With hi-speed broadband at our doorstep, information is now instant. The Coober Pedy Regional Times is now ONLINE ONLY.

The CPRT newspaper has been ONLINE for about 10 years now with the trend becoming that the majority of readers are downloading and reading the online paper and not using the hardcopy. This coupled with other local factors have been instrumental in this decision.

Having only one form of the newspaper also means there is now only ONE place to look.

In 2006 the CPRT Newspaper became available online enabling broader access than that of a hard copy. Suddenly the world could see our news every two weeks as well as being able to publish other instant news.

Many local residents are saying that they already read other major publications online these days. The students at CPAS are taught to read the newspaper online.

The remote areas are linked closely by families and other common factors. Thanks to digital technology we are now even closer.

The Northern Territory News is now an online newspaper. If people want a hardcopy, it will come to them at a price!

Whilst newspaper access has been evolving online, so too has digital technology. Most of us now have internet access on our smart phones and other devices.

Try using the link https://cooberpedytimes.com to download the paper. The link is now shorter so it will be easier to remember!

The information revolution is here to stay. Hi speed broadband provides fast access to information. Already we can video conference from the desert and save thousands of dollars by not travelling long distances to attend meetings.

We survived the introduction of radio, telephones, television, mobile phones, emails, and personal computer systems that have been thirty years in our midst! Whether we like it or not our children and grandchildren are communicating with us digitally.

We can now browse the internet and download documents, photographs, videos and other data faster than Australia Post or a fax machine can deliver them.

Internet access is available from many public places such as libraries and restaurants, where computers with Internet connections are sometimes available.

Coober Pedy Regional Times established in 1982 has been supplied FREE to the residents of Coober Pedy, (and the rest of the world) for the past 12 years.

The Coober Pedy Regional Times has remained one of the last independent newspapers in the country. A local newspaper serves as an information source for the community and to those travelling throughout the region.

A feature of the newspaper’s long history is that it maintains its prominence as a contributor publication, a “voice of the people” where individuals can communicate their opinions and not be overlooked or underestimated.
CONTRIBUTORS

The Coober Pedy Regional Times - "Your Outback Communities Newspaper", became a FREE Newspaper in 2006 and increased its distribution to 4,500 hard copies + digital online download, promoting news, events and advertising suitable to tourists and to nearby communities and towns. The CPRT receives no external funding.

A local newspaper is the voice of the people. A truly free and independent press is a vital component of any healthy democratic society. [...] 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

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 be extracted and used in a related article. CPRT does not provide free space for political or advertising propaganda. Advertising rates are on the left.

Letters to Editor are sent by email where possible and must be relevant to the community. Defamatory comments will be edited or deleted.

1) AFTER AN EVENT or upon invitation, you or your group may wish to send.
2. If seeking an Editorial - "Advertorial" or "Special Feature", please enquire about the cost first.
3) Advertisers may be entitled to editorials
4) Sponsorship for clubs or community programs is by arrangement
5) Names and Captions must accompany photos + DO NOT REDUCE formation of opal in the world
6.) DO NOT attach photos to MICROSOFT WORD documents
7.) Letters to Editor need to be signed and also may be edited.
8) FRIDAY is the LATEST material can be accepted.
9.) Deadline dates are on the LHS of this page (check b4 sending)

SUBMISSIONS that are not received by Friday, prior to printing are unlikely to appear in that edition

Welcome to Coober Pedy -
An underground town, built on the back of opal mining

Drilling for opal at Donna’s Rush

The Opal Capital of the World

* Coober Pedy - situated on the largest formation of opal in the world
* Spacious underground living
* Beautiful Opal Gemstones
* Over 40 Nationalities living together

Please Drive Carefully and remember Coober Pedy is a lizard friendly town

CROSSWORD

**SOLUTION NO. 207**

DOWN

1. Bird of prey
2. Elevate
3. Yarn
5. Distributes
6. Engine parts
7. Supervise
9. Octaves

ACROSS

1. Thrifty
5. Leather
10. Large bird
11. Speech defect
12. Kite
13. Onlooker
14. Logume
15. Inches
16. Expression of derision
17. Excursion
21. Vest age
22. Mention
26. Exeeds
29. Toment
30. Dejection
32. Small island
34. Having no smell
35. Garrotes
36. Narrate
39. Groups of players
40. Shock

* Autumn Equinox
Monday, 20 March 2017
at 10:29 UTC

* WINTER SOLSTICE
Wednesday, 21 June 2017
at 04:24 UTC
The State Government has stepped in for the second time, and will now cover all costs to ensure the Coober Pedy Swimming Pool remains open.

This financial support from the State Government will remain in place until June 2018 giving the families of Coober Pedy assurance that there will be consistency for the remainder of the current swimming season and the entire swimming season of 2017/18.

The pool is used by both school students and other members of the local community.

“The Coober Pedy District Council – which previously provided some funding – is no longer paying any maintenance or operational costs and refusing to come to the table,” said a spokesperson for the State Government.

