

COOPER PEDY RESIDENTS SPEAK OUT TO ONE NATION REPRESENTATIVES

Local residents raise concerns about democracy, council performance, essential services and the future of their town.

On Friday, 2 October, One Nation MLC Carlos Quaremba met with Cooper Pedy residents at the RSL, where community members had the opportunity to raise concerns about the town's future and its treatment by local and State Government.

John Di Donna, Chairperson of the Cooper Pedy Community Alliance, said residents had raised serious concerns about the lack of transparency, communication and information from the District Council of Cooper Pedy, along with a lack of support from the State Government.

John said the town had been under government-appointed administration for approximately eight years, leaving residents uncertain about when they would regain their elected local government.

He said there were also concerns about the proposed hybrid council model, particularly the lack of meaningful consultation with the wider community before decisions were made.

Residents had raised the issue of high council rates, which they believed were among the highest in South Australia, while basic municipal services remained lacking.

John said the amended legislation dealing with the transition out of administration had raised further concerns that Cooper Pedy might not return to a democratically elected council and self-government.

He said the meeting gave residents, including representatives from other groups that attended, an opportunity to express their frustration and seek greater accountability from both the Council and the State Government.

Later, Carlos Quaremba said, "I enjoyed the chance to engage with locals and hear their views during my third visit to Cooper Pedy in recent times."

"It was very encouraging to see that Cooper Pedy people are so proud and protective of their little part of Australia that they want to fix it."

"They also see that One Nation is the avenue to reinstate the principles of a fair and equitable society, even in what is considered one of South Australia's most remote areas."

"One Nation is serious about local government reform."

DES ROFFEY: "THE MOST REFRESHING EXCHANGE"

Former elected Cooper Pedy councillor Des Roffey, who served from November 2018, also shared his views following the meeting with Carlos Quaremba.

Des said it had been the most refreshing exchange of dialogue he had experienced with any Member of Parliament since the government-appointed administration began on 24 January 2019.

He described the past seven and a half years under administration as an embarrassing dilemma for Cooper Pedy.

Des said council elections were supposed to take place in April next year, but he believed the return to elected government was now under threat.

He said the situation appeared to reflect a view that the town's residents were not capable of self-government because of divisions within the community.

"Regardless of how one considers the town should go forward," Des said, "the point remains that the picture that has been painted is of a divided community with no formulated structure of unity and strength."

Des said the poor performance of government-appointed administration since January 2019 was compounded by the community's own difficulty in presenting a properly coordinated case for a return to self-government.

He believed Carlos Quaremba could help bring the town together and present a united case to the Premier to restore what Des described as the community's democratic right to self-government.

"Failing this, Cooper Pedy will wither on the vine," Des said.



Residents arriving at the Community Alliance meeting with Carlos Quaremba (Far Left)



ABOUT US

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

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

The COOBER PEDY REGIONAL TIMES is 'WORLD WIDE'

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Next PUBLICATION DATE

Friday 23 October 2026

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

Four pillars of Democracy are:

LEGISLATIVE : The body which makes laws for the state.

EXECUTIVE : Executes and enforces laws.

JUDICIARY : Works to protect laws.

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

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WEATHER COOBER PEDY

Coober Pedy

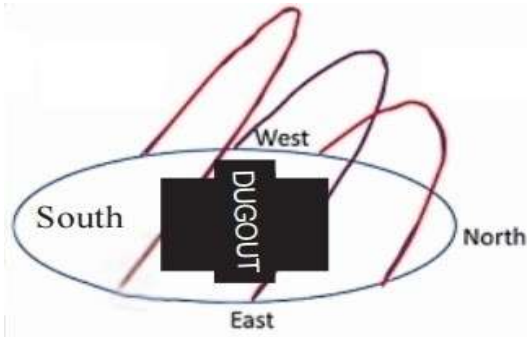
Forecast updated at 10:24 am CDT on Friday 9 October 2026.

	Fri. 9 Oct	Sat. 10 Oct	Sun. 11 Oct	Mon. 12 Oct	Tue. 13 Oct	Wed. 14 Oct	Thu. 15 Oct
	 Possible shower or storm.	 Sunny.	 Showers. Storm developing.	 Mostly sunny.	 Sunny.	 Shower or two.	 Cloudy.
Max. Temperature	30 °C	28 °C	34 °C	26 °C	22 °C	20 °C	22 °C
Min. Temperature		13 °C	18 °C	16 °C	10 °C	9 °C	11 °C

The average annual rainfall at Coober Pedy is about 144 mm (5.68 inches), according to official climate records (BOM)

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.



