wish to control this weed and/or spread their risks to foster and manage native pastures in total or part.

An industry that is facing inevitable pasture run-down should be looking to the future instead of harking back to beef production that came at such an unconscionable cost to the natural environment.

Industry jingoism side-steps science: On 11 March 2025, Lloyd Hick, AgForce Cattle Board President made the following alarmist claims. "...The push to list it as a Weed of National Significance (WoNS) would have severe consequences for Queensland's beef industry and broader agriculture. If listed, buffel could face legislative restrictions, removal requirements, and even biological control research aimed at eradicating it..."

At a Northern Territory Cattlemen's Association conference in Darwin earlier this year, "President Garry Edwards chimed in... campaigns by environmental groups...ignored the vital contribution the grass had made to the economic viability and sustainable profitability of regional and rural Australia..." "In fact, I think we should nominate buffel grass for an Order of Australia medal for its sustainable long-term enhancement and efforts in contributing the profitability of regional Australia," he said, sparking applause and cheers from the conference audience."

"...As a multi-billion-dollar industry with 52,000 plus levy payers and supporting 430,000 jobs the beef cattle sector was the largest single economic contributor of Australian primary industry outside mining...It's about time we understood that we are the 50,000-pound gorilla in the room that just hasn't been woken up..."

Note: In 2021-2, Agriculture (pastoralism, forestry, fishery and horticulture) contributed \$805M, currently employs less than 2,000 people and contributes 2.8 % to the NT GSP. Pastoralism occupies approximately 54 % of the country.

Discussion: In the rangelands of inland Australia, pastoralism was profitable before buffel and much more so after a massive programme of drilling to provide artesian water flows for livestock. It's nonsense to suggest the entire industry is not viable without it and plenty of evidence to suggest that pasture rundown is occurring and will likely prove disastrous in buffel grass monocultures of the future.

Clearly fear mongering by industry lobbyists is disingenuous. While I've had honest conversations with pastoralists who have serious misgivings about the buffel invasion, they are shy about going on the record. Primary industries are not always open to diverse views. I believe this is a huge mistake and risks reputational damage to so many primary producers and stake-holders who do rely on the empathy and understanding of the nation in times of great hardship such as drought, flood or tariffs.

Readers may well ask why the federal Government failed to act on expert advice delivered by the Threatened Species Scientific Commission in 2014 and why all levels of Government continued to do nothing from 2021 when "ecosystem collapse" was finally reported by a federal agency? Truly, this is one of the environmental scandals of the century.

