

LEIGH CREEK NEWS

CASTING OFF - COUNTRY ARTS PERFORMANCE



In March, Country Arts SA brought to Leigh Creek the Casting Off performers - billed as three generations of gutsy circus women. Deb, Sharon and Spenser entertained us with a fantastic circus come acrobatic performance in the Leigh Creek Auditorium. For this small team including the skills of Bec, their production, stage and lighting manager, Leigh Creek was their first of six performances as they headed south with the final gig being in Naracoorte.



LCCPA - WORKING BEE



Over the March long-weekend Leigh Creek Progress members got together at the OCA Depot Yard to put together the newly ordered table & chairs and bench seating for both the Akurra Trail and Memorial Park (locally referred to as Cannon Park). The more experienced folks in using power drills assisted others with the final result demonstrating that many hands make light work. A big thank you to everyone who was able to help on the day.

An official opening of the trail is being planned for Tuesday 22nd June, with further details to come.

COPLEY CRICKET TEAM TRIUMPHANT

The Copley & Districts Cricket Team played Quorn in a hometown finals match on Saturday 27th March. Copley were the winning team on the day with a score of 1 out for 122 runs. Congratulations to all who played and their most enthusiastic supporters.



OUT & ABOUT



A healthy golden perch recently caught at Aroona Dam Photo Credit Alex Williams RecFish SA

Article from: Environment SA News <https://www.environment.sa.gov.au/news-hub/news/articles/2021/03/golden-opportunity-fisher-aroon-dam>

An Australian freshwater fish, also known as callop or yellow belly, the species was recently documented through a RecFish SA citizen science survey of the dam. Altogether 12 golden perch were caught and logged, averaging 35 centimetres in size, with the biggest at 39 cm. While no Murray Cod were caught, several were spotted during the survey.

Flinders and Outback National Parks and Wildlife Service Manager Tony Magor said the dam is a catch and release site / limited take zone. "In 2019 we worked with RecFish SA to release 10,000 Murray cod and 20,000 golden perch fingerlings into the dam," Tony said. "The fish species were stocked in the dam, through a project funded by the Department for Environment and Water to provide a tourism boost for the region. "So it's been great to see that the fish are now flourishing, and we hope this will encourage further people to visit the region."

Aroona Dam opened for fishing in 2018 and has been open to non-motorised watercraft such as kayaks and canoes since 1 April 2019. There is a two fish personal daily bag limit for golden perch in state reservoirs, with a minimum size of 33cm. Murray cod remain a catch and release only species in all state waters. In terms of handling a Murray cod only the head and shoulders may be lifted out of the water to take the hook out, the rest of the fish must remain in the water at all times.

Located four kilometres south of Leigh Creek, Aroona Dam was once a key water source for the former coal mining town. The dam is no longer used as a water supply but remains an important recreation space.

In 2019, the Department for Environment and Water, utilising funding from a Regional Development Fund established by Flinders Power, created the new recreational activities at Aroona Dam. Funding enabled the stocking of the dam with fish as well as providing a floating safety barrier behind the dam wall.

For more information about things to explore in Leigh Creek and surrounding areas head to:

<https://visitleighcreek.com.au/>

Award winning Copley Bakery

March 1st saw Jimmy back at the bakery after a summer break and now cooking up a storm. The many awards received in 2020 are proudly displayed on the walls and scrumptious new pies to be tried, even a yummy vegetarian option too as championed by Jen.



2021 EVENTS

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

Starclub - Back to Basics Workshops

Thursday 8th April - Leigh Creek OCA Office 5.30 - 7.30pm

Friday 9th April - Copley Community Hall 10.00am - 12.00pm

To book please call Mark Shirley on 0428 888 076

Sunday 25th April - Farina

ANZAC Service & Breakfast & Ecumenical Church Service

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

Sunday 25th April - Beltana

ANZAC Dawn Service at 6.30am followed by a gathering at the Beltana Hall - Breakfast available

Friday 30th April - Copley Community Hall

Official opening of the Copley Community Hall from 5.30pm

All welcome for an evening meal and fun quiz night.

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>

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

ANZAC DAY at Beltana

April 25 Dawn Service 6.30am

followed by a community gathering at the Beltana Hall

Breakfast available

Bar facilities available | Bush camping is also available

ALL WELCOME!