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
Spring 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



Photo: Brad Butvila ©

Jennifer Hamilton-Smith, Mileva Bulovic, Vicky (Vixy) Smith & Amber Butvila enjoying a Coober Pedy sunset and a beautiful reminder of the friendships, good times and community spirit that make our outback town so special!

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POLICE REPORTS



Sgt Dave Finlayson



Snr Sgt Simon Haebich

OCTOBER IS OPAL BIRTHSTONE MONTH; CELEBRATING THE QUEEN OF GEMS AT THE OPAL CAPITAL OF THE WORLD: COOBER PEDY



October marks the global celebration of opal, the mesmerising birthstone renowned for its kaleidoscopic play-of-colour. While opals are treasured worldwide, no place on Earth embodies the spirit of this gem quite like Coober Pedy. Nestled deep within the sun-baked outback of South Australia, this iconic town proudly wears the crown of the 'Opal Capital of the World,' supplying the vast majority of the world's precious white and crystal opals.

The Magic of the October Birthstone - Opals have captivated humanity for centuries, historically symbolising hope, purity, and boundless creativity. Unlike standard faceted gemstones, precious opals contain microscopic spheres of silica arranged in highly regular patterns. As light passes through, it diffracts into a stunning spectrum of shifting hues, a phenomenon known as 'play-of-colour.' For those born in October, wearing an opal means carrying a piece of natural art where no two stones are ever identical.



Coober Pedy: Born from the Fire of the Outback - Discovered in 1915, Coober Pedy's opal fields transformed a harsh, arid landscape into a bustling international hub for miners and gemstone enthusiasts. To escape the blistering desert heat, the town's residents built a subterranean community, constructing underground homes (dugouts), churches, and shops. Beneath this rugged terrain lies the ancient, evaporated inland sea beds that created the perfect geological conditions for precious opal to form over millions of years.

Celebrating Opal Month in the Opal Capital - October is the ultimate time to explore Coober Pedy. Local showrooms, underground museums, and working mines come alive to celebrate the birthstone month. Visitors flock to the town to try their hand at 'noodling' (fossicking through public mining dumps) in search of their own hidden treasure, or to purchase authentic, ethically sourced gems directly from the people who unearthed them. From fiery crystal opals to milky white gems with brilliant flashes of green and red, the treasures of Coober Pedy truly showcase why October's birthstone is the undisputed Queen of Gems.



Active Claims as at 25/9/2026

Andamooka – 177

Coober Pedy – 461

Mintabie – 11

Stuart Creek – 1



THE SUBTERRANEAN JOURNALS: AN OPAL MINER'S OCTOBER IN COOBER PEDY



The Subterranean Dust – “Started the morning wrestling with a jammed belt on the old blower machine down at the claim. In the outback, if you don't fix it yourself, it doesn't get fixed. By noon, the desert sun was starting to bake the red earth, so I retreated down the shaft into the absolute bliss of my underground dugout. It sits at a perfect, constant 23°C all year round without a single watt of air conditioning. Tonight, a few of us washed the fine white sandstone dust from our throats with a cold pint at the underground bar inside the Desert Cave Hotel, talking about the old days and wondering who is going to strike the next big seam this birthstone month.”

Echoes of 1916 – “Had some maintenance to do, so I took a walk through the historic, hand-dug tunnels of the Old Timers Mine. Looking at those old pick marks in the sandstone walls, it's hard not to marvel at the original pioneers who arrived here over a century ago. They read the subtle shifts in the rock face using nothing but flickering candlelight and pure intuition. We have heavy machinery, hydraulic vacuums, and modern drills today, but the thrill of the chase hasn't changed one bit. You are always just one swing of the pick away from a pocket of colour that hasn't seen the light of day for 150 million years.”

The Birthstone Rush – “October always brings a special energy to town. Since opal is the traditional birthstone of the month, the tourists arrive with a real sense of optimism. I drove past the Umoona Opal Mine & Museum today and saw a dozen families out on the mullock heaps "noodling" through the discarded mining dirt. A little girl couldn't have been older than six found a beautiful little chunk of potch with a brilliant flash of green and violet firing through it. The look of pure magic on her face is exactly why people fall in love with this town.”

