

RM 00009

When will The Bell toll in Coober Pedy?

The Bell is here and has been cleaned; but what happens now? It is one thing to have a Bell, but what does one do when there is no place to hang it?

Opal Miners Weekly 1972

So, after much discussion and thought, plans were drawn for a magnificent resting place for our Bell.

But, in the end, time ran out on us.

I became impatient, as there was only one week before Father Cresp made his appearance and still we had no tower or even a temporary belfry.

Then, on Sunday night, I found Don Mazzone and Alan Noyes waiting to confer with me about my plan for the tower.

I had drawn a rough diagram of a metal and wood structure which the present priest, Father Hackett, had approved.

This was to be Phase One of the project and would give Coober Pedy a landmark, however austere in its pristine appearance. At least the Bell could be seen and heard by the faithful and tourists.

We must continue complete Phase One.

the project to its ultimate conclusion but, as well we know, time does not exist in Coober Pedy, and so Phase Two will eventuate some day and there will be a tower which will, who knows, perhaps be as famous as our Dug-Out Church.

In the meantime Don Mazzone, of Caldwell fame, and Alan Noyes, our Bank of NSW manager, together with other willing helpers, are contributing wood, metal and labour to complete Phase One.