



THE ANDAMOOKA PRESS

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VOLUME 10, ISSUE 1

UP-COMING EVENTS

◆ **Saturday 21st March:**
HOT MARCH NIGHT -
"ROCK THE COTTAGES" Concert

- **Easter Long Week-End** -

◆ **Friday 10th April:**
Good Friday BBQ

◆ **Saturday 11th April:**
Decade by Decade 1930's
Anniversary Ball - Celebrating
Andamooka's first decade of
settlement.

Plus Other Easter Long
Weekend Events! See pg9

More on Events page 9...

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Header: Andamooka sunset.

Source: E. Morris, 2019

LAUNCHING INTO 2020, CELEBRATING 1930'S

Bit by bit Andamooka has been gearing up for a BIG year and finally it's arrived, and what an amazingly busy and very exciting year we are launching into. Underlying all events is the celebration of Andamooka 1930's being the first of the 10 year, Decade by Decade Countdown to Andamooka's 100year anniversary in 2030. Rocks discovered on Andamooka station in 1928, were declared as bearing precious opal in August 1930, triggering the arrival of opal seekers and the establishment of Andamooka Precious Stone Field and Andamooka township.

To kick 2020 off, our Australia Day celebrations welcomed most of the community back from the annual summer holiday exodus, with around 45 locals enjoying a big Aussie breakfast before presentation of the annual Citizens Awards.

The next big event on the 2020 calendar is our Hot March Night Rock Concert at the Hub promising sound big enough to stir the spirits of the past. This is a night for the whole community with family style entertainment early evening and intensity building after 8:00 as we rock the night away! There's a chance for would be rockers to strut their stuff with prizes for the best dressed rockers and an award for the best local rock sound.... Karaoke style!

Easter promises to be the biggest event Andamooka has seen for many years and not to be missed. So, look out for 30's style glad-rags, get in the swing, invite your friends and relatives up to join in a week of great entertainment. We look forward to seeing many of our past residents and visitors are invited to join in.

On Sunday 5th April, we launch 1930's Andamooka Living History Exhibitions with an official opening held at the

community hall. The launch will also offer a tour of sites and structures dating back to the 1930's.

Easter Thursday is the opening of 'The Great Outback Opal Hunt' season which will run till the 29th August, the commemorative day that precious opal was confirmed from Andamooka in 1930. Competitors will fossick for a chance to win prizes of Andamooka opal and other (sur)prizes.

The Good Friday night BBQ on at the cottages from 6pm. All friends, family and visitors to Andamooka are welcome to come along to this relaxed night.

However... everyone needs to keep tidy enough to revel on at Saturday's BIG EVENT! **Andamooka's 1930's Swing Ball**, 'glamming up' the community hall with 1930's opulence for the occasion. Dance the night away with big band sounds of the 30's together with today's favourites.

A busy Easter Sunday offers an afternoon repeat of Peter Tauber's "Andamooka Alive" Opal Symposium presentation, also Stuart Wattison's presentation and launch of the Lapidary Workshop, followed by an evening Cocktail Launch of the "Minnie Berrington Documentary" including a talk by Stuart Wattison on Minnie's history and walk to introduce "Minnie's Trail". The Minnie Berrington documentary film being filmed in Andamooka over winter and involving many locals including local school students and youth

Monday has a morning Market at the Hub, with the weekend finishing up with a tag-along sunset discovery tour.

So, book out your calendar and don't miss any of this year's excitement!

ROCK THE COTTAGES CONCERT

21 SATURDAY 21ST MARCH

PRESENTING ANDAMOOKA'S HOT MARCH NIGHT

**COMMUNITY CONTACTS
& INFORMATION****FOR ALL EMERGENCIES
CALL 000**

Your call will be directed to the right organisation to manage the situation.

Police: 131 444

SES/CFS:

John West: 0408 807 943
Stefan Bilka: 0427 181 752

Andamooka Community**Health Service:**

Hospital Road 8672 7087
See page 6 for daily clinic hours
After Hours: Emergencies Only

Post Office: 8672 7007

Open 7 Days, Opal Creek Blvd.