A Breakaway Sunset – “Packed up the drilling rigs early today. On the drive back into town, I passed the rusty old Spaceship prop from the movie Pitch Black, a classic reminder of how beautifully strange our home is to the rest of the world. Met up with some friends up at the Big Winch 360 lookout. As the sun dipped below the horizon, it threw a deep, fiery crimson across the distant mesas of the Kanku-Breakaways Conservation Park. Looking out over that vast, ancient landscape, it struck me that the desert sky at twilight looks exactly like a giant piece of precious Australian opal.”



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MEMBERS MEETING AT THE ITALIAN CLUB

Later that evening, One Nation representatives Ben and Bradley met with local residents at the Coober Pedy Italian Club.

John Di Donna said the representatives spoke about their personal backgrounds and experiences before joining One Nation, as well as their involvement in building the party's membership and local support. Residents again had an opportunity to raise concerns affecting the town.

John said the issues discussed included aged care and the lack of adequate services and facilities for elderly residents.

Concerns were also raised about the condition and safety of the Stuart Highway, following the closure of the Peak Iron mine site and its potential impact on local employment and the economy.

Crime and community safety were discussed, including the effect of increasing crime on residents and businesses.

John said residents also raised concerns about SA Housing, particularly the maintenance and condition of government-owned houses.

Council professionalism and performance were further topics of discussion, with residents expressing concerns about communication, accountability and service delivery.

A COMMUNITY SEEKING ANSWERS

Both meetings gave One Nation representatives an opportunity to hear directly from Coober Pedy residents about the challenges facing their remote community.

The discussions covered more than council governance. They included State Government support, essential services, infrastructure, housing, aged care, employment, crime and community safety.

A common theme among all of the groups and individuals represented was the community's desire for greater transparency, accountability, consultation and meaningful action from all levels of government.



A microphone was handed around the room for people to be heard.



Above: Carlos Quaremba MLC listening to individuals speaking about their concerns



Long term residents had a high representation at meetings.

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Full page advertisers will be included in a featured article on flindersandoutback.com.au. This article will remain published, giving ongoing visibility to all those businesses featured.

Bookings close Friday 23rd October 2026.

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LAB GROWN MEAT: IS THIS GOOBYE TO MORE HERITAGE, CULTURE & TRADITION?

Dear Editor,

With the recent news that food regulators have approved Australia's first "lab-grown" cell-cultured meat product for commercial sale, it is time for the Far North to draw a line in the sand.

Inner-city technology companies are making a lot of noise about growing protein in sterile steel vats. They claim it is the future. But up here in the Far North, we know what real food production looks like. It looks like generations of local pastoral families working around the clock in our harsh, arid environment to raise world-class, premium Australian beef.

The pastoral sector is the absolute backbone of our regional economy. It doesn't just support our farmers; it secures the jobs of our transport workers, livestock agents, mechanics, and the small businesses that keep our population alive. Every dollar spent on authentic Australian meat is an investment in our region's survival.

Let's look at the facts. Despite the corporate spin about these lab alternatives being "green," independent scientific studies show that running industrial-scale laboratory bioreactors requires massive amounts of electricity.

If powered by standard energy grids, the carbon footprint of factory-manufactured meat can actually be worse than traditional grazing. Our local pastoralists work in harmony with the natural outback landscape, turning native vegetation into high-quality protein without draining the electricity grid.

Thankfully, strict new food laws mean these laboratory products cannot hide behind traditional names. They are legally required to be clearly labelled as "cell-cultured" on all packaging.

When these products eventually trickle down from high-end Sydney restaurants, we need to send a clear message. I call on all our local pubs, roadhouses, and supermarkets to proudly pledge that they will only ever serve 100% genuine, pasture-raised Australian meat.

Science experiments might belong in a laboratory, but real meat belongs on an Aussie barbie. Let's protect our jobs, our heritage, and our community by backing our livestock industry all the way.

Yours faithfully,
Lucas Elliot Far North, SA

National Bronco Branding Championships		
William Creek - 2026		
Hughes Mining Labour Hire Singles Bronco Branding		
Also sponsored by Flying Fuels and Fire Maintenance Equip		
1. The Peake	6:02.04	12. Macumba 2 -
2. Copley	-	13. B41 5:10.25 ⑤
3. M+ Barry	4:41.97 ②	14. Port Neill 5:54.03
4. West Coasters	-	15. LBW 3:59.60 ①
5. Gordy Warren	-	16. Undoolya -
6. Pernatty	6:33.72	17. DK Pastoral -
7. Patsy Springs	-	18. Greggy Warren Snc -
8. Connemarra	4:44.08 ③	19. Billa Kalina 5:45.03 ⑥
9. Jonesy	4:44.54 ④	20. Northern Flinders -
10. Windy Flat	-	21. Aileron -
11. Maxvale	-	





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Page 5

Cooper Pedy Regional Times

Friday 09 October 2026

Coober Pedy Police Community Update

Coober Pedy Police have been actively investigating a number of property crime incidents that have occurred throughout the township over the past month.

