

# Outback tradition attracts new faces

**SHERADYN HOLDERHEAD**

IT'S a tad old school, but the traditional role of the governess continues to thrive in regional Australia.

Families with children living on remote stations still employ a governess to supervise their learning and help ensure they meet educational standards.

Open Access College School of the Air Port Augusta campus co-principal Colleen Manning said the governess role was still vital to the welfare of families in outback areas.

"We have about 16 governesses come through in a year and of the 40 families we look after, about one in three would have one," she said.

"There are some people who would love to have one but perhaps can't afford it."

Ms Manning said while there had been attempts to modernise the title "governess" and to make it suitable for both sexes, the traditional term stuck.

"It's a bit quaint and old fashioned but the term has just hung around," she said.



**REMOTE ROLES:** Governess graduates Hayley Carr and Kira Jones at Port Augusta.

**Picture:** KELLY BARNES