



Australian Government  
Department of Industry,  
Innovation and Science

## National Radioactive Waste Management Facility

# Newsletter

WALLERBERDINA STATION

OCTOBER / NOVEMBER 2018

## VIRTUAL REALITY COMES TO HAWKER

Hawker residents will soon be taken on a virtual reality experience at the atomic scale to witness the wonders of science in early 2019.

A virtual reality booth is set to be introduced in Hawker for the proposed National Radioactive Waste Management Facility.

The new experience, created by the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO), shows viewers how neutrons work inside Australia's multi-purpose Opal Reactor. The neutrons help produce nuclear medicine, irradiate silicon for industry or be part of a research experiment. You can also use the technology to watch the ANSTO staff at work inside the reactor floor.

Rod Dowler from ANSTO's Discovery Centre said the technology gives residents in Hawker an insight into how tiny neutrons can benefit all Australians.

"From health, to researching our environment, supporting industry and helping create new technologies that help us live more sustainably, nuclear science is vital to our future," he said.

"This VR technology means that we can explain more clearly to everyone, and particularly school students, how the OPAL reactor works and we hope this creates a spark of interest in science that may lead them into a STEM career."

ANSTO is offering free cardboard headsets in Hawker, giving residents the chance to take the virtual reality experience home.



## SUBMISSIONS REMINDER

Submissions will be one of the factors the Minister may take into account in understanding community sentiment for the Facility

Submissions can be made by:

Email: [radioactivewaste@industry.gov.au](mailto:radioactivewaste@industry.gov.au)

Post: The Department of Industry, Innovation and Science – National Radioactive Waste Section

GPO Box 2013, Canberra, ACT, 2601

Details on making and sending your submission can be found at [www.radioactivewaste.gov.au](http://www.radioactivewaste.gov.au)

## Barndioota Consultative Committee meeting update

In the most recent Barndioota Consultative Committee meeting, the group was updated on the status of the Community Benefit Projects.

A total of \$2.1million was granted in round two with over 30 projects funded and \$950,000 yet to be scheduled for the 2018-2019 financial year.

The Committee also talked about consultations planned in February 2019 regarding the new \$31million Community Development Package.

For more details visit [www.radioactivewaste.gov.au](http://www.radioactivewaste.gov.au)

## Grant funded community mobile kitchen now in operation

Hawker Community Development Board Incorporated received a \$76,625 grant for a community mobile kitchen as part of the Community Benefit Programme. The mobile kitchen is available for hire at local events throughout the community.

The mobile kitchen will benefit community groups and local businesses and will now be able to offer catering all over the district for fundraising etc. In the past, community groups have only been bound to areas where there are facilities available.

The kitchen made its debut at Flindersfest, pumping out cinnamon donuts and sausages.

Chelsea Haywood from the Hawker Community Development Board said "many locals commented on how great the kitchen looks and were even more amazed when it was explained that it belongs to the community for all to use.

"Without the grant, the purchase of the trailer would never have happened. We may have been able to fundraise enough funds to purchase a barbeque trailer, but definitely nothing like the mobile kitchen we have been able to purchase.

"A decision will be made shortly about what the mobile kitchen will be named. The local health inspector is in awe of what the committee has achieved with the allocated funds and wants to use it as an example as what is available out there," said Chelsea.



## CHRISTMAS SHUTDOWN PERIOD

The Hawker office will be closed over the summer holidays, from Friday 14th December 2018 until Tuesday 29th January 2019.

During the shutdown period, you can contact the Radioactive Waste Management Team via the following:

Contact Centre: 13 28 46

Email: [radioactivewaste@industry.gov.au](mailto:radioactivewaste@industry.gov.au)

Our local Departmental officer, Zaaheer McKenzie has also moved on to another opportunity and we wish him all the best of luck.

We wish you all a safe and happy Christmas and New Year!



## Contact us:

Call: 13 28 46

Email: [radioactivewaste@industry.gov.au](mailto:radioactivewaste@industry.gov.au)

Facebook: [@radioactivewasteproject](https://www.facebook.com/radioactivewasteproject)

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