During this period, police responded to several incidents involving unlawful entry, illegal interference and property-related offending at local businesses and government premises. Following extensive investigations, police identified and arrested a number of youth offenders alleged to be responsible for this offending. Police also located several items of stolen property, which has been returned to the owners.

Police have worked closely with partner agencies and the Courts to address this behaviour. The youths involved are currently subject to bail conditions, including curfew requirements, which are being closely monitored by local police. We will continue to proactively enforce these conditions and take appropriate action where breaches are detected.

While these incidents have caused concern within the community, police would like to reassure residents that considerable effort has been directed towards identifying offenders, preventing further offending and maintaining community safety.

Coober Pedy Police are also pleased to advise that several new police officers will be permanently transferring to the station over the coming months. These additional resources will further strengthen our operational capability and enhance our ability to provide a visible and proactive policing presence across the community.

We would like to sincerely thank the Coober Pedy community for its ongoing support. Information provided by members of the public continues to play an important role in assisting police investigations, identifying offenders and preventing crime. We encourage anyone who witnesses suspicious behaviour or becomes aware of criminal activity to continue reporting it to police.

The continued support, cooperation and engagement shown by local residents, businesses and community organisations is greatly appreciated and contributes significantly to making Coober Pedy a safer place for everyone.



GRANT STEVENS APPOINTED SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S NEXT GOVERNOR

South Australia Police Commissioner Grant Stevens APM has been appointed South Australia's 37th Governor, following a recommendation by Premier Peter Malinauskas that was approved by King Charles III.

Mr Stevens will be sworn in on ****Wednesday, 9 December 2026****, for a five-year term.

He will step down as Police Commissioner on ****Friday, 23 October 2026****. Deputy Commissioner Linda Williams will become Acting Police Commissioner while the State Government conducts a merit-based process to appoint a permanent replacement.

Commissioner Stevens has served with South Australia Police since 1982 and has been Police Commissioner since 2015. His career has included frontline policing, major crime, intelligence, emergency management and senior leadership.

He led South Australia through major emergencies including the COVID-19 pandemic and has also been involved in programs supporting young people.

Mr Stevens said he was honoured by the appointment and would bring the same commitment to public service to his new role.

He will succeed ****Governor Frances Adamson AC****, whose five-year term concludes today, ****6 October 2026****.

The South Australian Government has thanked Governor Adamson and her husband Rod Bunten for their service to the State.

This version keeps the practical information while removing the repeated praise and long list of achievements.



COOBER PEDY AMBULANCE OFFICERS RECEIVE COMMENDATION FOR SIGNIFICANT EFFORT & BRAVERY



(L-R) Executive Director Country Operations Robert Tolson, Kerryn, Tyrene and CEO Rob Elliott.

Congratulations to Coober Pedy Ambulance Officers Kerryn and Tyrene who received the 2025 SA Fire and Emergency Services Commendation award today, recognising significant effort and bravery.

Kerryn and Tyrene were awarded for their outstanding efforts in delivering exceptional patient care under extremely challenging circumstances.

Responding to a patient in a very remote location, they played a critical role in providing continuous care for more than 25 hours and were instrumental in ensuring the patient's safety. Well done Kerryn and Tyrene

NEW ASSISTANT POLICE COMMISSIONERS APPOINTED

Police Commissioner Grant Stevens has announced the appointment of two new Assistant Commissioners of Police, Catherine Hilliard APM and David O'Donovan.

Two of South Australia's most accomplished police officers, the pair have a combined 81 years of experience across general and specialist areas within SA Police.

Assistant Commissioner Hilliard has been appointed head of the Crime Service, while Assistant Commissioner O'Donovan will head the Metropolitan Operations Service. Both have been acting in those positions for extended periods.

Commissioner Stevens said the depth of experience of both officers ensured they were well equipped to lead the two crucial commands.

"Both have demonstrated their ability over an extended period and I look forward to seeing them serve the community of South Australia into the future," he said.