Previously there was an agreement between Council and the Department for Education and Child Development which involved the Council paying an annual license fee, utility costs, shared costs regarding damage and repairs and the cleaning of the pool.

Under the new arrangements, the State Government will provide the local school funding to keep the pool open – including outside of school hours to June 2018 when arrangements will be reviewed.

Minister for Education and Child Development Hon Susan Close MP said, “It’s extremely disappointing the Council has opted out of supporting the Coober Pedy Swimming Pool. It is a community hub and vitally important for the local children and other members of the community including people that use the pool for rehabilitation.”

“The State Government wants to ensure the pool remains open and that’s why we are funding all upkeep, maintenance and cleaning costs.”

“We will also continue to ensure appropriately qualified staff are able to supervise students using the pool during school hours and during those hours of community use.”

Member for Giles Eddie Hughes said, “Our priority all along has been to ensure that the Coober Pedy community has access to the pool. We stepped in to ensure the pool was open during the summer school holidays and we did so without any support from the Coober Pedy Council.”

“We have bent over backwards to negotiate a fair deal with the Coober Pedy Council and offered to pick up all of the recurrent costs plus coverage of supervision during school hours.”

“The only expectation we had of the Council would be that they cover supervision costs for community use outside of school hours.”

“The Council’s lack of support for their own community is extremely disappointing and the community should not have to pay the price for that lack of support.”

“We will do the right thing by the community and pick up all of the costs.”

“Nearly every pool is South Australia is supported out of Council rates and user fees and the failure of the Coober Pedy Council to provide even minimal support reflects badly on the Council.”

One day before the pool opened (this week) the Council released the following statement on Facebook with a request to “Please pass on this information to other people.”

“DCCP informs the public the Coober Pedy Swimming Pool will remain open to the public, until 31st March 2017.

Negotiations for a long term agreement with the Department for Education and Child Development are ongoing.”

Local dad Martin Grava and his son Archer at the pool after school hours on one of the many hot days that Coober Pedy experiences.

Local Coober Pedy business owner George Russell who owns and operates the Oasis Tourist Park, said he had been inundated with people wanting to use the pool in the park, in case the school pool did not open to the general community earlier this week.

“I’m very grateful that the State Government has stepped in to alleviate the anxiety of the families in town over the council’s inability or unwillingness to provide important services to our community,” he said.

“We are still looking at a few months of extremely hot weather and the pool is the only relief available to the residents,” said Mr Russell.

“Personally I feel that the council has let us all down. Where is the money that was budgeted for the pool? It seems pretty obvious to me that services to the community are last on their list. Look at the state of our roads since the last rain, and communications on any matters are virtually zero.”

“In my opinion the council has lost it’s direction and many of us would welcome further intervention by the State Government,” he said.

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**Water Engineer**

TO PROVIDE FREE ADVICE ON WATER RECYCLING

Techniques are available for the process of storing stormwater/waste water or both.

Colin Pitman to visit Coober Pedy with the support of the Eyre Peninsular Regional Development association. This important work is to aid local businesses, council and domestic owners of property, who are (or would like to be) in the process of cleaning Stormwater or Waste water or both and store it in either above ground facilities or in shallow saline aquifers for supplying water for ‘fit for purpose’ use.

Colin is a world expert in this field and he encourages you to meet and discuss and receive at no cost advice on the techniques applicable to your circumstance.

Colin will be visiting Coober Pedy on the 9th and 11th of February and other times in March. He would be pleased to make an appointment and meet clients, to discuss their individual needs.

Contact 0418 848 279
Email colinpitman@waterphilosophy.com.au

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**NURSING & MIDWIFERY SCHOLARSHIPS**

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- remote scholarships
- remote clinical placement

**Contact**

Close 28 February 2017

Apply online: www.aen.edu.au

1800 117 262

Nursing and Allied Health Scholarship Support Scheme is funded by the Australian government and administered by AON.
New police officers graduate

Probationary Constable Bagshaw and Probationary Constable Grant Archer

Probationary Constable Bagshaw, a former ambulance officer and keen softball player, today fulfils a long-held ambition to become a police officer.

“As far back as I can remember I have always wanted to join SAPOL.”

“1 am extremely excited to graduate today. The past year has been full of hard work and today seemed like it would never come.”

I am looking forward to the challenges ahead,” she says.

Former lawyer, management consultant and CFS firefighter, Probationary Constable Grant Archer, says he’s chosen a later life career change as a new challenge.

“Policing provides an opportunity to contribute to your community in a unique way and that is something I am very passionate about.

“I also see it as a great challenge physically, intellectually and emotionally, to step into this role given my age and background.

“Graduation today represents the conclusion of a challenging but fulfilling 12 months.

“I am so proud and excited to graduate today in front of my family and to show my kids and others that age is no barrier to changing your stars when you find a path that you commit to with passion.”

Probationary Constable Bagshaw will take up her first posting in Port Augusta, while Probationary Constable Archer will be posted to Eastern Adelaide.

