

LEIGH CREEK NEWS



AROONA DAM

The heavy rain in early February resulted in the Aroona Dam filling back up, much to everyone's delight. However, the rain did manage to cause the yellow safety buoys to take off over the wall, these have recently been retrieved and are now firmly back in place.

On 1 April 2019, the dam was opened to non-motorised watercraft activities such as kayaks and canoes. The Leigh Creek Community Progress Association is currently exploring the possibility of the installation of a floating pontoon to assist in launching these vessels. February 2020 marked the one year anniversary of 30,000 Murray Cod and Golden Perch being released by RecFish SA and DEW into the dam. We are anxiously watching and marking the time off in the hope that in 2 years' time the fish will be a good size to catch!

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TOWN WORKS

Tree Management

Together with DPTI Property the OCA have contracted Garden Concepts Tree Services from Kadina in a program to reduce and remove dead trees in Leigh Creek. A great bonus being that the wood has then been made available to our local community, through contacting the OCA Office. Garden Concepts have undertaken work here in two 10 day increments in both April and late June. A little quote from the guys after their most recent works *"great small Community going on there with nice people 😊"*

If you have any concerns about trees in your yard or a neighbours yard please contact the OCA Leigh Creek Office.

Road Sweeper

Following on from the tree removal program the street sweeper arrived shortly after to clean up around the town. As the tree services and sweeper left Leigh Creek the school holidays arrived, seeing Leigh Creek looking ready for the beautiful towns competition!

Ongoing Maintenance

OCA have been busy reviewing and replacing the Town Centre Lighting and reporting street lights not working to SA Power Networks, if you see any street lights that are no longer working please call the office.

The Leigh Creek Cemetery has had a tidy up and a sign installed that lists those interred at the "Old Leigh Creek" Cemetery.

Both Tim and Will continue to ensure that the Town Centre public spaces and its surrounds including the Oval, BBQ facilities, bins, garden beds and streetscape showcase the town at its best.

New signs have been ordered and installed to easily identify some of the locations in town including the VIO and Playford Room.



DPTI PROPERTY

Reporting Property Issues

Please report any property related maintenance issues or damage to DPTI. If you are aware a vacant property may have been damaged, broken into or notice a water leak, please let us know. Please note, any damage to an occupied property that is deemed negligent will be repaired by DPTI contractors and an invoice will be issued to the tenant to recover costs.

Contact

Please don't hesitate to contact DPTI staff should you wish to discuss any issue or concern:

DPTI Transition Team - Property
Peter Thomas - Phone (08) 8343 2605
Simon Muecke - Phone (08) 8343 2613
Claudia Trotta - Phone (08) 7109 7325
Email: DPTI.LeighCreekProperty@sa.gov.au

EVENTS

Flinders Family Fun Day

At the Leigh Creek Town Oval and Stadium
Wednesday 21st October

To book a room for an event or advertise your next event contact the OCA Leigh Creek Office.

OUTBACK FUTURES PROJECT - FUTURE PROOFING THE OUTBACK

Consultation has commenced with the release of the Outback Futures Project - What do you think a more sustainable and resilient future for the Outback looks like?

The Discussion Paper asks Community Members and stakeholders a series of probing questions designed to generate discussion within community.

A copy of the Discussion Paper can be accessed via the OCA website www.oca.sa.gov.au or by contacting the Outback Communities Authority on 1800 640 542.



AKURRA TRAIL



The Leigh Creek Community Progress Association received a "SA Healthy Towns Challenge" grant to create the "Akurra Trail" from the township of Leigh Creek to the back of Aroona Dam. In partnership with the Department of Environment and Water (DEW), National Parks and Wildlife Service SA (NP&WSSA), Leigh Creek School, University of Adelaide, OCA and the Adnyamathanha Elders, work has continued towards the completion of this beautiful trail. This has been a major undertaking, and is very ably being managed and guided by Rosalie Richards from the Leigh Creek Area School.



Exciting plans are developing at the school with the establishment of a Useful Plant Nursery, the aims are to grow native plants and vegetable seedlings and even prepare "seed bombs" to support local re-vegetation programs in the community.

LEIGH CREEK COMMUNITY PROGRESS UPDATE

With Daryl Bowshire as President leading the group, numerous projects are progressing for the benefit of the town. Exciting things such as the purchase of 2 vending machines to enable access to a selection of foods and beverages out of hours, the creation of a new website to showcase the town and surrounding tourist places to visit, improving non-motorised watercraft access at the Aroona Dam with a floating pontoon and as mentioned above the excellent work on the Akurra Trail.

With the COVID 19 outbreak and restrictions sadly a number of events planned have needed to be rescheduled to next year but work has continued in the background in hope to make the events even bigger and better. The Visitor Information Outlet (VIO) is set to open with the engagement of a part-time Tourism Role, so that together with trained volunteers the outlet can be open 7 days a week throughout the high tourist season. If you are interested in being a volunteer at the VIO please contact Daryl.

To enhance the visitor experience at Aroona Dam and the Akurra Trail the group are also exploring a potential arid garden near the main car park with the National Parks and Wildlife Service SA.

Discussions have also started as the group explore possible town entrance signs capturing the unique aspects of Leigh Creek.

LEIGH CREEK TASKFORCE UPDATE

The Hon Dan van Holst Pellekaan MP, Minister for Energy and Mining, established the Leigh Creek Task Force in late 2018 to provide him with advice regarding key decisions for Government. The Task Force is independently chaired and has senior representatives from the following Departments: Energy and Mining, Planning, Transport and Infrastructure, Outback Communities Authority, Education, SA Health, Premier and Cabinet (Aboriginal Affairs and Reconciliation), Primary Industries and Regions SA, SA Police, Office of the Industry Advocate, Trade, Tourism and Industry, South Australian Tourism Commission and SA Water.

The Task Force has now completed a review of the first two years of the transition of the town, including an examination of government service provision for the community. The Task Force has worked together to deliver better outcomes for the Leigh Creek Community, including the extension of lease terms through to June 2021 for all residential and commercial leases and the redevelopment of the town oval.

Task Force representatives were recently back in Leigh Creek, and met with business and representative groups following the completion of extensive community consultation undertaken in February and March this year regarding future township scenarios.

The Task Force recommendations on the future of Leigh Creek are now sitting with the Minister.

Leigh Creek School Community Library

The library is open to the public:
Monday to Friday 3.15pm - 5pm
Saturday 9am - 1.30pm
WELCOME BACK

Doctor Visit - Clinic Services

To make an appointment to see the doctor please call the clinic on 8675 2018

ANNA VISITING THE OCA OFFICE



NEW & FAMILIAR FACES



A/Brevet Sergeant Johnathan Peacock is the A/Officer-in-Charge recently appointed at the Leigh Creek Police Station.



Jill and Colin Murdoch are a welcome return to Leigh Creek, working at the school for the term and initiating a fantastic new project to establish a plant nursery of local native plants, engaging students throughout the school.

OCA - LEIGH CREEK OFFICE

The Outback Communities Authority - Leigh Creek Office is open between 9am - 5pm Monday to Friday with Joanne Cotter our Business Support Officer and Tracy Neldner the Community Development Officer.

Contact details:

Lot 300 Acacia Road
Leigh Creek
Phone (08) 8675 2126