Assistant Commissioner Hilliard joined SAPOL in 1987 and has worked in areas including general patrols, suburban CIB units, Major Crime, Organised Crime, Anti-Corruption Branch and the Public Protection Branch.

"This is an enormous responsibility that I do not take lightly. I am committed and dedicated to the organisation, the well-being of the workforce and the safety of the community," she said.

A veteran of 41 years in SA Police, Assistant Commissioner O'Donovan has worked in areas including STAR Group, metropolitan districts, State Protective Security Branch and on extensive projects involving counter terrorism.

"It is a great honour to have been entrusted with this role and I look forward to leading the Metropolitan Operations Service and contributing to the future success of SA Police," he said.

Both appointments take effect from Tuesday 6 October 2026.

2026/27 Fire Danger Season dates Fire Ban District
Start Finish



North East Pastoral 15 October 2026 15 April 2027
North West Pastoral 15 October 2026 15 April 2027

West Coast 15 October 2026 15 April 2027

Yorke Peninsula TBA TBA

Lower Eyre Peninsula 15 November 2026 15 April 2027
Eastern Eyre Peninsula 15 October 2026 15 April 2027
Flinders 15 October 2026 15 April 2027
Adelaide Metropolitan TBA TBA

Kangaroo Island TBA TBA

Lower South East TBA TBA

Mid North TBA TBA

Mount Lofty Ranges TBA TBA

Murraylands TBA TBA

Riverland TBA TBA

Upper South East TBA TBA



Fire and Emergency Services Act 2005 will
apply throughout South Australia from the
dates listed, until midnight on the finish date.



Fire on side of the road believed to be a result of the Council rubbish truck catching alight.

RUBBISH FIRE - NORTH WEST
RIDGE THURSDAY 08/10/26 09:05

CFS Volunteers responded to a rubbish fire; alarm level:1 on Northwest Ridge Road, Cooper Pedy. Fire on side of the road believed to have been a result of the Council Rubbish truck catching alight. Location: approx 500m north of Seventeen Mile Road Intersection.

UPDATE ON RUBBISH TRUCK: UPDATE: Bin Pickup, 08/10/2026
Council wishes to advise residents that the garbage truck is now back in operation following assessment of the earlier incident.
Today's bin collection service will resume as scheduled.
Thank you for your patience and understanding. If there are any further changes, Council will provide an update as soon as possible

NOTICE from DCCP Bin Pickup is Delayed Until Further Notice, 08/10/2026
Due to an unexpected incident, Council wishes to advise residents that the bin collection service is currently delayed while the collection truck is being assessed for damage.
Residents are requested to leave their bins out for collection. An update will be provided as soon as further information becomes available. Thank you.



Opal Evolution III: Light From Deep Time

We had such a fun time bringing Opal Evolution III: Light From Deep Time to Andamooka again this year!

Thank you to everyone who came along to experience our colourful parade and dance performance of Cretaceous creatures, by the Andamooka Primary School children and Cabarfeidh All Stars Roxby Downs, followed by a short film by George Graetz about the making of Opal Evolution and what it means to the people who experience it.

Then the mullock heaps came alive with an incredible projection and lighting installation by Nic Mollison, using opal photography by Peter Taubers and Leila Day, along with Nic's own creative content.

Hektik FX set the stage for DJ A2B2, who curated a cinematic soundtrack to tie the Deep Time projections and lighting together. The result was part art installation, part theatre and, as the night went on, part outback rave!

People danced, photographed the incredible colours and shadows across the mullock heaps, and even staged a few impromptu lightsaber duels with the giant glowing sticks. Peter Taubers called the night simply "magic", while palaeontologist Jenni Brammall described it as "the best night of my life."

For creator and producer Leila Day, the best part was seeing people experience the night in their own way.

"I was proud of how it all came together. I loved that we created a space for Opal Evolution to be whatever anyone wanted it to be for them."

Opal Evolution couldn't happen without the artists, volunteers, businesses, organisations and community who get behind it. A huge thank you to Festivals Australia, OSCA, Nature Festival, Andamooka Opal Showroom & Underground Opal and Mineral Museum, Tita's Treats, Portable Solar Stations, Arid Recovery, Outback Communities Authority, Roxby Council, Australia Post, Andamooka Observatory, Kennards Hire and the many, many others who helped bring Light From Deep Time to life.

This was our last Opal Evolution in Andamooka for a little while, as we turn our attention to the National Opal Symposium in Andamooka and Roxby Downs in June 2027, while plans are also taking shape for Opal Evolution's next chapter in Adelaide as part of Fire & Rainbow at the South Australian Museum.