Congratulations and welcome to all our new police officers!

South Australia Police is currently looking for new recruits. For information on how to apply for a role as a Police Officer, Protective Security Officer or Community Constable, please contact South Australia Police Recruiting Section on 732 23353 or visit www.achievemore.com.au

BEEETROOT DIP

Ingredients

1 bunch of beetroot OR 1 tin of drained whole baby beetroot
1 clove of garlic
2 teaspoons roasted cumin seeds, ground
2 teaspoons roasted coriander seeds, ground
2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar
1/2 bunch of fresh mint
1 cup natural low fat yoghurt

Method

1. Preheat oven to 180ºC. If using fresh beetroot, wash and trim stalks, then wrap each in foil and roast for about 1 hour, until cooked through. Unwrap beetroot and slip off skin

2. If using tinned cooked beetroot, remove from tin, rinse and drain well

3. Strain yoghurt in a fine sieve over a bowl for 1/2 an hour

4. Crush garlic with a little salt

5. Grate beetroot into a mixing bowl

6. Add garlic, spices, vinegar, mint and garlic and stir yoghurt gently through

7. Serve with sesame crackers or steamed green beans

FOODcents

1. On 26th January 2017 police reported an adult male driver for a multitude of offences. The driver, who was stopped for a random breath test, returned a blood alcohol content result of over five times the legal limit (2.65). As a result of further investigation the driver was reported and will be summonsed to appear in court at a later date for the following six offences:

- Drive under the influence, driving with a prescribed concentration of alcohol, driver seatbelt not securely fastened, driving an unregistered motor vehicle, driving an uninsured motor vehicle and failing to maintain vehicle standards.

- Driver was issued with a 12 month instant loss of licence, with the licence disqualification commencing immediately following the offence. The male’s vehicle was detected for considerable safety faults and then and impounded. The driver will be able to collect the vehicle after 28 days, after the defect is cleared and the vehicle is registered.

2. On the evening of Friday 3rd February 2017 whilst on mobile patrols of the town, police heard an audible alarm coming from the direction of Hutchinson Street. On searching for the source of the sound it was determined that the Caltex Service Station had been broken into. A large quantity of cigarettes had been stolen. Thanks to the fast arrival of the owner and police, the service station was immediately secured. As a result, when police searched the building they located an adult male with a large quantity of cigarettes in his possession.

The male was arrested, charged with serious criminal trespass (non-residential) and theft of over $2000 worth of cigarettes. He will attend court at a later date.

3. Police would like to encourage all members of the community not to hesitate to call to report anything that looks or sounds suspicious. An audible alarm, a person loitering or a building with movement inside late at night can all be signs of a break in that has just happened or is just about to happen.

With community members returning to Coober Pedy following the school holidays, many residents will find that their house has been broken into while they were absent. Police are working hard through collection of forensic evidence and witness accounts on a case by case basis. However, residents can play their part in preventing these crimes as well! If you don’t already, next time you travel let your neighbours know (or someone else that you trust) so that they can keep an eye on your house for you. However, try not to broadcast online how long you will be away for. In a small community, talk spreads and offenders target houses that will be empty for some time. Post these fantastic holiday pictures while still on holidays may become an unintended invitation to your empty house.

One of the best ways to secure the home is through installation of one or more CCTV cameras on the property. Years ago it was not feasible to purchase CCTV cameras for personal use, but today anyone can purchase and install a basic camera setup for affordable prices.

If you are seeking advice feel free to call the police station and speak to Constable Nicole Waterston to arrange a walk-through of your house, with attention to security weaknesses. Otherwise, any other offences available will gladly provide you advice on how you can best secure your property.

Coober Pedy Police welcomes to its ranks Senior Sergeant First Class Bob Bartlett

Bob is temporarily relieving the vacant Senior Sergeant position, and will remain in Coober Pedy for about six weeks while the position is officially filled. In the meantime he is looking forward to engaging in dialogue with community members about the unique challenges of a town like Coober Pedy. With nearly forty years serving SAPOL and an excellent understanding of country policing, Bob is a great addition to the Coober Pedy team.
In May last year, nbn launched its Sky Muster™ satellite service. We now have more than 60,000 people across Australia connected to the service and on 28 February 2017, the nbn™ Interim Satellite Service will be switched off. So if you haven’t yet arranged to transition across to Sky Muster™ you should do so as soon as possible.

It is fair to say that in regional and remote areas, where there are often no other alternative connections, access to connectivity is critical. To provide wholesale speeds of four to eight times faster than what has previously been available in the satellite market is exceptional. When you combine the speed available and the range of data allowances, users can now choose plans for about the same price they paid for previous satellite service but gain the benefit of much higher speeds as well as four to five times more data.

The fact that we can connect homes around the country through tiny signals emitted nearly 36,000 kilometres into outer space and back again is, in a word, awesome. While satellite technology has come a long way, it can be affected by weather and is not immune to the tyranny of distance. That said, we also know that if your service is down, you can’t school your kids, run your farms or do your business online.

