

Overall the day was a success with a number of people commenting on how good everything looked. The attendance numbers were encouraging (over 1,300) considering the Festival was in the middle of the school holidays coinciding with two long weekends. There were almost 400 children who attended which is nearly double the amount of registered students at the local school.

The Opal Festival has traditionally been held over the Easter long weekend as it is the only weekend long enough to encourage past residents and tourists to travel to Coober Pedy. Fortunately, next year the Easter long weekend is the weekend before the school holidays so there will most likely be more locals in town.

Issues that have been identified, including the ones below, will be addressed for the Centenary Opal Festival next year.

The issue of sound is one that became obvious shortly after the official opening. Unfortunately the sound equipment was not suitable for the required purpose and alternative sites and equipment are being investigated for next year.

The bar was located away from the setting sun so that patrons could mingle without the sun in their eyes and as per the liquor licensee's request, alcohol was kept within the confines of the tent. We will negotiate with the licensee to consider having the licensed area extended for 2015.

The security company apologises for the behaviour of one particular security guard. They were made aware of the unacceptable behaviour and immediately terminated his employment. Other security companies will be considered for 2015.

Advertising in print media including the local paper, when not subsidised via sponsorship, is expensive and reduces the budget for attractions available on the day. Posters and flyers were released earlier than previously and an 'Events Newsletter' was published to try to compensate for the loss of other print media.

Next year, everyone who is manning a stall will be given a different coloured wristband to identify them to security, allowing them easier access to the grounds. The majority of stall holders who register before the due date receive their welcome pack, including entry passes, in the week leading up to the Festival. The stall holder form is available in hard copy from the Council Office and on the Opal Festival website: <http://www.opalfestival.com.au/> and will be modified to include a place for site sizes to ensure that sufficient space is provided.

Everyone is invited to support this long standing community event and are encouraged to share ideas and get involved at meetings held prior to the event. Unfortunately this year there was a lack of volunteers which did have an effect on the running of the Festival. We are looking for a dedicated member of the public to join our events team as volunteer Novelty Event Director to help the novelty events run on time. This person would be in charge of organising volunteers to run each event, assisting with events and keeping the MC informed with announcements. We are also looking for volunteer site assistants to help in the set up & pack up of the Festival and as spotters for cars and floats so that the transition from 'parade' to 'festival' is more streamlined. There are numerous benefits of volunteering for the Opal Festival including:

- free entry
- free meal (if volunteering for 3+ hours)
- recognition in media releases and on the website/facebook
- meeting new people
- gaining experience (useful for resumes)
- staying active and involved
- having fun
- contributing to the community

Holding a community event like the Opal Festival requires the commitment of not only the organisers but also the volunteers before and during the event, the community with constructive feedback and businesses and media in supporting the promotion of the event. We hope everyone will support the Opal Festival in 2015.

Centenary Commemorative Calendar

Get your photos in soon! Closing date for the competition is **Friday 6 June 2014 5pm**

The Coober Pedy Centenary Committee invite you to have your photo(s) published in a 2015 Coober Pedy Centenary Commemorative Calendar.

Details: The competition is open to Coober Pedy residents past & present, for amateur (non-professional) photographers only. Photos must be entered by the photographer, one entry per theme per person.

Calendar Themes

- Historical 1915-2015
- Around Town

Twenty four photos will be chosen for the two calendars (12 for each) and, funding permitting, calendars will be printed in July 2014 and sold as a form of fundraising.

Winning photographers will be recognised in the District Council of Coober Pedy Newsletter, on the Coober Pedy Tourism page, Coober Pedy Centenary webpage, District Council of Coober Pedy Facebook page and Twitter as well as having their names printed on their winning photo(s) and receiving a free copy of both calendars.

Entry: Bring a digital copy of your photo along to the Council Main Office and fill in the entry form to enter.



For more information on Centenary events and projects, or how to get involved contact Clair Alford, Event Officer on 0448 811 799 or via email: calford@cpccouncil.sa.gov.au



Community News

AUSTRALIA'S BIGGEST MORNING TEA - 7th June

HAT OR DRESS THEME: Madhatters Tea Party

AT: ITALIAN CLUB, ITALIAN CLUB ROAD TIME: 2.00 - 5.30PM
Auction Cake and Hot Beverages Served Prize for best Hat or Costume
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CALL JACQUI BOLAND: 0418 723 140

COOBER PEDY SAINTS 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY DINNER

When	Where	Food (optional)
14th of June 2014 at 6:30pm	Italian Club Lot 100 Italian Club Rd Coober Pedy	\$15 per plate per adult \$5 per child 14yrs & under

Casual neat & tidy dress code

LEARN GOLF at Coober Pedy

18th June, 2014 - Coober Pedy Golf Club
150 School Children
15 PGA Professionals from across Australia
FREE GOLF at Coober Pedy

June Events:

Saturday 7 June 2.00pm
Biggest Morning Tea
Italian Club

Saturday 14 June 1.00pm
Coober Pedy Saints home game vs Roxby Districts



Saturday 14 June 6.30pm
Coober Pedy Saints 10 Year Anniversary Dinner
Italian Club - Please RSVP for catering purposes

Saturday 18 June
Learn Golf at Coober Pedy
Coober Pedy Golf Club



If you would like your event listed in the newsletter, on Facebook or added to the 'events calendar' on the tourism website please email newsletter@cpccouncil.sa.gov.au or call (08) 8672 4600