For now, we're enjoying the memories and the photos!



NEW POLICE RECRUITS CHOOSE COOBER PEDY

South Australia Police (SAPOL) is welcoming 27 experienced officers into service today, which will bolster frontline policing across metropolitan and regional communities.

In the past two years, 207 officers have graduated through SAPOL's Transition Program (STP), bringing with them more than 1,680 years of combined policing experience from interstate and overseas agencies. On average, each recruit joins SAPOL with more than eight years of frontline service.

In total, 43 graduates have chosen to serve in regional locations, making an immediate and significant contribution to enhancing frontline policing capabilities in regional, rural and remote jurisdictions.

STP Course 11 will further boost regional policing capability with nine experienced international officers set to take up frontline roles across Coober Pedy, Ceduna, Whyalla, Murray Bridge and Port Pirie, having now completed their Academy training.

"Reaching 200 experienced interstate and international officers through SAPOL's Transition Program is a significant milestone and demonstrates our commitment to strengthening frontline policing capacity across South Australia," Commissioner Stevens said.

"I am particularly proud to see many of these officers deployed to regional communities, where their experience and skills are helping deliver strong local policing services and enhance community safety."

Looking for a career that matters? SAPOL is recruiting now and wants to hear from people seeking meaningful work, exciting challenges and rewarding experiences.

Enjoy job security, career progression and the opportunity to make a real impact in the community. Visit www.police.sa.gov.au/join-us/ achievemore to find out more.



Among the graduating cohort are married couple Lindsey and Joshua, and colleague Darius, who relocated from London's Metropolitan Police to continue their policing careers.

The trio have chosen Coober Pedy as their first posting, highlighting the growing appeal of regional South Australia for experienced international officers.

Joshua, 31, said the opportunity to experience different areas across South Australia was one of the key attractions of a career with SAPOL.

"I feel SAPOL has a lot to offer, with the variety of postings across the state and the different environments you can work in," Joshua said.

Fellow graduate Lindsey, 34, said the move from one of the world's largest cities to regional South Australia was an opportunity to experience policing in a completely different environment.

"I want to travel around and do multiple country postings and see as much of South Australia as I can," Lindsey said.

This latest graduation reflects the ongoing success of SAPOL's interstate and international recruitment strategy, with experienced officers strengthening frontline capability and helping meet workforce demands across metropolitan and regional South Australia.

Commissioner of Police Grant Stevens said the deployment of the 200th experienced officer marked a significant achievement for SAPOL's international and interstate recruitment strategy.

POSITION VACANT

Coober Pedy

New Position - Motor Mechanic
Pasmin Pty Ltd

Duties: Performing servicing, diagnosis, repairs and maintenance to a diverse range of vehicles, also tyre fitting. Complete job sheets and communicate with customers as required.

Qualifications: Certificate III Automotive Technology

Experience: Minimum 2 years
Driving Licence: Australian LV Manual licence with good driving history

Pay: \$75,000 to \$90,000 depending on qualifications and experience. Applications providing details of qualifications, experience, and with a minimum of two referees to neville@pasmin.com.au

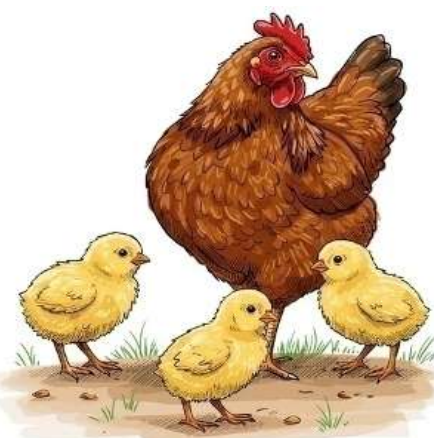
Help keep the Flying Doctor flying.



<https://www.flyingdoctor.org.au/sant/support-us/donate-form/>

The RFDS is a not-for-profit organisation. that relies on fundraising and donations to bridge the gap in operational funding, and to finance replacement aircraft, medical equipment and other major capital initiatives.

POLICE & EMERGENCY SERVICES NUMBERS
EMERGENCY 000;
131 444 POLICE ASST



FOR SALE

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

DISCLAIMER

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.

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 Historical Society
A.G.M.