We know the Sky Muster™ journey hasn’t been a smooth one for everyone and has not met your expectations, and indeed ours. The implementation of these custom designed satellites has not been without its challenges and some of you may have experienced this first hand.

We are working day and night to improve the Sky Muster™ service. We’ve already implemented a series of major software upgrades to improve the network experience and have increased the number of installers on the ground.

The early results from these changes are encouraging in the health of network stability and a significant lift in connection performance. We believe we are well and truly heading in the right direction but there’s still more work to be done.

All of us at nbn are intent on putting the technical solutions in place to get Sky Muster™ performing to its full potential and we ask for your understanding as we implement our further fixes. We are confident that, before long, the network will be reliable and delivering state of the art broadband services to regional Australia.

While the engineers are focused on the service quality, we are also working with our retail providers and delivery partners to help further improve the installation process.

We were lucky that our politicians representing us in Adelaide better understood the vital part a town pool plays in the health of a network stability and a significant lift in connection performance. We believe we are well and truly heading in the right direction but there’s still more work to be done.

I would like to inform anybody that did not know, that I have salvaged crocodile Harry’s original ute that he turned into a town pool in 1947. This historically significant piece of scrap metal almost went to the crushers and was only saved because it wouldn’t fit on the trailer when they went to get it. Also it was on land that is due to be mined and may have been boll duned. At some stage this old car shell will have to find a permanent home.

Due to his friendship with Harry, interest in history and prominent location it might be a good idea to keep it at the turn at the bottom of Matrix avenue with the land owner permission of course. It is not going to Harry’s dug out as it has never been there before. I am not inclined to turn it over to the historical society. They still have historically significant celluloid film stored in a shipping container that they have been advised have to be kept in an air-conditioned building so they are not capable of preserving our history. I say this shaking my head as these people are incredibly dedicated to our town and the preservation of its history.

Finally I am sorry to announce that the songbird tent may have to find a new home that can be used to upgrade and maintain the project. It is a high maintenance, limited life project that requires more improvements and maintenance than the scope of the original project envisaged. I will take my own advice and negotiate in the background and try and keep the project open as long as possible. Once again I feel compelled to thank the town council for their sponsorship of the project. It may be able to help keep the project going and has certainly allocated the resources to kick start the fight for the project. If we have to retire the project it won’t be due to council not supporting us but will be due entirely to our underestimation of the human resources this type of community project requires.
The “PearlOpal” Story

Beginning with an idea
Back in 1999, Steve Koncz an opal cutter and wholesaler, who specialises in Queensland Boulder Opal began thinking about the great lengths jewellers go to combine various gems with pearls to try to come up with new and attractive ways of creating items of jewellery. This is when the idea of PearlOpal was born. Steve was able to envisage the finished product and set about to create them. Steve wondered “why has this not been done before?”

The idea to reality

2007 – 8 years after the idea was born, the first successful commercial harvest of PearlOpal has been completed. Over the years various trials have taken place at different pearl farms within Australia, and it took at least 3 years before the first piece ever had been harvested – thus proving that PearlOpal could in fact be a reality. Previously this had never been tried so it was a case of trial and error and a lot can and did go wrong.

How it’s done

PearlOpal is created by implanting an opal into a live pearlshell which is then put back into the ocean and left for approximately 12-18 months (depending upon the locality). Many problems can arise, such as cyclones, whales tangling the lines holding the shells, disappearing shells (through no fault of the pearl farmers). The opal inserts themselves even had to undergo modification several times before the shells would accept them. The production of PearlOpal is truly a case of “ Desert meets the ocean.”

Finally, the opal miner digs the opal from underground where it has taken millions of years to form. Then the opal is passed on to an opal cutter who carefully shapes it – bringing out it’s magnificent colours.

Then finally it is specially prepared for it’s insertion into the pearlshell. The preparation involves three separate steps that have to be just right. If the preparation is not exactly right the shell will die. The pearlshell is then gently coaxied open – it can’t be forced as the stress would kill it - so they are only opened about 2cm, then a technician skillfully inserts the opal (sometimes with gold setting around it).

Once the opals have received the required mother of pearl covering, usually after 12-18 months, then they are harvested and the PearlOpals are removed.

Each piece is then further, very carefully processed in a way so that the opal and gold (if any) is exposed, letting the colours show. You can see in each piece that the pearl shell has created a setting around the opal and the finished piece allows the colours of the opal blend with the glow and lustre of the pearl. This is a wonderful way to combine two of natures miracles, Opal and Pearl into something that you can wear, and the colours glow and change under different light conditions...amazing.

Since 2003, the revered Melbourne Cup has travelled more than 456,000 kilometers to rural, regional and metropolitan communities across Australia and New Zealand.

Local communities are invited to be part of history as the Emirates Melbourne Cup Tour celebrates it’s fifteenth year

The Emirates Melbourne Cup Tour is a 15-year milestone, with the iconic Emirates Melbourne Cup trophy set to visit more than 30 destinations in its annual trek across Australia and New Zealand.