OODNADATTA BRONCO BRANDING 2026

OUTBACK EVENT

41 st OODNADATTA BRONCO BRANDING SATURDAY JULY 11 th , 2025			
WILLIAMS CATTLE COMPANY NOVICE BRONCO BRANDING			
Also sponsored by: Costello Cattle Company			
WINNERS/ PLACES			
1 st : Patsy Springs			
Catcher: Kaeli May	Front Leg: David May		
Back Leg: Chris Reynolds	Brand: Dylan Nicholls		
2 nd : Laura Hewitt			\$500
Catcher: Laura Hewitt	Front Leg: Colin Greenfield		
Back Leg: Ben Hewitt	Brand: Bridie Greenfield		
3 rd : Nilpinna			\$300
Catcher: Hollie Williams	Front Leg: Matt Williams		
Back Leg: Logan Williams	Brand: Magenta Williams		
Fastest Catch: Hollie Williams		1:33	\$50
BYPASS BRONCO BRANDING: Also sponsored by: Nutrien Livestock Balaklava			
1 st : Mt Barry (3:31.84 + 2:49.15)		6:20.99	\$2000
Catcher: Tony Williams	Front Leg: Matt Williams		
Back Leg: Cameron Williams	Brand: Logan Williams		
2 nd : Cameron Williams (3:57.43 + 3:14.30)		7:11.73	\$1000
Catcher: Cameron Williams	Front Leg: Dylan Nicholls		
Back Leg: Colin Greenfield	Brand: Kate Ozolins		
3 rd : Northern Flinders (3:26.99 + 4:30.01)		7:57.00	\$500
Catcher: Chris Reynolds	Front Leg: David May		
Back Leg: Dylan Nicholls	Brand: Bridie Greenfield		
THOMAS FOODS INTERNATIONAL DOUBLES BRONCO BRANDING			
Also sponsored by: KLR and Circle C Contracting			
1 st : Billa Kalina		5:01.40	\$2000
Catchers: Colin Greenfield, Ben Hewitt	Front Leg: Cam Williams		
Back Leg: Matt Williams	Brand: Bridie Greenfield		
2 nd : Macumba 2		6:08.58	\$1000
Catchers: Justin Nunn, Gordon Warren	Front Leg: Leo Rothe		
Back Leg: Beau Brindall	Brand: Colin Greenfield		
3 rd : Mt Barry		6:09.10	\$500
Catchers: Tony and Cameron Williams	Front Leg: Matt Williams		
Back Leg: Chris Reynolds	Brand: Logan Williams		
GILLEN CLUB CHUTE DOGGING. Also sponsored by: The Pink Roadhouse			
1 st : Matt Williams and Ben Hewitt		29.90	\$400
2 nd : Lucy Bussenschutt and Cooper Nicholls		30.40	\$200
3 rd :			\$100
ASH JONES MEMORIAL STEER RIDE. Also sponsored by: Outback Communities Authority			
1 st : Tommy Hoddle		7.50/ 80	\$400
2 nd : Josh Carr		5:06	\$150
3 rd : Brodie Griggs		5:06	\$150
Fastest Catch: Sponsored by Hale River Homestead			
Tony Williams		12 seconds	\$250
Best Ground Crew of the Day			
Chris Reynolds		5 points	\$50
Horse of the Day			
Jog (Colin Greenfield)			\$50

After a postponement because of the rain in the area leading up to July 11th, the Oodnadatta Bronco Branding was finally held a week later on Saturday, July 18th.

Great weather saw a good crowd in attendance, and spectators were treated to some fine skills on show from both horse and rider, first up in the Cow Work, and then the Bronco Branding.

The committee is very grateful to everyone who came along- volunteers, competitors and spectators alike travelled long distances to attend.

Many thanks also to our sponsors- without you we couldn't hold these events.



Roy Nunn, Jack Williams, Reeve Reynolds and George Williams were successful in the Cow Work



Patsy Springs Team of Kaeli May(Catcher), David May, Dylan Nicholls and Chris Reynolds won the Novice Bronco Branding event



Justin Nunn in the Doubles

OODNADATTA COW WORK RESULTS 2026	
MINI COW WORK	
Missy Reynolds - Matey	
Lenny Williams - Matey	
Lenny Williams - Charlie	
JUNIOR COW WORK	
George Williams - Reign	
Reeva Reynolds - Bouquet	
Jack Williams - Charlie	
Roy Nunn - Sox	
JUVENILE COW WORK	
Reeva Reynolds - Matey	
Magenta Williams - Summer	
Reeva Reynolds - Bouquet	
ENCOURAGEMENT COW WORK	
Bridie Greenfield - Roy	
Pippa Reynolds - Frisbee	
Kaeli Mengersen - Wolf Pack	
OPEN COW WORK	
Andrew Clarke - Brian	
Taz McEwan- Khalia	
Kate Ozolins - Fancy	

Thank you to Peter Rowe for photography



Doubles winners: Billa Kalina Team- Catchers Ben Hewitt and Col Greenfield, ground crew Matt Williams. Bridie Greenfield and Cam Williams



Singles BB Winners Mt Barry- Matt, Logan, Cameron and Tony Williams (Catcher) with sponsor Kelly Evans, Nutrien Balaklava



Tony Williams pulling a beast up to the panel



Kate Ozolins, ready to catch, at Oodnadatta

PUBLIC NOTICE

Regional Capability Community Fund Round 5 – NOW OPEN

Grant Writing Workshop – Coober Pedy



Government of South Australia

Department for Energy and Mining

Mining Act 1971

Notice is hereby given in accordance with Section 56H of the Mining Act 1971 that an application for a Mining Lease over the undermentioned mineral claim has been received:

Applicant:

Central Iron Pty Ltd (ACN 143 503 397)

Claim Number:

4587

Location:

CL 6304/668 Coondambo area, approximately 2.6 km west of Glendambo.

