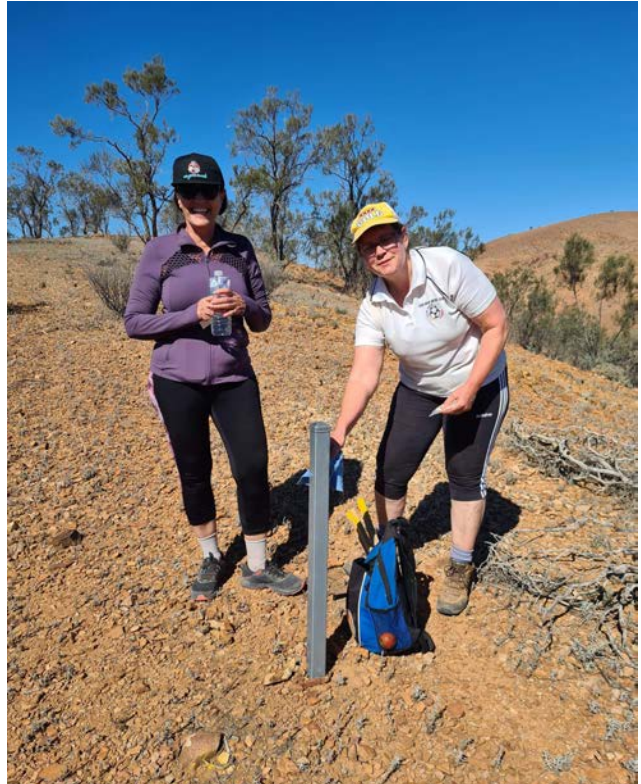


LEIGH CREEK NEWS

AKURRA TRAIL NEAR COMPLETION



Over the ANZAC long weekend Heather, Veronica and John walked the trail and placed the "way marker stickers" on each of the newly placed posts. With most of the trail work completed the focus now moves to the Official opening and long awaited celebration of this collaborative project.



The official opening of the Akurra Trail will be held on

Tuesday 22nd June at 10am

at the trail starting point (near the hospital walkway). Please join us in celebration of this fantastic collaborative effort, more details to follow. After the official opening it is planned for older students and interested adults to walk part of the trail returning for a celebration bbq luncheon.



OUT & ABOUT

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN TOURISM COMMISSION VISITS LEIGH CREEK

Staff from the Destination Development team at SATC visited Leigh Creek recently. Leah Rusby and Mark Phelps along with Jeremy Carn from RDA Far North, met with Tracy Neldner, Darryl Bowshire and Breyten Ward whilst in town. It was a great opportunity to discuss the plans for Leigh Creek from a tourism perspective, and the opportunities the region has to offer including Aroona Dam, new walking and cycling trails. The SATC is currently updating the 20 Things to See & Do in Leigh Creek map and will supply the Visitor Centre with stock of this map shortly.

The SATC has a \$20m Tourism Industry Development Fund (TIDF) that operators can apply for to assist in new or upgraded tourism products and experiences. Mark and Leah visited a couple of successful TIDF projects including the Bentleys Cabin Park in Port Augusta, the Prairie Hotel and Flinders Food Co in Hawker, visit www.tourism.sa.gov.au/support/tourism-industry-development-fund for more information or to apply.

Also a timely reminder for any events in the region, please ensure that they are registered on the Australian Tourism Data Warehouse (ATDW) which provides a free listing on the www.southaustralia.com website.

www.tourism.sa.gov.au/support/atdw

When posting your great images of the region remember to tag the team at the SATC by using [@southaustralia](https://twitter.com/southaustralia) and [#seesouthaustralia](https://twitter.com/seesouthaustralia)



For more information about things to explore in Leigh Creek and surrounding areas head to: <https://visitleighcreek.com.au/>

2021 EVENTS

All events are subject to COVID 19 restriction requirements at the time of the event

Saturday 8th May - Beltana Hall 7.30pm

"Unsung" with Amelia Ryan and Libby O'Donovan
Free Admission, Supper \$5 Donation, Bar Available

Pre-booking only. To book your seat

<https://prairiehotel.rezdy.com/411138/unsung>

Friday to Sunday 18 - 20 June - Farina

Weekend events including the official opening of Patterson House, annual Cricket match, Bell Memorial Ecumenical Church Service and a flyover. For further details

<https://farinarestitution.com/?na=v&nk=865-fab5008873&id=35>

Tuesday 22nd June 10am

Official opening of the Akurra Trail

Sunday 27th June

500 miles of Music - Leigh Creek Town Oval

Further information and ticket bookings can be made through

<https://www.moshtix.com.au/v2/event/500-miles-of-music-leigh-creek-kasey-chambers/117427#>

Wednesday 20th October

Flinders Family Fun Day - Leigh Creek Stadium and Oval

Further details to be announced

If you have an event that you would like to be included in this calendar please call Tracy on (08) 8675 2126



COPLEY COMMUNITY HALL OPENING CELEBRATION

The Copley & Districts Progress Association officially reopened the Community Hall, with an extremely well attended event on Friday 30th April. The evening included a yummy roast dinner cooked by Helen McCloud, wide variety of drinks with Jimmy at the bar, Peter organised the dart competition and Pip from Marree entertained the crowds with a fun quiz session after dinner.

Peter and Theres officially thanked the federal and state grant funding partners and the many locals who had assisted along the way, then proceeded to untie the ribbon. A great time was had by all.