Contact Details

PO Box 425, Coober Pedy, SA, 5723
Phone: (08) 8672 4600
Fax: (08) 8672 5699
Email: newsletter@cpccouncil.sa.gov.au

HELP US REDUCE PAPER WASTAGE!
If you wish to receive an electronic version of this newsletter please email: newsletter@cpccouncil.sa.gov.au

MAYORS REPORT

May 2014

Mayor Steve Baines

Council has applied to the government for Disaster Relief Funding following the recent heavy rains in and around Coober Pedy. Preliminary estimates of damage are between \$1.5 million and \$2 million and it is estimated that it could take upward of twelve months to repair the damage to community infrastructure. I have been in contact with the Shadow Minister for Regional Development Steven Griffiths and briefed him on the status of damage and repairs. Steven met with Minister Geoff Brock on the 28th April and reinforced our urgent need for disaster funding.

On the 2nd May I officiated at the opening of the Water for Growth project at Oxiana Oval. Federal member for Grey Mr Rowan Ramsey attended on behalf of the Minister for Regional Development and he and I unveiled the plaque.



Progress has been made on the issue of the requirement for us to widen our runway. It was agreed that CASA and REX would carry out narrow runway operations on a SAAB 340 simulator and the information that came from that testing may form part of the SAAB 340 AFM (aircraft flight manual). This would make the SAAB CASA approved for narrow runway operations and remove the requirement for the Coober Pedy runway to be widened. Simulator testing was undertaken week ending 25/4/2014 and the data is now being analysed by CASA. At the time of writing it appears that the crosswind factor may be of concern but both REX and CASA are working through this issue. I am confident that a satisfactory outcome will be achieved.

In February I caught up with former member for Stuart Mr Graham Gunn who advised that he had come across some memorabilia from Australia Day 1987. The 26th January 1987 was when the first District Council of Coober Pedy Councillors were sworn in at Australia Day celebrations. Graham came across two programs for the day and two commemorative medallions that were produced to mark the historic date. The programs with attached medallions were given to those dignitaries present and included Mr Gunn and the Hon Chris Hurford MHR Minister for Immigration and Ethnic Affairs. I will be writing to Graham on behalf of Council thanking him for donating this special memorabilia back to the people of Coober Pedy. If Councillors wish to view the programs and medallions please contact the Executive Assistant. We are proposing to have them block mounted and displayed.

News from the Works Depot

Just a reminder to have bins out by 7am on the allocated morning to ensure they get emptied. Please place the bins with the opening facing the road for pick-up.

The Works Depot would like to invite 'expressions of interest, as and when required' from the public for the hire of the following:

Building Contractor - Bricklayer - Paver - Plumber - Electrician - Auto Electrician - Carpenter - Glazier - Locksmith - Welder - Mechanic - Crash Repair - Handy Man - Front End Loader - Bobcat - Grader - Water Cart - Backhoe - Excavator - Trucks - Crane

Please contact the Council Depot during office hours if you have the necessary skills or machines, either Jan Van Der Merwe, Vonnie Ferguson or Kylie-Anne on 8672 4626, with expressions of interest

and the appropriate licenses and registrations.

Delivery and collection hours for yard sales as well as the weighbridge operating times are 7am-3pm Mon-Fri.

A reminder that all electrical items need to come to the Depot. Small items in the white bins near the gates, but for larger items please first come to Reception to be directed to the correct 'dumping' location.

Please remember to purchase Waste Dump Vouchers at the Council Head Office before heading to the Dump. Prices can be found on the website: www.cooberpedy.sa.gov.au or by calling the office during business hours on (08) 8672 4600

Media Commitments this Month

ABC Radio 15/04/2014 Meeting of Electors

Seven News Adelaide 17/4/14 Meeting of Electors

ABC News 22/4/2014 Meeting of Electors

ABC Radio 29/4/2014 Meeting of Electors

SBS 30/4/2014 Meeting of Electors/ Liquor Licence Restrictions

Roxby Monitor 30/4/2014 Homelessness Centre/TAC

ABC Radio 13/05/2014 re Implementation of Power pricing commitment



Like our Page on Facebook to get the latest updates, photos, event info and more: facebook.com/Coober.Pedy.Council

Wind Tower

You may have noticed the erection of a large 60 metre tall tower next to the explosives magazine on the opal fields. This tower is a wind monitoring tower and has been erected by Energy Developments Ltd to monitor the wind over an initial period of twenty four months.

Energy Developments presently owns and operates the diesel power station and are interested in constructing a renewable hybrid power station made up of both solar and wind to complement their existing diesel station.

The wind monitoring tower reads the wind speeds at 3 heights and has been constructed at approximately the same height as the proposed wind generators. If the project progresses the siting of the wind generators and solar arrays will be the subject of community consultation at a later date.

Steve Baines, Mayor



Beautiful Breakaways

If you would like to see the Breakaways Conservation Park carpeted in wild flowers now is a fantastic time to visit. The weather is beautiful and the park is unusually green.



Native pigface



The moon plain and dog fence



The rocks of the moon plain are not easily visible with all of the green growth covering the ground



Thousands of caterpillars have made the treacherous journey across the road. They seem to like eating the wildflowers as well!



Showers again rolling across the Breakaways. Regular rain has kept the plants within the park growing well.