To ensure the Coober Pedy community have an opportunity to secure a visit from the 18-carat gold Cup in this milestone year, the Victoria Racing Club (VRC) will open the tender process early for the 2017 Emirates Melbourne CupTour with submissions now being accepted. Coober Pedy previously hosted the Emirates Melbourne Cup Tour at the Opal Inn Hotel on Monday 17th October 2011.

Ken Williams, Manager of the Opal Inn at that time said, “It was pleasing to have the Cup in Coober Pedy, and see the ladies coming in who took the time out to dress up for the occasion."

“They looked resplendent in their race-going outfits, taking the opportunity to have their photo taken with the Emirates Melbourne Cup. Holding the Melbourne Cup had special meaning for many of the guys in town who have patronised the famous race day in Coober Pedy each year,” said Ken

Emirates Melbourne Cup Tour seeking tenders

The VRC created the concept of the Emirates Melbourne Cup Tour with the aim to provide communities without easy geographical access to the Melbourne Cup an opportunity to experience the magic of the trophy first-hand,” said VRC Chief Executive Simon Love.

The 2017 Emirates Melbourne Cup Tour welcomes submissions from community groups, councils and racing bodies in rural and regional areas as well as capital cities, with successful destinations to be announced in June.

The Tour officially commences in July 2017, before the Cup returns to Melbourne for the running of the 157th Emirates Melbourne Cup on the first Tuesday in November.

Tenders to be submitted at melbournecuptour.com.au by 5pm (AEST) on Monday 3 April.

Des Reid of Coober Pedy was working for “Cups King” Bart Cummins in the 70’s as Strapper for New Zealand horse ‘Gold and Black’ when it won the 1977 Melbourne Cup ridden by jockey Johnny Duggan. (Bart Cummins training feat to date is 12 Melbourne Cup winners.)

Emirates Melbourne Cup

1 August - 3 September 2017

Des Reid in 2011 with the Emirates Melbourne Cup
Lining up to hold the gold

Many Coober Pedy residents queued up on Monday 17 October 2011 to have a moment with the 18ct gold Emirates Melbourne Cup.

It was the first time the Melbourne Cup has travelled to the Outback of South Australia. Being a regular working day, Coober Pedy locals were finding a few minutes during their lunch and tea breaks to catch a glimpse of the heavy weight cup that on Tuesday 1 November will be the coveted prize in the race that stops a nation.

Pearl Driver was the first of the ladies to arrive, gussied up in her Melbourne Cup attire.

Detective Michael Clark takes time out from his security duties to pose with Emirates Melbourne Cup Tour Ambassador Des Gleeson in the front bar at the Opal Inn.

Jimmy Nikoloudis who already has plenty of trophies, can now add the Melbourne Cup to his photo collection.

Milton Morias balances the Emirates Melbourne Cup on his head!

Dawn Brown beams and said, “my brother won’t believe this”... and he didn’t.

The Cup makes its way to the front bar and finds Alex Drakopoulos.

Sophie Reynolds pops in to see the solid gold cup during her lunch break.

Declan Densley age 6 queued up for his second hold of the big, gold racing cup on Monday.

Photos: Margaret Mackay
Location with views
Originally built 1920's
Professionally renovated. 4 bedrooms
Plus. Hey dig more! This secure family
home has too many features to list. All
furniture, electricals etc included - just
move in! Plus newly tunnelled separate
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RENOWNED WATER
ENGINEER TO VISIT
COOBER PEDY

Renowned water engineer Colin Pitman will be visiting Coober Pedy in
February and March and will be
available to discuss medium to large
scale water cleaning, recycling and
storage opportunities of water in deep
wells using Aquifer Storage and
Recovery Techniques for Waste Water,
Stormwater and Industrial Water.
If community members and
businesses wish to discuss these
processes please contact
colinpitman@waterphilosophy.com.au
or 0418 848 279 to arrange an
appointment and visit .

The Coober Pedy
Country Fire Service
urgently needs volunteers
right now!

BECOME part of an important
emergency response team?
RECEIVE training and learn valuable
skills
BECOME more accredited and more
self-confident.
Call Peter Lane (Admin Officer)
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MOBILE PHONE BASE STATION AT:
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DA 5723
5723008

The proposal is to install a pole mounted
Small Cell base station and single 1.2m
radio communications dish on the rooftop
of the existing building together with
ancillary items to allow installation and
operation.

Optus regards the proposed installation as
a Low-Impact Facility under the
Telecommunications (Low-Impact
Facilities) Determination 1997 ("the
Determination") based on the description
above.