- **Dukes Bottlehouse Motel**

- **Laundry-mat**

- **Claims Registration**

Hours: 9am - 5pm Weekdays

11am - 3pm Weekends

Andamooka Powerhouse:

8672 7235
Power Cards @ Friendly Grocer

Andamooka Friendly Grocer:

Opal Creek Blvd. 8672 7034

Gas Refills/Fuel/Hardware

Open 7 Days, 9am - 6pm Weekdays

9am - 3pm Sat, 10am - 1am Sun

Town Office: 0477 184 485

School Rd

Open: Tue-Fri, 9:30am - 3pm

Andamooka School & Children's

Centre: 8672 7018

Public Library Hours, See Pg 15

Andamooka Community Hall:

Enquires, contact APOMA

- **Kids Splash Pad & BBQ Area**

- **Book Exchange & Art Exhibitions**

- **Andamooka Yacht Club Cafe**

Opal Creek Blvd.

Andamooka Yacht Club Cafe:

Opal Creek Blvd. 0412 264 168

Located at the Community Hall

Andamooka Caravan Park

& Playground: 0477 184 485

Opal Creek Blvd.

Tuckabox Hotel: 8672 7137

Takeaway available

Opal Creek Blvd. Open 7 Days

Bottle Shop: 8672 7183

Opal Creek Blvd. Open 7 Days

Roving Vet: 8642 3308

CWA: 8672 7044

Andamooka Boo-Teek Op Shop

Open Fri & Sat, 9am - 12pm

Top of CWA Rd

Motor Vehicle Registration:

Roxby Downs Town Council

For more details, visit:

www.andamooka.sa.au

ANDAMOOKA PROGRESS AND OPAL MINERS ASSOCIATION**Andamooka Town Office**

One-Stop Shop for OCA, APOMA & Town Business

Open Tuesday to Friday

9:30am - 3:00pm (Closes 12 noon Fridays)

Ph: 08 8672 7246

Urgent Enquires:

OCA (Byron Gough): 0427 687 772

APOMA: 0477 184 485

Town Maintenance: Richard Hawkins 0418 855 165

Address: Community Hub, School Rd, Andamooka

Postal: PO Box 246 Andamooka SA 5722

Email:

OCA: oca@sa.gov.au

APOMA/Town Office: secretary@apoma.com.au

Town Maintenance/Projects: admin1@apoma.com.au

Events & Memberships: admin3@apoma.com.au

Newsletter: admin2@apoma.com.au

OCA: 12 Tassie St, Pt Augusta Ph: (08) 8648 5970

CCS & Avdata payments now accepted at Post Office

Joint Quarterly Review Meeting OCA/APOMA:

- Overview of status of current projects in process and projects pending and related maintenance.
- Discussion on recommendations around funding sources and distribution for completion.
- Scheduling of jobs, approval of quotes in hand, plus job assignments for contractors & volunteer crews.
- Project grants have been acquitted on time with two around hall improvements pending acquittal by March. Work had been rescheduled to include the new lapidary workshop now that funding has been received for development of that eagerly awaited community program.
- Other grant opportunities discussed and decided re new submissions to be made.
- Approval to donate \$100 to Andamooka CFS/SES on behalf of seniors for Wacky Wednesday.
- Discussion around changes to AYC hours and arrangements. Meeting to be scheduled with AYC.
- Discussion around business development and employment opportunities associated with facility and program development.
- Consideration of outcomes of discussion around re Old PO upgraded as business premises to accommodate new local business. Need for dedicated funding to undertake the works immediately. This could be made available from Reserve Funds as an 'investment loan arrangement' repaid back into reserve funds from rental received. Will require release of reserve funds by members at March member meeting. Motion to put the motion to members passed. GR to construct budget.
- Discussion around developing APOMA income streams to continue to build and to benefit the community by assisting with town management costs and supplementing funding and grants for projects and programs. The intention is to maintain the CCS at present levels.
- Mid-year review meeting with OCA to be held 13th February 2020.
- Mid year review to be held February 2020.
- **At bank end of December 2019:**
Operations Acc: \$38,893+ \$87.58 in CC acc,
Allocated Funds: \$9,000
Reserve Funds: \$15,568
Asset Maintenance: \$5,750

MINUTES & OTHER INFORMATION:

Please visit the website to access minutes from APOMA meetings and for other information. If unable to access the website, please call APOMA to arrange an alternative.