LEIGH CREEK TRANSFORMATION

Leigh Creek Transformation update

The April Community Meeting saw approximately 25 people attend, including 2 visitors passing through from Geelong, Victoria.

The Chair of the Task Force, Paul Case welcomed those attending and outlined the meetings process for the evening, then Paul emphasised the importance of understanding that information from the Task Force is the most current and reliable source. The Task Force is committed to providing up to date information, which will be by the agencies to individuals as needed, and to the community through the monthly OCA meeting and newsletter, and the OCA dedicated transformation webpage

<https://oca.sa.gov.au/LeighCreekTransformation> including local works opportunities.

Vicki Beard, Task Force Project Manager then walked attendees through the updated High-level schedule of transformation milestones calendar. Vicki provided clarity and answered questions as they arose, presenting detailed information on points where the schedule was on track and delays had occurred. Local and regional community members have requested the opportunity to purchase salvage items from the proposed demolition zones at Leigh Creek. The Leigh Creek Task Force has developed a cost-recovery process which aims for the safe removal of identified salvage items and with fair sale opportunities. The salvage items and process details are explained at this link which can be found at

<https://oca.sa.gov.au/LeighCreekTransformation>

Following on Dan Luscombe from DIT Property provided a general review on current maintenance works being undertaken including the inspection of fire walls within the Flats, rental arrangements moving forward and an update on the overall valuations and surveying of the township. Currently project works include engaging an arborist, asbestos repairs and some minor maintenance in rental properties. Dan encouraged any further property enquires or maintenance issues to be made to

DIT.L LeighCreekProperty@sa.gov.au.

The final presenter was Mark Muller from DIT Building Projects who provided greater clarity for those attending regarding the demolition works and local participation opportunities. Mark also was able to talk about the proposed site for the new Health Clinic. Scoping has commenced for a purpose built complex to be installed on the current site the where the existing SA Health houses 30, 31 & 32 Black Oak Drive are located. The community general discussion was that this location allows for good parking and access yet keeps the facilities within the Town Centre.

The next Community Conversation will be on Thursday 27th May from 5.30pm - 7.30pm in the Leigh Creek auditorium/cinema, all welcome.

Improved Broadband and 4G Upgrade

Telstra announced its \$5.56 million Far North SA project this month that will vastly improve the services for Leigh Creek and the region. The project is a funding partnership between the Commonwealth Government (\$2.5million), the State Government's Education Department (\$1.5million) and Telstra (\$1.56 million) and will provide:

- Upgraded transmission infrastructure from Hawker to Leigh Creek, allowing vastly improved data transmission capacity from Leigh Creek to Marree
- 4G mobile upgrades to Leigh Creek and Mount Scott
- ADSL broadband capacity upgrade to Leigh Creek
- New 4G mobile sites at Nepabunna

The upgrade will achieve the State Government's ambition to provide high speed broadband to schools in Leigh Creek and Marree.



Contact us

Outback Communities Authority
- Leigh Creek Office

E: oca@sa.gov.au

Phone: (08) 8675 2126

ANZAC SERVICES AT FARINA



It was a deeply moving service for those who attended the Dawn Service at Farina. As well as those from the local surrounding communities there were also a number of people who had travelled from Adelaide in a group to attend. Presiding Officer John Tuckwell, Reverend Trevor J Briggs and Retired Squadron Leader Lindsay Campbell ably managed the proceedings. At the conclusion of the ceremony attendees were invited to take the "walk of remembrance" to the café for the Gunfire Breakfast.



SA WATER PIPELINE WORKS

From mid-May, SA Water will begin work to construct a new 34-kilometre water pipeline along the Outback Highway between Copley and Lyndhurst.

The project is aimed at improving reliability of supply for local customers now and into the future, and the relocation of the pipe away from the local mine site will make it safer and more accessible for SA Water crews when maintenance or repairs are required.

Together with one of its major framework partners, the McConnell Dowell Diona Joint Venture, SA Water is committed to minimising any construction impacts on the community, and project updates will be provided as works progress.

The project is expected to take several months to complete.

If you have any questions related to these works, you can contact Jess Oxley via the SA Water Customer Care Centre on 1300 SA WATER (1300 729 283) or email project@sawater.com.au.



LEIGH CREEK MINE WORKS UPDATE

Following the completion of Leigh Creek coal mine closure works in late 2018, Flinders Power has continued to monitor the mine site to ensure that it remains safe. The work completed to manage surface water and prevent spontaneous combustion continues to be effective with minor maintenance work being performed as required. Flinders Power engaged Eyre Advisory Services (EAS) to manage its monitoring and maintenance obligations on the site. Peter Kelly, a partner at EAS, remains the mine manager and is in Leigh Creek regularly managing the small team of subcontractors (Mick, Ken, Pud and Dickie) assisting at the mine. The mine remains a high-risk to the safety of the general public and consequently remains secured with no authorised access permitted.

A number of buildings and associated infrastructure, used throughout the period of mining operations, have been retained on site for future use by potential projects. A small number of transportable and lightweight buildings belonging to Flinders are to be removed from the mine site in the near future, as they will continue to become dilapidated over time and become a safety risk. You are likely to see some of these buildings be transported away from the site through May 2021.

Over coming months the team will be completing minor repairs to the Retention Dam Wall. You may notice earthworks in the vicinity of the dam and some minor raised dust.

Contributed by Peter Georgaris - Eyre Advisory Services



Leigh Creek Waste Truck

Our hard working waste truck has needed to be taken to Port Augusta for servicing and repairs. Quite an operation to get it moved but ably managed by Will and the driver. Thank you