Area:

6.00 hectares approximately

Purpose:

Construction Materials (Calcrete, Gravel (Natural), Ironstone)

Reference:

MLA-01109; Kultanaby Borrow Pit 1

Applicant:

Central Iron Pty Ltd (ACN 143 503 397)

Claim Number:

4588

Location:

CL 6304/668, Coondambo area, approximately 3km west of Glendambo.

Area:

8.00 hectares approximately

Purpose:

Construction Materials (Calcrete, Gravel (Natural), Ironstone)

Reference:

MLA-01116; Kultanaby Borrow Pit 2

Applicant:

Central Iron Pty Ltd (ACN 143 503 397)

Claim Number:

4589

Location:

CL 6304/668, Coondambo area, approximately 6km southwest of Glendambo.

Area:

50.03 hectares approximately

Purpose:

Construction Materials (Gravel (Natural), Ironstone, Limestone)

Reference:

MLA-01117; Kultanaby Borrow Pit 3

Applicant:

Central Iron Pty Ltd (ACN 143 503 397)

Claim Number:

4590

Location:

CL 6304/668, Coondambo area, approximately 11km southwest of Glendambo.

Area:

16.26 hectares approximately

Purpose:

Construction Materials (Calcrete, Gravel (Natural), Ironstone)

Reference:

MLA-01118; Kultanaby Borrow Pit 4

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

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

Written submissions in relation to this application are invited to be received at the Department for Energy and Mining, Mining Regulation, Attn: Business Support Officer, GPO Box 618 ADELAIDE SA 5001 or dem.miningregrehab@sa.gov.au by no later than **9 September 2026**.

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

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

Gemma-Kate Hammond

A/Mining Registrar as delegate for the Minister for Energy and Mining

Department for Energy and Mining

http://energymining.sa.gov.au

The Regional Capability Community Fund (RCCF) Round 5 provides \$500,000 in State Government funding to support eligible South Australian landholders to improve farm firefighting capability, safety and preparedness.

Round 5 (2026–27) of the RCCF will continue to support South Australian farmers, farming businesses and rural landholders to purchase eligible equipment that strengthens local fire response capability and supports safer use of Farm Fire Units in line with CFS guidance. The RCCF will reimburse between \$1,000 to \$5,000 (GST inclusive) to farmers and farming businesses to purchase equipment to support the safe use of Farm Fire Units (FFU).

Eligible Applicants:

- Individual farmers
- Farming businesses or rural landholders
- Rural community groups

Applicants may apply under one funding stream only. Round 5 funding is available for the following equipment categories:

Farm Fire Unit (FFU): eligible items include new FFUs that align with CFS guidance and meet relevant South Australian requirements. The maximum reimbursement is \$5,000 per successful applicant.

Safety Equipment: eligible items include heat shields, woollen fire blankets, rotating amber beacons, first aid kits with burns kits, and fire-rated personal protective clothing. The maximum reimbursement is \$1,000 per successful applicant.

Other Equipment: eligible items include hose and/or branch, water pumps, water tanks with a minimum capacity of 400 litres and a fill point, and UHF/CB radios. The maximum reimbursement is \$1,000 per successful applicant.

Applications for Round 5 Close 18th September 2026.

For more information or to apply, head to the website below.

<https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/plan-prepare/business-farms/farm-fire-units/grants/>



Regional Development Australia

FAR NORTH

GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP

ALL SPOTS FILLED

COOBER PEDY

REGISTER FOR WAITLIST

TUESDAY 1 SEPTEMBER 6PM-8PM

MUD HUT MOTEL



What will you get?

