



## PAINTING THE TOWN

A group of interested townspeople recently met in the Community Library to discuss the possibility of painting a large mural on the north wall of Lucas' Supermarket.

Late in 1982, Mr Luke Lucas was approached as to whether he would be amenable to a mural being painted on his north wall. On seeing pictures of the Alice Springs wall mural, designed by Bob and Kaye Kessing and painted by community people on the Coles Supermarket, opposite Alice Springs Railway Station, Luke was enthusiastic to promote such a project.

The recent meeting decided that an historical theme would be appropriate for a mural and after brainstorming came up with some of the following ideas, which could be included in the painting. Willie Hutchison and camels coming to Coober Pedy

George Mourenson and his water cart

flying doctor and Opel Air

the old drive-in

a water truck

the dog fence and rubbish

a breakaway skyline

a blower, winch, bulldozer

mining fields and opal

dugouts and the Catholic Church

the No Explosives drive-in slide

animals such as emus, kangaroos,

dogs, crows galahs, finches

galvanised iron tanks

frame lites, outside toilets

All these cannot possibly fit

on the mural, so a suggestion

box, for ideas and what you

consider to be the 5 most important

historical aspects of Coober Pedy,

has been set up near Lucas' cash

registers, in their shop. If you

have ideas and would like to contribute

or assist in the mural, contact Peter Caust at the school

or phone 735203. Should you wish

to donate to the cost of the paint

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and brushes, donations can be dropped in at the school library. Acrylic paint of any colour will also help.

Two people at the meeting have had experience with mural painting. Mrs Sue Fernix, in particular, helped with the Alice Springs mural, and is keen to assist with the Coober Pedy one.

Within the next month a sketch of the proposed mural will hopefully be on display in Lucas' for all to peruse.

The meetings one main concern was that the owner of the block on the north side of Lucas', Mr Hermann Mairz, was not about to build, as this would immediately put a stop to the project. His approval for the mural has been sought and the group is awaiting a response.

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## SPORT AND VANDALISM

Vandalism at the Coober Pedy Sports Complex has reached extreme proportions.

Within two(2) weeks of windows being replaced in the building which serves as meeting place, canteen and toilets, they were broken again. The C.P.S. M.A. Executive Officer, Mr N. Hyett says that the complete replacement cost for the glass alone, is approximately \$300 and that this is paid from rates.

He mentioned further vandalism. The water tank has been vandalised by a rock being thrown at it about half way up. The basketball courts and tennis courts are constantly covered with glass; gates to the tennis court are pulled off and the fence is cut and lifted for quick access. In the toilets, the cistern tops are being pulled off and broken. The saltwater tap has been ripped out, making use of the toilets virtually hopeless and unhygienic.

The Progress Committee is reluctant to spend rate money on the repairing of the complex, until people, children and adults, can show responsibility for the complex. The Committee believes that local children, resident to the area, are thought to be responsible for most of the damage.

By current estimates, in the proximity of \$2,000 would need to be spent on repairing the complex to its original standard.

One alternative suggestion was put forward, requiring the expenditure of above \$5,000 to fence in the whole Sports Complex area, denying access to the general community. This of course would not allow us the use of the courts, unless booked, prior to use.

## T.V. IN THE OUTBACK

A pre-election promise from the Labor Party, of new television services, was conveyed to people in Coober Pedy, by Senator Nick Bolkus.

Mr Bolkus said that the Domestic Communications Satellite will be used for the purpose for which it was originally intended. It would be used to provide broadcasting and telecommunications services for outback communities.

Television Australia intends to use the satellite facility to provide a chain of small television stations in outlying regions.

These stations would provide a television service for about one million Australians living in remote communities who now have no television, or ABC only.

Senator Bolkus has said that Labor was committed to the introduction of a second ABC radio network.





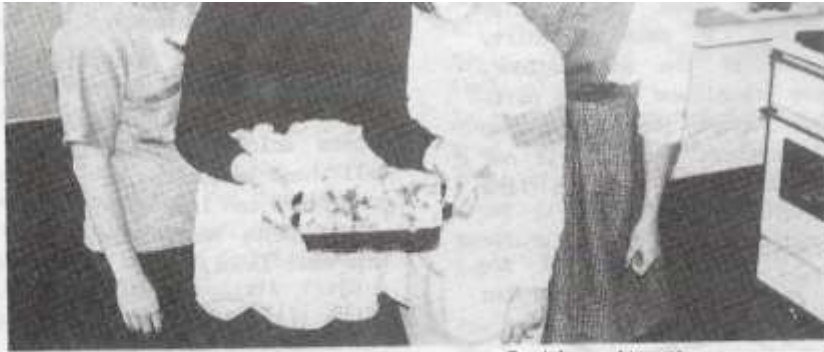
Sue Mannix and Bob Hindmarsh examining the draft.

## PAINTING THE TOWN

The planning for the mural on the north wall of the Lucas's Supermarket is well under way and draft plans have been drawn up by Sue Mannix.