Further information including an EME
Report can be obtained from David
Johnston at Kordia Solutions, 07 3907 1455,
David.Johnston@kordia.com.au

Written submissions should be sent to
Kordia Solutions, Unit 3 / 370 Nudgee Rd,
Hendra Qld 4011 by Thursday, 23 February 2017.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE CooBER PEDY
INDEPENDENT FUEL

There’s no Bull at BULLS

Wesley LifeForce
Coober Pedy
community meeting

All interested community
members are invited to the 2nd
meeting of the Coober Pedy
Suicide Prevention Network

Details
Date Thursday, 16th Feb 2016
Time 1pm – 3pm
Venue Coober Pedy Council Chambers
Address Lot 773 Hutchison Street
Afternoon tea provided

‘Suicide prevention is a shared responsibility across the
community, professional groups, and non-government
and government agencies.’
‘Living is for Everyone’ framework

For further information, please contact:
Wesley LifeForce
PO Box 576, Ashfield NSW 1600
1600 100 024
lifeforcenetworks@wesleymission.org.au

Wesley LifeForce gratefully acknowledges the funding provided by the Australian
Government National Suicide Prevention Program.

For more information visit wesleylifeforce.org

CLASSIFIEDS ADVERTISING
See page 2 for Rates, Deadlines & Publishing Dates

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PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
Join your local Natural Resources Management Group now!

Applications are now open for membership of the SA Arid Lands (SAAL) Natural Resources Management (NRM) Board’s district-based NRM groups. Members of the SA Arid Lands community with an interest in natural resources management in their area are encouraged to apply.

SAAL NRM Board Presiding Member Janet Brook said community members involved at this level are a vital practical link for the communities they represent, providing a local perspective and ensuring the Board’s priorities and investment decisions are relevant.

“The majority of our NRM Group members live in the district or are involved in natural resources management in the area and may include pastoralists, Aboriginal community members, townfolk, and representatives from mining and tourism industries and conservation groups,” Ms Brook said.

“Groups are skills-based with members selected for their knowledge of areas such as local community affairs, mining and petroleum, tourism, primary production, soil conservation, water resources management, pest animal and weed control, local governance, Aboriginal heritage and business administration.

Expressions of interest are also being sought for potential future vacancies on the Marree-Innamincka and Kingoonya NRM groups.

Public and private schools have until 14 February to register for the study that will examine the impact of immunising large community groups against the disease.

More than 200 schools have registered to participate and if all schools sign up, 60,000 South Australian adolescents will be eligible to receive the vaccinations which are not currently available for free through the National Immunisation Program.

Schools can register their interest by contacting their school immunisation provider or the study team on (08) 8161 8117, or by visiting www.bpartofit.com.au

To register your interest
To register your interest in becoming an NRM Group member or for further information contact
Natural Resources SA Arid Lands or visit

If you are not sure which NRM district you belong to visit http://www.naturalsources.sa.gov.au/aridlands/about-us/nrm-board/nrm-district-groups to find out more.

Applications close on 10 April 2017.

SA schools urged to register for Meningococcal B study

Education Minister Susan Close is urging schools throughout South Australia to register for a nation-leading health study that will see students enrolled in years 10, 11 and 12 eligible to receive the Meningococcal B vaccine free of charge.

Public and private schools have until 14 February to register for the study that will examine the impact of immunising large community groups against the disease.

“Our NRM Groups are actively engaged with the delivery of projects and have been instrumental in driving a range of the Board’s recent projects and initiatives.

“Some of these initiatives include managing a variety of pest plants and animals such as Vachellia (Acacia) farnesiana, Buffel Grass, Mesquite, Buxthom, cats and wild dogs. In addition to this, other projects determined as priorities are transport and stock hygiene, erosion control and tourism impacts.

“Connecting the wide community to NRM decision making and encouraging community partnerships and engagement with local people, are also high priorities.

“Each NRM Group is currently putting a lot of effort into determining future directions for their districts through prioritising issues and how those issues can be addressed. This will assist with shaping upcoming funding opportunities in both the short and long term.

“Too many young South Australians are affected by this terrible disease, and I urge schools, parents and eligible students to access the vaccine for free through this study.”

Associate Professor Helen Marshall said, “We are heartened to see that more than 200 schools across South Australia have already registered to participate in B Part of It and have the opportunity to be protected against meningococcal disease, a devastating infection. We hope to see those that are yet to sign up adding their students to the list of almost 55,000 who have so far become eligible to receive the recommended meningococcal B vaccination.”

“South Australia has the highest rate of Meningococcal B in the country, with young adults aged 15-24 among those most at risk.”

“We know that 5-10 per cent of people with meningococcal disease die, despite rapid treatment. By undertaking this ground breaking research into the herd immunity benefits of immunising large groups against the disease, we will determine whether the Meningococcal B vaccine can reduce spread of the meningococcus bacteria amongst adolescents and the community.”

SAAL NRM Board Presiding Member Janet Brook said, “I encourage all eligible schools to take the opportunity to participate in the study and help researchers explore whether immunising large community groups can result in greater protection for all against Meningococcal B.”

“Groups are skills-based with members selected for their knowledge of areas such as local community affairs, mining and petroleum, tourism, primary production, soil conservation, water resources management, pest animal and weed control, local governance, Aboriginal heritage and business administration.

