



Kokatha Aboriginal Corporation

NEWSLETTER

February 2024



Staff met at the Standpipe Hotel in Port Augusta for a half day meeting and workshop.

UPCOMING EVENTS

KOKATHA PASTORAL PHOTOGRAPHY CELEBRATION CLOSES

- 22 March

EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP CLOSES

- 13 May

NAIDOC WEEK 2024

- 7 - 14 July (if you are interested in helping to organise any events, please contact Kym Chamberlain).

BACK TO SCHOOL ROUND CLOSES

- 16 August

Whole of Kokatha staff meeting

Kokatha Pastoral, Kokatha Mining Services and KAC office staff came together for a meeting and workshop in Port Augusta.

KAC Chief Executive David Whitelaw called the meeting to bring staff together to share the projects they're working on and create connection.

'Because Kokatha is such a complex organisation with different enterprises, it's all too easy for staff who are busy working in their own area to forget that we're all part of a much larger corporation and we're all working towards the same goal; to improve the lives of Kokatha people,' he says.

Dave gave staff an overview of his background, including some of the challenges and achievements of his most recent position as Chief Executive at Wirrimanu Aboriginal Corporation in the East Kimberley.

After nine weeks in his current role as KAC Chief Executive, Dave says he's been impressed by the achievements the Corporation has made and by staff commitment and willingness to embrace change. 'We have a great group of people working at Kokatha and I'm really excited about what we're going to achieve this year and into the future,' he says.

Staff were invited to share the projects they've been working on including investigating a new office space for KAC, the draft BHP partnering agreement and Oak Dam water tanker.

Dave hopes to hold regular whole of Corporation meetings in the future.

KOKATHA EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

Kokatha members and registered Common Law Holders and their children (under 18) are invited to apply for up to \$10,000 under round 1 of the Kokatha Education Scholarship.

- ✓ Fees and tutorial support.
- ✓ Text books and laptops.
- ✓ Educational holiday programs.



Top News

New BHP Asset President

BHP has announced Anna Wiley as the new Asset President of SA Copper, replacing Dr. Jenny Purdie, who has been acting in the role since the company acquired OzMinerals last year.

Ms Wiley will oversee the Olympic Dam, Carrapateena and Prominent Hill operations, as well as the current exploration project at Oak Dam.

The appointment is an important one for Kokatha Aboriginal Corporation, which is currently in negotiations with BHP regarding Oak Dam and Olympic Dam and is also developing a 'Growing Together Framework' for future partnership discussions with BHP. Ms Wiley joined BHP in 2017 after a long career at Rio Tinto where she had general manager roles at the Kennecott copper mine. BHP is yet to announce a new role for Jenny Purdie.

Kokatha Education Scholarship

Kokatha members and registered Kokatha Common Law Holders and their children are invited to apply for the Kokatha Education Scholarship 2024. Applications for the first round of the scholarship opened on Monday 19 February and will close on 13 May 2024.

Applicants who satisfy the criteria are eligible for up to \$10,000 to cover the cost of fees, textbooks, laptops, Ipads, trade tools and PPE, as well as transport and accommodation costs.

Priority will be given to university, vocational education and training and secondary school students.

To be eligible for the scholarship, applicants must show:

- An attendance record for the past 12 months.
- A character reference.
- A personal statement from the applicant.
- Most recent academic report.
- Evidence of other funding applications.

To apply please visit our website:

kokatha.com.au/member-services/financial-support/

Ranger program grant application

Kokatha Aboriginal Corporation is applying for \$1.4 million funding from the National Indigenous Australians Agency (NIAA) to continue to establish its Indigenous Ranger Program.

A total funding pool of \$359 million over four years has been released by NIAA with the aim of doubling the number of Indigenous rangers over the next decade.

The Kokatha Ranger Program was launched in September last year and is currently in the establishment phase.

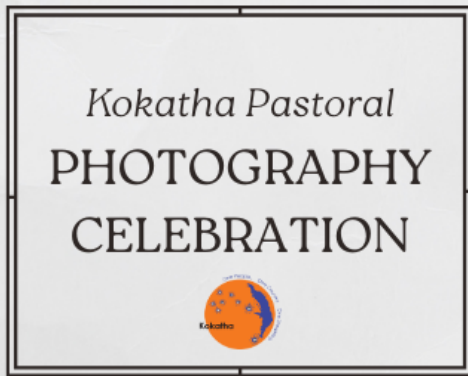
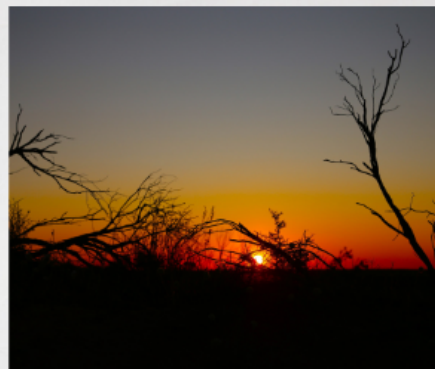
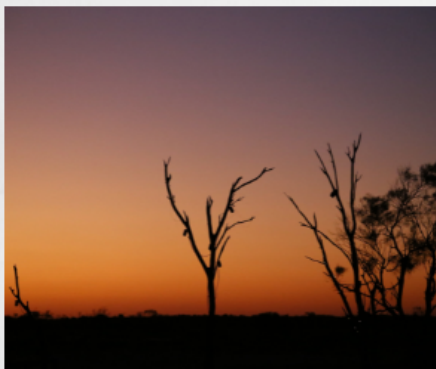
If successful, the new grant application will fund the ongoing growth of the Kokatha Ranger Program.

Back to School Round

Do you have children in years kindergarten to 12 and need financial support to help with school related expenses?

Kokatha Aboriginal Corporation and the Kokatha Charitable Trust are offering \$1000 per student for the 2024 school year for Kokatha members and registered Common Law Holders.

Application forms can be downloaded at: kokatha.com.au/member-services/financial-support/



On Country CHC meeting

The first Culture and Heritage Committee meeting for 2024 was held at Roxby Downs Station on Saturday 10 February.

Items on the agenda included:

- Proposed RARB training for KAC staff, Directors and CHC members in March to progress the RARB Working Party.
- A request from BHP for KAC to conduct heritage surveys on the Stuart Shelf across Arabunna and Kokatha Native Title determination areas.
- The details of the Kokatha Indigenous Ranger Program, including discussion around the scale and direction of the ranger team.

Kokatha Pastoral photo celebration

In response to community feedback, the Kokatha Pastoral photography competition will now be a celebration of all the beautiful photos our members, stakeholders and friends have taken on Kokatha Country, rather than a competition.

If you visited Roxby Downs, Purple Downs or Andamooka Stations over the past 12 months and took some photos you'd like to share, please send them through to jolene.wagner@kokatha.com

Some of the photos will be selected to be displayed on the walls at the newly renovated Andamooka Homestead, however there will be no prizes offered to any of the entrants.

Events you may have attended include:




- the Cattle Australia Rural Awareness Tour.
- the inaugural SA Arid Lands Ranger Gathering.
- the signing of the MoU with Arid Recovery at Lake Mary.

Or you might have taken a favourite pic during your own visit to Lake Mary or the stations.

Entries close 22 March 2024.

Stay up to date

You can stay up-to-date with all the latest news and information from Kokatha Aboriginal Corporation by following:

-  Kokatha Aboriginal Corporation Noticeboard
-  Kokatha Aboriginal Corporation
-  kokatha.com.au