BELTANA
PROGRESS ASSOCIATION

WANTED COUNTRY MUSIC FANS

**LEIGH CREEK
JUNE 27 2021**

TOWN OVAL - GATES OPEN 3PM

**500
Miles of Music**
Wanted Flat To William Creek

KASEY CHAMBERS

**GINA JEFFREYS TRAVIS COLLINS
AMBER LAWRENCE ROD MCCORMACK
KELLY BROUHAHA BILL CHAMBERS**

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW AT MOSHTIX



www.500MILESOFMUSIC.COM

COPLEY COMMUNITY HALL OPENING CELEBRATION

The Copley & Districts Progress Association has been working hard on the upgrade of their Community Hall, and are now ready to showcase all this amazing work. The opening event will be held on Friday 30th April with the official cutting of the ribbon from 5.30pm. Free meals will be served between 6.30pm-8pm followed by a Quiz Event or Darts Competition. All most Welcome

The Complete Personnel Team

Working hard and doing a great job cleaning up the town centre and surrounds. - Thank you



LEIGH CREEK TRANSFORMATION



Leigh Creek Transformation update

The Task Force's Implementation Committee has continued to meet weekly throughout March to coordinate the delivery of the transformation works and to meet the scheduled timelines. There will be increasing visits from Committee members and some companies over the next several months as plans start to be implemented and contracts awarded. 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>

In March there were two Transformation Meetings held in Leigh Creek. John Callea from DIT Building Projects presented to local contractors identifying and outlining opportunities and areas of possible works within the demolition Program. John stressed the importance and need for any contractor/ business to register their interest. To register your interest and receive information on this upcoming opportunity, register now at <https://mailchi.mp/915aa1ae2b37/5bj3wr68l>.

This session was followed by Peter Thomas from DIT Property presenting at the Community Conversation meeting. Peter talked the audience through the valuation processes that have been used, current and expected housing standards and provided an update of the transformation timetable with regards to both residential and commercial properties.

The next Community Conversation will be on Thursday 29th April from 5.30pm - 7.30pm in the Leigh Creek auditorium/cinema, all welcome.



Did you see this huge piece of machinery pass through town? Over the last few days it has been parked at Lyndhurst as it waits for the roads to open so that it can continue its journey to Moomba. We think it is an electrostatic precipitator that removes dust from a gas, but happy to be corrected.

Contact us

Outback Communities Authority
- Leigh Creek Office

E: oca@sa.gov.au

Phone: (08) 8675 2126



LEIGH CREEK SCHOOL COMMUNITY LIBRARY

- Web www.libraries.sa.gov.au/leighcreek
- Email library.leighcreek@gmail.com
- Phone / Fax 8675 2803



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**CURRENT COMMUNITY
OPENING HOURS**

School Terms Monday - Friday 8.30am - 5pm * Saturday 9 - 1.30
School Holidays Monday - Friday 1 - 5 * Saturday 9 - 1.30



National Ride to School Day

The Leigh Creek Area School Students participated in the fun experience of riding to school, a great follow up from last years Palya Bikes Program. Starting at the township of Copley the students and teachers enjoyed the great weather and rode to Leigh Creek along what was once the old highway connecting the townships. Our own Brevet Sergeant Johnathan Peacock assisted in the road crossing points and overall safety of the event.



LEIGH CREEK TRAILS CONCEPTS AND PRESENTATION

Nick Bowman from Destination Trails and Joey Fagan from Bike SA presented to the community the draft final report and their recommendations from a feasibility and concept design for walking and bike trails for the Leigh Creek area, engaged by the OCA as part of the Outback Region Sport, Recreation and Open Space Strategy. The presentation outlined the idea of developing Leigh Creek as a trails hub with links to the wider region. Those attending the presentation were keen to explore the potential tourism opportunities and possible future employment pathways this concept presents. With a number of possible trails identified the OCA are keen to progress the walking and cycling link between Leigh Creek and Copley utilising the old road connecting the townships. Once designs and costings are received it is hoped that the works will go out for local contractors to tender to undertake this exciting project.



Can you help?

The Outback Communities Authority are compiling a register of historical, cultural and items of significance to be retained.

If you know of any items within the Leigh Creek Township that hold particular significance to the community can you please call the OCA office on (08) 8675 2126 to let us know.

We are keen to ensure that as Leigh Creek transforms these important community elements are not lost.