Expressions of interest are also being sought for potential future vacancies on the Marree-Innamincka and Kingoonya NRM groups.

Public and private schools have until 14 February to register for the study that will examine the impact of immunising large community groups against the disease.

More than 200 schools have registered to participate and if all schools sign up, 60,000 South Australian adolescents will be eligible to receive the vaccinations which are not currently available for free through the National Immunisation Program.

The B Part of It study is being led by the University of Adelaide in partnership with SA Health and has been approved by the Women’s and Children’s Health Network Human Research Ethics Committee.

Researchers are working closely with local government, the Department for Education and Child Development, Catholic Education South Australia and the Association of Independent Schools of South Australia to support schools to become involved.

All South Australian students enrolled in years 10, 11 and 12 in 2017 will be eligible to participate in the study if their school signs up and parents and students provide consent.

Schools can register their interest by contacting their school immunisation provider or the study team on (08) 8161 8117, or by visiting www.bpartofit.com.au

To register your interest
To register your interest in becoming an NRM Group member or for further information contact
Natural Resources SA Arid Lands or visit

If you are not sure which NRM district you belong to visit http://www.naturalsources.sa.gov.au/aridlands/about-us/nrm-board/nrm-district-groups to find out more.

Applications close on 10 April 2017.

SA schools urged to register for Meningococcal B study

Education Minister Susan Close is urging schools throughout South Australia to register for a nation-leading health study that will see students enrolled in years 10, 11 and 12 eligible to receive the Meningococcal B vaccine free of charge.

Public and private schools have until 14 February to register for the study that will examine the impact of immunising large community groups against the disease.

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Public notice

Maggie from Any Pet Grooming will be in Coober Pedy 1st February until 18th February.

To arrange a groom for your furbaby, please contact her on 0438 896 599.

PUBLIC NOTICE
PET GROOMING
Maggie from Any Pet Grooming will be in Coober Pedy 1st February until 18th February.

To arrange a groom for your furbaby, please contact her on 0438 896 599.

Call ‘131 444’ for ‘non-urgent’ police assistance

to ask a question or advice

to report a missing person or lost property

to make a complaint

to make general police related enquires

to report a crime which does not require a statement

(e.g. house breaks, illegal use, property damage, theft)
GUIDE TO SHOPS AND SERVICES
IN COOBER PEDY

Accommodation
Oasis Tourist Park 1

Restaurants
John’s Pizza Bar 2
Outback Bar & Grill 3

Opal Shops
Just Opals 4
Seven Stones Jewellers 5

Fuel Outlets
Opal Miner’s Enterprises 6
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Underground Books
Coober Pedy Glassworks

Cultural Clubs
Returned Soldiers League
Greek Community

EMERGENCY NUMBERS:
Ambulance, Fire and Police - 000
National Security Hotline: 1800123400

Police Stations
Coober Pedy: 08 86725056
Marla: 86707020
Oodnadatta: 86707905
Coober Pedy Hospital: 86725009
Coober Pedy School: 86725077
District Council Coober Pedy: 86724600

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37x86  Page 9
Coober Pedy Regional Times
Thursday 9 February 2017

Page 9
Coober Pedy Regional Times
Thursday 9 February 2017
Coober Pedy residents will have noticed ongoing activity to the south of the highway before and since Christmas has resulted in some new landmarks appearing on the horizon.

Good progress has been made by the project proponent Energy Developments (EDL) and its contractors including 30 members of the community who have worked on the project to date.

Keith Barker EGM Technology Energy Developments said this week, “The solar array is now complete and ready for commissioning and the two new 2 Megawatt turbines have been successfully erected. The overhead power line is complete and both the solar and wind are being prepared for connection to the existing power station site.”

“There has also been a lot of change at the power station itself. Preparation for the installation of the new control system and “enabling” technologies to ensure a stable power supply and a new switchboard to connect to the town network have been among the key activities,” he said.

“This week another important component arrived on site - a 1MW battery that typifies the multinational nature of the technologies being used to set new global benchmarks for reduction in diesel use. Starting its life in Japan this battery came to Coober Pedy via Italy where its control system was added before it was tested and sent to Australia.”

“The battery will play an important role in enabling the town to run completely on renewable power for an expected 50% of the year. This is what makes the project an important demonstration of what can be achieved from renewable generation in remote parts of Australia and the world,” said Mr. Barker.

The project remains on schedule to commence commissioning in early March and reaching completion around the middle of the year.

A community forum is being planned for early March where further updates will be provided and the EDL team will be available for questions.

Full details of this event will be provided shortly.
TUESDAY
Drop in Centre 3:00 – 6:00pm; Ages 8–17 (Sophie Reynolds)

NETBALL PRACTICE commences Tuesday 7th February at Coober Pedy Area School Netball Court. From 7.30pm - 9.30pm All Netball players are welcome.

AMBULANCE TRAINING 7.30pm Umoona Road. Every Tuesday except school holidays.

