

OUTBACK

Pastoral pages

A BOOK featuring pastoral identities from across the Outback is selling fast.

It profiles 36 identities, compiled by local author Leith Yelland.

The book has been compiled from extracts from the newsletter *Across the Outback*.

Copies can be obtained by phoning the Outback Areas Community Development Trust's Port Augusta office on 8648 5970.

RIVERLAND

Charity walk

VOLUNTEERS will raise money for the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation during Walk to Cure Diabetes at Banrock Station on October 12.

The 4km walk through wetlands and mallee bushland with Banrock Station rangers will teach participants about the environment while they raise money. A sausage sizzle and children's activities will be available after the walk.

Team or individual registrations can be made online at walk.jdrf.org.au/events.asp and selecting Walk for a Cure.

YORKE PENINSULA

Surf challenge

SOUTH Australia's premier surfing event will be held between Daly Head and the Innes National park over the October long weekend.

The Cutloose Coopers Yorke's Classic challenges surfers to the biggest and best waves available during the three days, October 4, 5 and 6.

All greenhouse gas emissions generated by participants in this year's event will be offset, in an Australian surfing first.

For more information call Mark Orr on 0427 796 845.

Photos bring remote lives into the picture

WEST COAST

CARA JENKIN
REGIONAL EDITOR

SNAPSHOTS of the far West Coast landscape by students from remote schools have given a modern spin to traditional indigenous and Outback art.

Students from Ceduna, Koonibba and Yalata have provided 40 works for a new exhibition to open in Ceduna tonight.

The students, aged between nine and 16, have been taught by Adelaide-based photographer Jeremy Watson for the Images From The Edge project.

It brings expertise and equipment to students often disadvantaged by the remoteness of their communities and is funded by Ceduna District Health Services.

Watson said the project aimed to capture local youths' perception about life on the West Coast, while building self-esteem, fostering expression and giving the students new skills.

"We are seeing an increasing passion in photography as an outlet and a creative medium and it's not something they get a great deal of access to out here," he said.

"It was great to see their technical knowledge develop in parallel to their creativity.

"We got quite a number of self portraits. Kids are often very shy to produce a self portrait and give



IN FOCUS: The Beach Runner taken by Aaron Boogar and, inset, Bicycle by Jessie Hertz.

it to someone else, but they took a photo at arms' length and composed it in a way that they can capture the landscape as well."

Koonibba student Kasey, 10, said it was a fun project and enabled her and her classmates to

see new things. "We got to learn different uses of the camera like portraits, macro, landscapes," she said.

"The best part for me was learning landscapes."

Her classmate, Tonya, 10, said she hoped to study photography

again next year. "I liked doing extreme close-up portraits," she said. "It was tricky getting the right shot."

The exhibition will be launched tonight at Ceduna Memorial Hall at 6pm, and will be open for the next week.

Extended ramps help ferry combat lower river levels



STRETCH: Longer ramps allow the ferry to sit in deeper water.

RAMPS on a River Murray ferry have been extended by seven metres in a pilot project to keep ferries operating in low river levels.

The Swan Reach ferry is now fitted with 9m-long ramps at either end, which allow it to sit in deeper water while vehicles board and alight.

SWAN REACH

It means vehicles weighing more than 12 tonnes, such as semi-trailers, can cross the river on the ferry instead of driving a further 30km to a bridge at Blanchetown.

If the \$250,000 Swan Reach project is successful, extended ramps could be in-

stalled on other ferries which have weight restrictions, depending on the type and location.

Department for Transport, Energy and Infrastructure eastern region manager Jon Whelan said the prototype would be monitored over coming months.

"It's no different to a gang-

plank in crude terms," he said. The water level at Swan Reach is now 0.1m below sea level and has fallen about 0.2m in the past year.

Weight restrictions are still in place on ferries at Walker Flat, Purnong, Taillem Bend and Narrung.

The upstream ferry at Mannum is closed.

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