On a recent trip to Alice Springs Sue consulted Bob and Kaye Kessing - the Alice Springs Coles Mural artists. They were impressed with her draft plan and passed on a few suggestions and hints regarding the painting of the mural.

At present it is anticipated that the wall will be painted with the undercoat over the next month. The mural design will be on display in Lucas' store for all to see and comment on, before being drawn onto the wall. Watch for further news as volunteers will be sought to assist in the painting of the 270 square metre picture. The mural group co-ordinating the picture would like to see involvement from as many people as possible, as they are hoping it will truly brighten up the town.



Sharon, Millie, Debbie & Serena. Cooking with Class.

## PAINTING THE TOWN

### HISTORIC MURAL FOR COOPER PEDI

At the last Community Mural Group meeting Ms Helen Lucas viewed the scale drawing of the mural to be painted on the north wall of Lucas's Supermarket.



Helen Lucas admiring the scale drawing of the mural, drawn by Sue Mannix.

Ms Sue Mannix has spent many hours drafting the drawing and it has been on display in Lucas's over the month of May. This draft is a composite historical picture of photos and drawings contributed by many community people.

Volunteers are needed to assist in the painting of the mural, so if you are interested and can give an hour or two or more, contact either Sue Mannix, Helen Lucas or Peter Caust. Times for painting will be advertised in the next Cooper Pedy Times and in Lucas's Supermarket.

CLAUS WIRRIES FOR GEMS

May (Vol 8) 1983

# THE MURAL

The mural to be painted on the north wall of Lucas's Supermarket is underway.

Towards the end of May Luke Lucas, owner of the Supermarket, had the wall sprayed three times with paint and over the past few weeks a small band of workers have been transferring the drawing from the draft to the wall.

Sixteen people placed their name on a list, to help paint the wall. Thanks to those volunteers.

If you see people drawing, or painting on the wall from now on, and can spend half an hour or more to help, please stop and give them a hand. Every bit of support will help.