- 2 hours face to face training
- How to make sure you are grant ready
- Tips on preparing a successful grant application
- PLUS lots of helpful resources to take home !!!

For more information contact:

Leadership Program Manager

Renata Hackett

E: lpm@rdafn.com.au

P: (08) 8641 1444

Local people creating local opportunities www.rdafn.com.au



WHEN

September 1 @ 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm



WHERE

St Nicholas Street

Coober Pedy, South Australia 5723 Australia

VIEW EVENT DETAILS

VIEW EVENT WEBSITE

RDA

About Grant Writing Workshop – Coober Pedy

ALL SPOTS HAVE NOW BEEN FILLED FOR THIS WORKSHOP.

PLEASE REGISTER TO JOIN THE WAITLIST AND WITH ENOUGH INTEREST WE WILL LOOK TO RUN A 2ND WORKSHOP AT A LATER DATE.

Come along to our FREE Grant Writing Workshop in Coober Pedy!

Tuesday, 1st September 6pm – 8pm

To ensure we have enough resources on the day, please register your attendance by clicking on the link below:

<https://events.humanitix.com/grant-writing-workshop-1-september>

For any enquiries, please contact: Leadership Program Manager Renata Hackett

lpm@rdafn.com.au (08) 86 41 1444

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 fire or the need for medical 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 362 363

Police Non-urgent matters 131 444

Crime Stoppers (report crime anonymously) 1800 333 0060

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 018 333

Electricity Power network faults and emergencies, including loss of supply 13 13 66

SA Water Burst water mains 1300 650 950

Sewer blockage or overflow 1300 883 121

Gas leaks 1800 GAS LEAK 1800 427 832

Health & medical Health Direct - Free health advice from trained clinicians 1800 022 222

Mental health emergencies 13 14 65

Poisons information 13 11 36

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

2. The Coober Pedy Regional Times reserves the right to editor of refuse copy in accordance with newspaper Policies.

DISCLAIMER

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.

COOBER PEDY REGIONAL TIMES

Display EGN \$6.75 pcm/pcol (7 col)

Classi \$8.35 pcm/pcol (4 col)

editor@cooberpedytimes.com

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Coober Pedy Regional Times

Friday 21 August 2026

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 August movies

15th Minions & Monsters
22nd Jurassic Park
29th Toy Story 5

Gates open 6:30pm
Movies starts 7pm

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

!! Children are to be supervised and with their guardian at all times !!
!! No walk ins under 15 years without guardian !!

O.M.E. Fuel

Lot 1299 Old Water Tank Rd

Auto Electrician

We offer high quality Auto Electrical and Air Conditioning repairs and installations backed by 30 years of experience with affordable prices!

Trucks and Heavy Machinery
4WD
Cars and Caravans

CALL on 0401848973

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>

Saturday, October 3, 2026 at 11 AM – 3 PM

Andamooka Airport Kaleidoscope Garden Party

Andamooka Airfield Access Road, Andamooka, SA, Australia, South Australia 5722

Meet your hosts



Andamooka Airport YAMK
0 past events · Page · Airport

The Andamooka Airport is operated by the Andamooka Opal Fields Tourism Association (AOFTA)...



Opal Evolution Andamooka
0 past events · Page · Festival

Opal Evolution Festival celebrates Andamooka's opal, opalised fossils, opal mining, art, and the night skies. October 3-5 2025 & building up to ...

On Saturday 3 October 2026, Andamooka Airport will host the inaugural Kaleidoscope Garden Party for 1971 Gate 54 Jet Set Lounge from 11:00 am – 3:00 pm, a daytime celebration of Opal Evolution III: Light from Deep Time. Your ticket includes one drink on arrival, canapés and lunch. Additional drinks will be available to purchase throughout the event.

Tickets are \$60 per person, plus a booking fee. Proceeds from the garden party will support the ongoing maintenance of the Andamooka Airport.

What to Expect

- Welcome drink and canapés on arrival.
- Music from 1970s, specially curated by Cal the Stoner.
- Lunch in the airport garden.
- A presentation about the garden's design, native plant selection and climate-resilient purpose.
- Time to relax, explore the garden and enjoy the 1970s atmosphere.
- Additional drinks available to purchase throughout the afternoon.