2 pm on Sunday 25th October 2026 at the School Library

All members and friends are invited to attend as we review the past year and elect office bearers for 2027

This will be followed with a screening of several historic movies of Coober Pedy



The Coober Pedy Cave Dwellers - 1942



Walkabout - 1958



The Coober Pedy Solar Still c.1966

Afternoon tea to follow - All welcome

COOBER PEDY REGIONAL TIMES



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

Classi \$8.35 pcm/pcol (4 col)

editor@cooberpedytimes.com

ANDAMOOKA - via Stuart Highway

Andamooka: After Dark Stargazing (Daily)

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)

The Andamooka Observatory is an off-grid art space/ observatory that offers astronomy, opal mining, and tag-along tours.

<https://www.facebook.com/andamookaobservatory>





at

THE

ITALIAN CLUB

Coober Pedy

7

21

★

FIRST & THIRD

★

THURSDAY

OF EVERY MONTH

FROM 7PM

CASH PRIZES!

Fun ★ Friends ★ Cash Prizes

Everyone Welcome!

BINGO

12 41 47 63

7 26 39 54 72

3 30 52 68

9 25 36 50 75

13

COOBER PEDY

DRIVE-IN

CINEMA

10 OCTOBER

SATURDAY NIGHT

GATES OPEN FROM

8:00PM

THE

END

OF

OAK

STREET

SUSHI ROLLS

AVAILABLE IN

CHICKEN TERIYAKI

BEEF TERIYAKI

TUNE IN TO

96.5 FM

SNACKS & DRINKS

AVAILABLE INSIDE

STUART HIGHWAY

Corridor & Byways

2026

REGULAR TOURS at COOBER PEDY

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

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

NOBLE TOURS - COOBER PEDY



(Duration approx. 4.5 - 5 hours - including pick ups and drop offs)
 The best of Coober Pedy and the Breakaways in one tour! Experience Coober 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>

COOBER PEDY

DRIVE-IN THEATRE

Just a reminder, children are to be supervised at all times and no walk ins under 15 years without a guardian

Coober Pedy Drive In Upcoming

Movies






October

3rd One night only

10th End of Oak street

24th The Dog Stars

November

7th Tad & the magic Lamp

14th Heart of the Beast

21st Verity

December

5th Pressure

12th The Hunger Games Sunrise on the Reaping






Solar sector under scrutiny



We are stepping up action against dodgy solar companies after complaints about solar panel and battery installations more than doubled last financial year.

The dedicated Building Industry Response Team has been investigating misconduct. Four businesses have recently been fined, consumers warned against doing business with a fifth business, and further investigations are underway relating to faulty installations and failure to install products after securing deposits.

A consumer awareness campaign is also running to help South Australians understand their rights and how to protect both themselves and their investment.

Read more about consumer rights when engaging a solar provider

<https://www.cbs.sa.gov.au/sections/CBAdvice/solar-energy>

CBS CONNECT

Beware bitumen bandits



We've received concerning reports of bitumen services being offered in metropolitan Adelaide, the Yorke Peninsula, Barossa, and Riverland.

These unlicensed traders and organised criminals typically door-knock offering to re-surface bitumen driveways and car parks for seemingly attractive prices.

They use claims of leftover materials, cash-only requests and high-pressure sales tactics to secure work. They deliver substandard results and demand a higher fee than originally quoted.

If you're approached by these individuals, please contact CBS quickly on 131 882. Reports from members of the public help authorities track and stop these operators.

See the latest bitumen bandit warning

<https://www.cbs.sa.gov.au/campaigns/bitumen-bandits>

Protect your home & your wallet



Planning home improvements? Taking a few simple precautions before hiring a tradesperson could save you thousands of dollars and unnecessary stress.

Before you commit:

- ask to see the tradie's licence, either physical or digital
- check their licence details on the CBS licensing register
- get 3 quotes to compare prices and services
- never pay more than 10% upfront, or 5% for work over \$20,000
- check that 'sponsored' online ads are local, and seek recommendations from people you trust.

Most tradies are skilled professionals who take pride in their work, but some may overcharge, recommend unnecessary work, pressure you to sign up, or don't deliver on their promises.

A few quick checks now can help ensure your next home improvement project is money well spent.

See the consumer guide: Building, extending & renovating a home

<https://cbs.sa.gov.au/documents/Building,-extending-and-renovating-a-home.pdf>

Turning disputes into agreements



CBS' conciliation team has secured more than \$1 million in agreed repayments for consumers already in 2026.

