

**Back then**

In 2011, BH identity, the late Tom Austen Brown, was likened to fictional movie adventurer Indiana Jones after gifting almost \$9 million to the University of Sydney for the study of Australian prehistory.

# Resurrection of the North

By Craig Brealey

The reopening of the North Mine next month will be a tremendous development for the city and Perilya deserved every credit, according to a Broken Hill-born former school principal.

Chris Dougherty retired as the long-serving head of the Morgan Street School four years ago but he has not stopped working for his home town.

Mr Dougherty is a member of Foundation Broken Hill, which supports all endeavours to create jobs in the city, and now he is one of eight locals who put their hands up to be the conduits between the public and Perilya.

The Community Consultative Committee was appointed by NSW Department of Planning and Environment and has met three times since it was established in May for the North mine project.

“There are 40 workers in there now and they’re in the process of building a decline from the old open cut,” Mr Dougherty told the BDT yesterday.

“The very exciting thing about it is that Perilya has had the foresight of looking to the future of the town.”

The North Mine, which is scheduled to open in mid to late November, could last until 2035.

“When I joined the committee I asked if there was any chance of getting underground so they took me down the old North Mine,” said Mr Dougherty. “It was fantastic.”

“I’m also the vice chairman of Foundation Broken Hill and this links to what the Foundation is doing, and that is looking to the future of the town when the miners leave, which will happen eventually.

“What Perilya is doing is extending that life as long as possible.”

Mr Dougherty said fellow members of the Consultative Committee, including the former CEO of Southern Cross Care, Allan Carter, and city councillor Christine Adams, felt the same about how much the mine meant to Broken Hill.

The committee has an independent chair-



Some of the members of the Community Consultative Committee at the Cosmopolitan pit on the North Mine.

PICTURE: Perilya

person, Margaret Harvie, who said she shared their enthusiasm.

“Members of the committee are excited about the direct and indirect economic opportunities that the mine might provide through providing over 200 jobs,” Ms Harvie said.

“Broken Hill has contributed so much to the nation over the years and it is great to see that mining will continue in the Silver City,” she said.

“The committee has been impressed by the openness of Perilya in sharing informa-

tion about the plans for the mine and about the company’s journey to gain required environmental approvals.”

Perilya is making all information provided to the committee, along with the notes of all meetings, publicly available on its website at <http://www.perilya.com.au/health--safety--environment/community/bhnmccc>.

Members of the Community Consultative Committee are also open to being contacted directly or via the chairperson [margaret@plancom.com.au](mailto:margaret@plancom.com.au)

‘I asked if there was any chance of getting underground’

## 230 megalitres gift from sky

By Emily Roberts

Water reserves in the city have received an intake of over 230 megalitres thanks to Wednesday’s quick downpour.

Essential Water’s Manager Water Operations, John Coffey said that as a result of the storm Umberumberka Reservoir received 230 megalitres.

“There were intakes to local water storage with Umberumberka Reservoir receiving 230 megalitres (ML) of accessible water; Imperial Lake receiving 2.7ML and Stephens Creek receiving 5ML,” Mr Coffey said.

“All intakes are very welcome given that Umberumberka Reservoir has been dry for more than 17 months and Stephens Creek emergency supply storage has only been holding water pumped from Weir 32.

“The reservoir intakes will provide an emergency reserve for a number of months, however with the catchments now wet, any follow up rain could add to the city’s storages.”

As well as extra water reserves, the storm caused some trouble for Essential Energy crews with power outages for 2,043 homes and businesses in South Broken Hill.

Regional Manager Northern, Mark Summers, said network protection equipment automatically switched the electricity network off after sensing a problem.

“Crews worked as quickly as safety allowed to restore power to 152 homes and businesses at 7.23pm, a further 1,763 progressively between 8pm and 9pm, then 128 at 10.53pm and to the remaining customers by 11.30pm,” Mr Summers said.

“Many of those affected would have seen crews either restore or attempt to restore power prior to switching it off again as they worked to restore power for all customers.”

It is believed the original cause of the unplanned power outage was a direct lightning strike to the electricity network and this also resulted in damage the electricity network on the intersection of Kanandah Road and the Silver City Highway.

“We apologise for any inconvenience caused and thank customers for their understanding as we worked to restore power after the storm,” Mr Summers said.

Essential Energy reminds the public to report fallen or damaged powerlines immediately by calling 13 20 80 and to stay at least eight metres away from the line and anything in contact with it.

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**Broken Hill PROUD RAFFLE** SUNDAY 7TH OCTOBER  
Demo Club is holding a raffle, TOTAL OF \$1,250 IN PRIZES to be given away including Far West Gift Cards, Woolworth and Coles Gift Cards  
Tickets on sale 5.30, Draw starts at 6.30  
FOR WEST COLES  
FAR WEST PROUD

REMEMBER OUR MEMBERSHIP DRAW IS ALSO DRAWN ON SUNDAY FROM 6.30PM, MUST BE IN THE CLUB TO WIN  
FREE LIVE ENTERTAINMENT  
**NO EXIT**  
TONIGHT 8PM  
> DEMO CLUB