After the garden party, continue your day at the free Opal Evolution Festival evening event, with food and drinks available to purchase.

While you're planning ahead, don't forget these upcoming events:

Fire & Fire and Rainbow South Australian Opal, Gemstone and Mineral Show South Australian Museum, Adelaide

11–13 June 2027

National Opal Symposium

Andamooka & Roxby Downs

16–17 June 2027

Whether you're flying in for the day or making a weekend of it, we'd love to welcome you to YAMK.

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



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

AUGUST

Thursday 20 August to Sunday 23 August –

Shimano Gravel Muster Stage Race (Alice Springs):
A premier gravel cycling stage race taking riders
through the rugged MacDonnell Ranges.

Thursday 20 August to Sunday 23 August – Red
Dirt Poetry Festival (Alice Springs): A celebration of
outback storytelling, performance poetry, and writing
workshops.

Throughout August SALA exhibitions (Roxby Downs
and Alice Springs galleries)

SEPTEMBER

Thursday 3 September to Sunday 6 September
Red CentreNATS (Alice Springs) (Red
CentreNATS is an annual motorsports festival held
in Alice Springs, Northern Territory. It combines car
shows, drag racing, burnout competitions, and
4wheeling events, bringing together custom car
builders and outback driving fans for a multi-day
celebration of car culture.)

Friday 4 September to Saturday 5 September
Birdsville Races

Saturday 5 September Coober Pedy Speedway

Thursday 10 September R U OK? Day

Thursday 10 September to Friday 25 October –
Desert Mob (Alice Springs): A massive, highly
regarded annual gathering and exhibition
celebrating contemporary Aboriginal desert art and
culture, hosted by Desart.

Sunday 13 September – Bush Bands Bash (Alice
Springs): An iconic annual celebration bringing
remote Indigenous bands from across the desert to
perform live on stage.

Sunday 13 September to Friday 18 September
Outback Adventure Rally through Marree, William
Creek, Oodnadatta, Coober Pedy and Woomera

Friday 25 September to Sunday 27 September
William Creek Outback Fly-In

The 2026 BIRDSVILLE RACES will be held Friday, September 4 and Saturday, September 5, 2026,

Town Celebrations (Sept 1–6): Live music, food
vendors, the RFDS Fun Run, whip-cracking
competitions, and the Birdsville Cup Parade.

Main Race Days: Friday, September 4 (Akubra Big
Red Day) and Saturday, September 5 (TAB
Birdsville Cup Day).

<https://birdsvilleraces.com/faqs/>



OCTOBER

Saturday 3 October Coober Pedy Speedway

Saturday 10 October to Saturday 17 October – Alice
Springs Show: Running alongside the Masters
Games, bringing community exhibits, entertainment,
and agricultural displays to town.

Saturday 31 October Coober Pedy Speedway

NOVEMBER

Sunday 1 November to Monday 30 November
Movember

Saturday 21 November Coober Pedy Speedway

DECEMBER

Friday 25 December Christmas Day

Thursday 31 December New Year's Eve Community
Celebrations



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

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 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:
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



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 (July2026)

President: Mick Cox
Vice President: Barney Boswell
Secretary: Kingsley Kammermann
Treasurer: Fay Summers-Rouda
Committee Members:
Freda & Frank Farr
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: cpga.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/



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

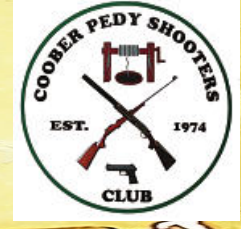
Child Abuse Report Line (CARL)
131478

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



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
Military**

1 August

8 August

15 August

22 August

29 August

**DISCIPLINES
INCLUDE:**

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

Starting Time: 9:00 AM

Sundays

**50 m Benchrest
Rapid Fire Match**

2 August

9 August

16 August

13 August

30 August

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>