Each agreement follows a story of challenges, sometimes on both sides, where attempts to resolve disputes through direct negotiations have reached a dead end.

Each year, CBS receives thousands of enquiries from consumers and business for advice about their rights and responsibilities.

For more complex matters, CBS may call a compulsory conciliation conference, bringing consumers and traders together with an independent conciliator to work towards a fair outcome.

Where an agreement is reached, it can be formalised and legally enforced in the Magistrates Court if not upheld.

Around 40 compulsory conciliation conferences are held each month, with a 70% success rate in resolving matters.

Behind every successful outcome is a commitment to helping consumers and businesses move forward with confidence.

<https://cbs.sa.gov.au/sections/CBAdvice/conciliation-services-and-support>



COMMUNITY

**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 (July2026)

President: Mick Cox
Vice-President: Leighton Bosswell
Secretary: Kingsley Kammermann
Treasurer: Miriam Kammermann
Committee Members:
Raylene Hagel
Roz Jazepczyk
Michael Stocks
Frank Farr
Freda Farr
Tim O'Reilly
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](mailto: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 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](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

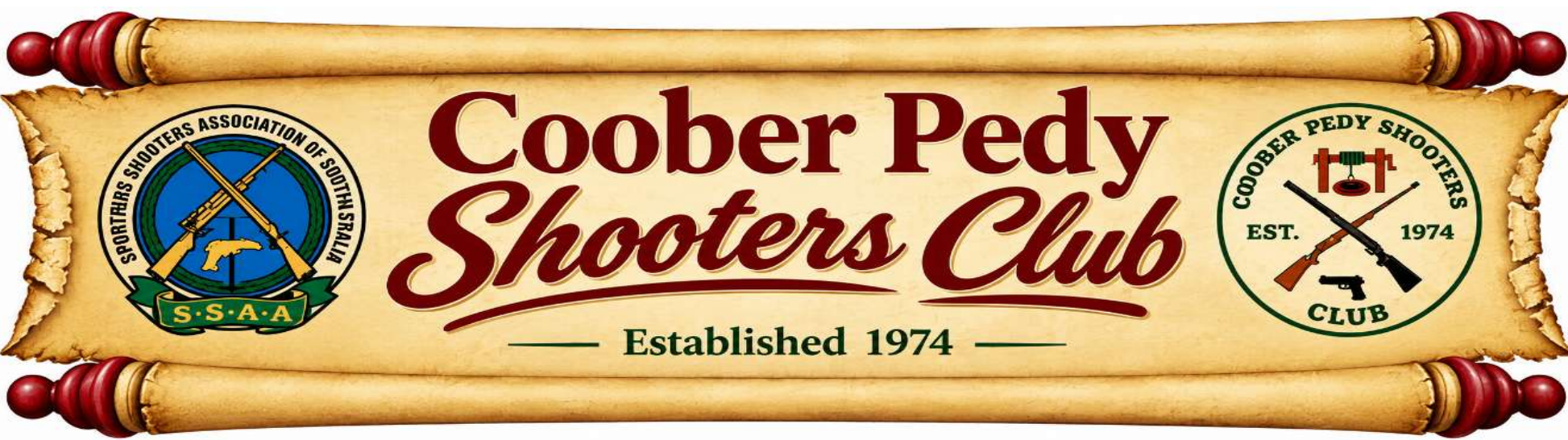
Committee Elected 18-12-2024
President - Corey Edwards;
Secretary - Tara-Jane Smith
Treasurer – Emily Pennisi
Committee members
Catherine Bell, Rachel Crothers,
David Hammermeister

COOBER PEDY CFS (Sept 2026)



Brigade Captain - Ann Gerschwitz
Administration & Training Coordinator - Ann Gerschwitz
1st Lieutenant - Linda Buckeridge
OH&S Coordinator - Linda Buckeridge
2nd Lieutenant - Phil Gerschwitz
Senior Firefighter - Rajith Bandara
Communication Coordinator - Rajith Bandara
Senior Firefighter - Christian Richards (Crispy)
Equipment Coordinator - Jesse Manfred
Donna Ilkin - Finance & Logistics Coordinator





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

Starting Times 9:00 AM
Saturday — Pistols
25m/ Rapid fire

10 October
17 October
24 October
31 October
7 November

Starting Time: 9:00 AM
Sundays
50 m Rapid Fire
Benchrest

11 October
18 October
25 October
1 November
4 November

Thank you to our
Sponsors



Thank you to our
Sponsors

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

