

# LEIGH CREEK NEWS

## RDAFN - ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FORUM



LCCPA Darryl Bowshire (pictured) was one of a number of presenters at the Economic Development Forum held in Leigh Creek in July. "The day was an excellent way to learn about opportunities and work being undertaken throughout the region" said Darryl

## WATER PIPELINE WORKS BETWEEN COPLEY AND LYNDBURST



A new 22.5-kilometre water pipeline between Copley and Lyndhurst is on track to be operational in September 2021, helping to ensure a continued reliable supply of clean, safe drinking water for the local community.

The new pipe replaces existing infrastructure within the Leigh Creek coal mine. SA Water together with major contract partner, McConnell Dowell/Diona joint venture, are relocating the pipe closer to the Outback Highway, providing local crews a safer and more accessible location for any required maintenance.

Installation of the pipeline was expected to be complete by the end of July, with standard commissioning and remediation stages to continue throughout August, before full operation the following month.

Five local workers were recruited for the duration of the project, with locally owned plant and wet hire companies also sourced to further support jobs in the region. SA Water's Water North Portfolio Manager Mario Borrello said "employing local workers within our crew has provided valuable local knowledge, and recruiting a young novice worker on the project has also created an opportunity for direct on-the-job training and mentoring."

# NEW WEEDS UNCOVERED IN LEIGH CREEK

A third weed survey in and around Leigh Creek has found a second species of asparagus fern, an opuntia cactus not previously recorded in the area and a mother of millions spreading in two house yards. Along with lantana that is still germinating at the site at which it was previously recorded, most of the weeds were found in the back yards of abandoned properties.

North Flinders Community Landscape Officer Matt Westover said the annual surveys aimed to prevent the spread of new and emerging weeds. "Local reports of new weeds have been helpful during the surveys so far and we know the risk of garden escapees will increase as houses and fences are removed," he said. "It has been fascinating so far to see what former garden plants are surviving after five years without care in an arid environment."

Surveying before demolition has allowed some species to be controlled while numbers are low and has created a database of sites for future monitoring.

The weeds surveillance is expected to continue over the next few years. If you spot a different or unusual plant growing and spreading in the area, please get in contact with Matt on 0438 816 210. You may also want to take a photo and email him at [Matthew.Westover@sa.gov.au](mailto:Matthew.Westover@sa.gov.au).

All surveys have been carried out with PIRSA's New and Emerging Weeds Facilitator Shannon Robertson and DEW's State Herbarium Weeds Botanist Chris Brodie. They have been funded through the Commonwealth Government's Agricultural Competitiveness White Paper.



Weed identification in Leigh Creek with Chris Brodie from the State Herbarium, Matthew Westover Landscapes SA Arid Lands and Shannon Robertson new and emerging weeds PIRSA.

## NEW PARACHILNA TOILETS



## Local Work Opportunities

To assist in identifying businesses and people located in the region and surrounding regional area who are interested in working with and supplying to the successful Contractor of the Transformation works please email [rowan.magoresa.gov.au](mailto:rowan.magoresa.gov.au) to register your interest or alternatively pop into the OCA - Leigh Creek Office where Joanne or Tracy can collect your details.



# LEIGH CREEK TRANSFORMATION

## Leigh Creek Transformation update

The best source of up to date information is the OCA dedicated transformation webpage <https://oca.sa.gov.au/LeighCreekTransformation> including local works opportunities, previous presentation slides and the high-level schedule of transformation milestones calendar. Any property enquires or maintenance issues can to be made to [DIT.L LeighCreekProperty@sa.gov.au](mailto:dit.leighcreekproperty@sa.gov.au).

**The next Community Conversation will be on Thursday 19th August from 5.30pm - 7.30pm in the Leigh Creek auditorium/cinema, all welcome.**

## Local opportunities for demolition works

As this edition of Leigh Creek News goes to print, an Industry briefing is being held on Tuesday 3 August 2021 11.00 am at Central Oval Community Sporting Hub, Port Augusta. The briefing will provide more information about the Leigh Creek Township Transformation project works and provide local based businesses and people with the opportunity to meet with head contractors that may tender for the work.