Sharon Robertson & Judi James  
at work on the mural.

~~~~~  
area.

The constant moving lead to Eric wanting a permanent base and he, with his wife and 4 children decided upon Coober Pedy as a home. Initially Eric was employed by the Umoona Council as a water truck driver but was offered an apprenticeship with Rick Haynes in late 1981. He has been granted a 6 month reduction in his apprenticeship with his wide practical knowledge of mechanics.

Eric is currently receiving support from Rick and T.A.F.E. and will complete his apprenticeship in 1985. His training includes attending Trade School in Adelaide, 8 weeks a year and some 6 hours a week in theory and practical training.



# PAINTING THE WALL

On August 2nd Annie Newmarch visited Coober Pedy to discuss and look at the proposed mural on the Lucas Supermarket wall.

Annie is currently an artist-in-residence for the Prospect Council, in Adelaide, and is responsible for organising many of the murals in the Prospect area. Her current project involves the painting of stobie poles.

The Coober Pedy Mural Group has applied to the Australia Arts Council for a grant of \$1,000 to assist in the painting of our mural, and in order to be able to be given or obtain this grant it was necessary to have a professional artist involved.



Ms Annie Newmarch.



Sharron Robertson & Dave Winters

We were fortunate in having Annie visit, show a selection of slides and discuss our proposed mural. She offered several suggestions which would assist us in our painting of the mural, so her visit was quite worthwhile.

As you will now see, the mural has begun and many of the characters and scenes have been painted in.

We would like to see the top of the mural painted first; this will prevent drips and drops spoiling work painted below. If you are keen to help, and can spare half an hour on a Saturday morning, pop down to the wall and give a hand.

September 1983



Premier Bannon, Minister for the Arts, adding his touch to the mural.  
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## Painting the Wall

The Coober Pedy Community Mural Group recently received 2 independent grants to assist in the painting of the mural on the north wall of Lucas's.

The first grant was received from the South Australian Department for the Arts, for \$1,600. This grant will assist in purchasing the undercoat paint and the final coat paint, which has been costed at \$1638.

As Premier John Bannon was in Coober Pedy for the opening of Fire in the Stone, the Group took the advantage to have him add his touch to the mural. Mr Bannon is also Minister for the Arts, in South Australia. He was

impressed with the plans of mural and the work done so far. The second grant received from the Community Arts Board of the Australia Council was for \$1,000. Money from this grant will be expended on public scaffolding, design materials, brushes, water, buckets - small items needed to carry out the task.

The Mural Group are very pleased with both grants and thank the S.A. Department for the Arts and the Community Arts Board of the Australia Council for their support. Both grants received were for the total amount submitted.

PORKY'S NITE CLUB CLAU WIRRIES FOR GE  
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October 1983



## Painters at work

The mural is becoming even more visible. Community volunteer painters are enjoying making the picture appear.

Everyone's welcome to paint at 10am every Saturday.



The painters, Bob, Sharron, Marina & Sandra Bayet.

November 1983

## Coober Pedy Mural



*Bob and Sharron painting the mural.*

It is one year now, since the Mural group met and planned the community mural on the north wall of Lucas's Supermarket.

As all can see, the mural is well on its way to completion, with only the shading and a few final lites to be filled in. Much of this is tonal work and community members are welcome to drop by and give a hand whenever possible. Painting is generally done Tuesday to Saturdays, from 9am to 11am.

The mural, which was sponsored by the Community Arts Board,

Australia Council and the Government of South Australia, Department of Arts, in the form of two grants totalling \$2,500 has been painted entirely by volunteers. The money given to assist in the painting will cover the cost of scaffolding, paint and promotion.

On completion of the mural, it is anticipated that a postcard will be produced and sold locally, with proceeds going annually to various local services such as Mine Rescue, St John Ambulance and Flying Doctor.

May 1984



## Yugoslav community

While the teachers slogged away for their one day conference, the Yugoslav community enjoyed a May Day picnic at Box Creek. Working bees are under way for preparing the Drive-In for use by the Yugoslav Community as headquarters.

Watch notice boards around town for performing dates of Yugoslav artists.

On 11th May a band direct from Yugoslavia played at the Opal Inn from 12 pm Saturday to 3 pm Sunday.

A lottery was run. Prizes included roast pork on the spit, a lamb, Yugoslav sweets and four bottles of Scotch. The winner of the pork was Ljubinko Petrovic.

On the Sunday the band and a large crowd attended a barbecue at the Dorgevic household. The band played on. It was much appreciated, and everyone enjoyed the afternoon.

On Saturday night May 18th, the Kolo Yugoslav band appeared at the Opal Inn. Angela Studen - a singer direct from Yugoslavia sang her way through the evening to a very appreciative audience. Another raffle was drawn.

To register the Yugoslav United Club it cost the community \$1,000 for special lawyers, translation of the Constitution and sundry costs.

## Visitors

Visitors: Ten kids from St. Matthews, Kensington will be staying at Catacombs in the second week of the School holidays.

## Mural to be completed

In an effort to complete the mural on the history of Coober Pedy, situated on the northern wall of Lucas's Supermarket, visiting Artist, Mr Richard Rogers has been asked to assist by painting as much as possible in the time he has available whilst in Coober Pedy.

Mr. Rogers lives south of Adelaide and is a batik artist. He will be mounting an exhibition of his work in the Underground Books Gallery during the last two weeks of June.

As the mural is a community project all volunteers are welcome to assist Mr Rogers in the painting of the wall. He will be at the wall each day from June 17 to July 5th.

The Co-ordinating Committee urges all people interested, to go along and assist in the completion of the wall. Already it is a popular picture with visitors who photograph it although it is unfinished.



The mural as it is today, the undercoat only.

## International Youth Year

Mary Nehmy (Rural Youth) a State Co-ordinator for International Youth Year visited Coober Pedy during school holidays on May 22nd and 23rd. The Progress Association's Youth and Community sub-committee organised a meeting for the youth of Coober Pedy to talk with her about their needs, and possible activities for 1985.

Bepi Coro donated a rock music cassette tape, as a lucky door prize for the meeting of the youth of the town with the IYY representative, Mary Nehmy.

## Awards

Awards: To the Coober Pedy Hospital Staff and the St Vincent de Paul Society, the two community groups who contributed to Come-Out by being interested enough to enter colourful floats in the Come-Out Parade.

To Bob Corrin the clowning watery cleaning lady who made the afternoon more fun.

To teachers and staff at CPAS who put time and effort into organising Come-Out.

## MURAL NEARING COMPLETION



*Batik artist Richard Rogers, at work on the Coober Pedy mural on the north wall of Lucas Supermarket. Any volunteers for assisting in the completion of the mural, see Richard at the wall every day 9 - 5.*

July 1985

# MURAL COMPLETED



*A section of the mural on Lucas' supermarket wall*

The mural on the north wall of Lucas Supermarket, has at long last been completed to a satisfactory point with the help of batik artist Richard Rogers.

The mural was sponsored by the Australia Council to the amount of \$1000 and assisted by the Government of South Australia, Department of Arts, to the amount of \$1600.

Over the past two years the drawing and planning has been carried out by a small band of volunteers, and assistance in painting, by community members interested in seeing a completed picture. The task of painting has not been easy, particularly with the height of the wall being as it is.

With the use of hired scaffolding, and Lucas' pick-up truck and ladders, the job has now been completed.

The mural group has some paint left and is considering using it to fill in detail such as rocks and bushes, words, etc., but will leave this decision until warmer weather arrives. Over the two years of execution of the painting, the Premier Mr John Bannon has had a hand at painting and inspecting the mural, as have the stars of "Fire in the Stone". The Governor, Sir Donald and Lady Dunstan have also inspected the mural.

The mural is based on the brief history of Coober Pedy and was drawn up by Mrs Sue Mannix, who was involved with the Alice Springs Coles mural.

Particular thanks must go to Richard Rogers for his concerted effort, Sue Mannix for her hours of planning and Peter Caust for filling in (painting) much of the background. Thanks too to those who assisted in any way.

## THE OPAL GALLERY

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