FRIDAYS
GREEK CLUB - Bingo 7.30pm
Coober Pedy Scrabble and Backgammon 7.30pm
United Club. All skill levels welcome
AA Meeting
7 pm Catholic Church
Ph no. 1800222222
Late Night Fridays 6:00 – 10:00pm; 11-17(Sophie Reynolds)

Saturdays
Drop in Centre; 11:00 – 2:00; Ages 8-17 (Sophie Reynolds)

MINE RESCUE/SES Training (Alternate Saturdays) 0427725446

CFS TRAINING - every second Saturday at 2pm
Need new members urgently

CP SHooters Club
No shooting over the holidays but pre-arranged shooting will take place.
Ring John DiDonna on 0427649389 or Susy Chapman on 0401092264 to book a time.

Croation Club
Happy Hour Saturdays 6-7pm

Sundays
PLAY TIME 2pm – 3:30pm
School Gym
0-5 YEARS & Parent/Carer (Donna Clements)

SUNDAY GOLF has ceased for the summer period, and will resume again next year. (Watch this space)

CATACOMB Church Service and Sunday School 9:30am Sunday. Bus pickup available.
Ph 8672 9036

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Ring John DiDonna on 0427649389 or Susy Chapman on 0401092264 to book a time.

COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The next Council elections will take place during November 2018

STATE ELECTIONS
The next State election will be held on 17 March 2018

SCHOOL TERM DATES

2017
Term 1: 30 January - 13 April
Term 2: 1 May - 7 July
Term 3: 24 July - 29 September
Term 4: 16 October - 8 December

TAX & FINANCIAL

WK Lawyers
Phone: 08 8361 9148
Email: Admin@wklaw.com.au

Coober Pedy Dates 2017

During Court Circuit, Weeks commencing -

TO BE ADVISED
If you ask Jo Brennan-Kuss how things are business-wise at Josephine’s Gallery & Kangaroo Orphanage in Hutchison Street Coober Pedy, the answer is likely to be, “We have had our hands full (as usual) with the business, visitors, tour groups and of course all the animals.”

Josephine estimates that she and her husband Terry have nursed around 250 to 300 joeys/kangaroos in the 9 years they have been operating, as well as wombats, emus, echidnas and bearded dragons.

On the feathered side of things, the couple have nursed Wedgetail Eagles, Nankeen Kestrels, Peregrine Falcons, Crows, Galahs, Top Knot Pigeons, Cockatiels, Inland Dorsel, and several unidentified birds have also knocked on their door.

On the feral side, they’ve taken in a variety of rabbits plus Donald the lamb and totally unwanted feral homing pigeons that refused to go home!

However, Josephine is very clear on one thing, “We don’t take snakes or crocodiles,” she said.

Josephine and Terry provide a 24 hour phone service for anyone needing advice on injured wildlife - immediate care, as well as networking with other wildlife carers throughout Australia to receive any injured/orphaned wildlife found by the public.

Josephine also mentors other carers throughout the outback - from the NT border to Pt Augusta, WA border to Qld & NSW borders.

There is never a shortage of excitement at the orphanage. “Another precious soul just joined our family 30 hours ago and this little one requires extra attention. Unfortunately Terry didn’t get the name of the young man that brought her in but we will try to find out who he is so that we can thank him again, this time on this page,” said Josephine, (a familiar story)

Josephine describes their latest orphan. “Little Miss Molly is what we call a pinkie - no fur at all. She is approximately 2 months and 3 weeks old and weighs 340 grams. Her ears are still down and her eyes are still closed so another week or two before she opens them. Molly has some skin missing from the up side of both legs near her ankles and a couple of scratches on her head that we are treating. So far there appears to be no bruising but that could change in the next couple of days.”

“Her chances and the chances of any little Joey this size are quite slim but we will do all we can for Molly. One of our main concerns is maintaining her body temperature and keeping her lovely and warm without overheating her. So far she is feeding, pooping and peeing reasonably well.”

For the many casualties like Molly that the desert produces annually, Josephine and Terry are unsung heroes.

It’s always a pleasure to call in and bear witness to the amazing work that the Kangaroo Orphanage in Coober Pedy is achieving. Oh yes and while you are there you’ll see that the collection of aboriginal artwork is second to nothing. These two do know their artwork.
International Women’s Day 2017
“Be Bold for Change”

- Venue: Serbian Church
- Date: Sunday 26th March
- Time: 10.30am – 3.00pm
- Cost: Gold Coin Donation

Programme

- 11am: Welcome & Introduction to MC for the day
- 11.15am: Guest Speaker
- 11.30am: Guest Speaker
- 11.45: Guest Speaker
- 12-1pm: Lunch
- 1pm-2pm: “Eyes Down” for BINGO!!
- 2pm-2.15pm: Drum Beat with Tracy Harris
- 2.15pm-3pm: Guest Speakers, Lucky Door Prizes, Acknowledgements & Close

EXTRA, EXTRA, EXTRA!
READ ALL ABOUT IT!
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For all enquiries please call Julie & Jenny on 0488991945

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