Maximising opportunities for locally based businesses and people in the region are a priority for this project, including Aboriginal workforce, apprentices and trainees. Local participation in the transformation works provide important economic stimulus for Leigh Creek and surrounding communities.

The Task Force Implementation Committee has promoted this event through outback networks for several months, which is open to local businesses and people interested in working on the project from Leigh Creek and the surrounding regions who have the capability and capacity to work with the successful head contractor and associated supply chain in the delivery of this project for the region.

## SATC VISIT TO REGION



Whilst in region attending and presenting at the Leigh Creek Economic Development Forum, Jen Schmidt and Mark Phelps from the South Australian Tourism Commission visited some exciting new projects in the region. This included a visit to the soon to be open Nilpena Ediacara National Park which will be a major drawcard for the region, seeing the great work the Beltana Progress Association has done with the underground art gallery and camp grounds in the township, and getting an update on the progress of the redevelopment of the Prairie Hotel which received funding assistance from SATC's Tourism Industry Development Fund. The team at SATC are always willing to meet or chat to tourism operators to assist them with developing their product offering and provide advice on digital or other marketing activities..

### Contact us

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## The 2021 SA Variety Bash Hitting the Road to Help Kids in Need

The 2021 SA Variety Bash is set to hit the road on the 14th of August - 21st of August. This is the thirty third year of this iconic annual event, raising much needed funding for kids in need. Starting in Pooraka at the SA produce markets, the event will travel 2410km around South Australia and finish in the Clare Valley, coining the name 'Fruit II to the Vine'.

The eight-day event, proudly sponsored by Tim Adams Wines/Mr Mick, will see more than 300 crazily costumed entrants and 100 colourful vehicles travel under revised, COVID safe conditions, through regional towns such as Quorn, Leigh Creek, Innamincka, Port Augusta, and Peterborough.

The Variety Bash will travel to Leigh Creek on day 2 (16th of August) and spend the night before staying two nights in Innamincka. On day 5 (18th of August) the entrants will return to Leigh Creek for another night.

The event, hoping to raise more than \$2 million (net) for SA kids, will bring much needed economic benefit to regional areas of South Australia through supplies, meals and accommodation as well as presenting grant funding throughout the State.

"As our flagship event, the Variety SA Bash leads the way as our major fundraiser and as such is critically important to meeting the financial needs of our annual grants program. We exist to support tens of thousands of children in need in our community and despite the most challenging environment we remain determined to get the Bash away whilst being ever mindful of the safety of all involved," said Mark McGill, Variety SA CEO.

Event highlights include a lap around the Mallala Motorsport Park, seafood lunch in Innamincka alongside the 'Spaghetti Games' (a nod to Bash Chair and Adelaide Italian Restaurant, George Belperio), and the final night dinner in Clare at Mr Mick.

Variety Bash entrants will get to see their fundraising efforts first hand over the eight-day event, with grants totalling \$67,251 presented along the route to help kids in need.

Over the past 32 years, the SA Bash alone has raised in excess of \$45 million (net) for South Australian children who are sick, disadvantaged or live with special needs.

To learn more, or to donate, please visit [variety.org.au](http://variety.org.au)

## 2021 SA Variety Bash Route



**2410 Km**

**START LINE**

SA Produce Markets,  
Pooraka

**14 August**

Caltowie/Quorn

**15 August**

Blinman/Leigh Creek

**16 August**

On Route/Innamincka

**17 August**

Innamincka/Innamincka

**18 August**

Montecollina Bore /  
Leigh Creek

**19 August**

Parachilna/Port Augusta

**20 August**

Cradock/Peterborough

**21 August**

Burra/Clare

**FINISH LINE**

Clare



For more information, please contact: Georgia Wood | Marketing Assistant

**Variety – The Children's Charity of South Australia**

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