Disclaimer: The information presented within the Andamooka Press is intended for the Andamooka community. No liability is accepted for any unauthorised use of the information contained with this publication. APOMA reserve the right to edit all submissions for publication in the Andamooka Press. No responsibility is taken for advertiser's claims.

**ANDAMOOKA PROGRESS & OPAL
MINERS ASSOCIATION INC.**

APOMA is the peak body representing the opal miners, residents, community and township of Andamooka.

APOMA'S key objectives are to lead the community, protect miners rights & build a sustainable future for the town; maintain & develop the township; assist the development of opal mining & promote opal markets; promote & facilitate tourism, promote & facilitate community wellbeing, social inclusion & equality within the township.

Chair: Peter Allen

Vice Chair: Donna Waters

Secretary: Rodney Mitchell

Treasurer: Gill Rowley

PO Box 246 Andamooka SA 5722

Email: secretary@apoma.com.au

www.andamooka.sa.au

Next Member/Community

Meeting: March TBA

Correspondence addressed to the Secretary due 7 days prior to meeting.

PUBLISHER

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Email: admin2@apoma.com.au

M: 0477 184 485

Chair: Peter Allen

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Web: www.andamooka.sa.au

Facebook: /AndamookaPortal

Email us to receive an email copy, or phone us to request a paper copy.

ADVERTISING & NOTICES

Advertising & notices are free of charge to local charities and groups.

ADVERTISING RATES:

Full Page: By Sponsorship Only

1/3 Page: \$32 or \$325 Annually

1/4 Page: \$25 or \$250 Annually

1/6 Page: \$15 or \$150 Annually

Strip: \$17 or \$175 Annually

Business Card: \$7.50 or \$75 Annually

Classified: \$5 or \$50 Annually

CONTACT: Gill Rowley

Email: treasurer@apoma.com.au

KEEPING UP WITH BUSINESS

PROJECT UPDATES

GRANTS AND OPPORTUNITIES TOWARDS A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE & COMMUNITY WELLBEING

- **'Healthy Places – Local Partners'** funding for community programs has been acquitted. This has provided equipment vital to fitness activities which will launch in February 2020.
 - An Easter Launch is planned for the documentary film on Minnie Berrington which will be locally produced and filmed in-situ in Andamooka, thanks to **Country Arts SA** seed funding. The production team is led by local Lara Lukich, who has given two interviews with ABC Radio and created TV interest in the film. Planning meetings will be conducted regularly in Andamooka to direct the local team and participants and to meet with locals who have items or stories to add to the richness of the documentary. Don't be shy, please let us know if you have anything or any information that you think may be of interest.
 - Work has commenced now that funding has been allocated for the **Lapidary Workshop** via the OCA from the 'Drought Communities' fund. This will prospectively have the workshop up and functioning by the end of March with workshops commencing in April which will create new income streams for the Town.
 - Work is underway for storage cupboards and new doors to improve access and visibility in the space currently occupied by Youth, funded under **Grants SA Medium round**.
 - The Hall spaces will accommodate the new **Community Internet Hub** with funding received via a grant under the federal **'Be Connected'** program. The Hub will provide access to the internet to members of the community and also visitors. The program will be launched with an information and introductory day in March for regular workshops to assist members of the community to learn how to get the best out of the internet to assist with day to day tasks such as Centrelink forms, also with connecting with family and friends.
 - Funding sought via the **RAA Regional Safety grants** to produce and install lot numbers on residential properties throughout the town was not successful, but given the critical nature of this project, we will continue to seek funding from other sources and to move forward as quickly as possible with identification for priority sites.
 - Submissions for funding of major projects to meet critical needs of the town and community to build a strong economy and open up new business and employment opportunities will be lodged as they become available.
 - An application has been lodged with an extension to 'drought communities' funding received by the OCA to support drought affected regional towns to build their economy and assist community wellbeing. Funding has been sought to design, construct and fit-out a **community recreation & sports facility** encompassing dedicated spaces for youth and fitness as well as activities such as gymnastics and martial arts, with shared social space and a multi-purpose modified sports court, supported by amenities, a basic kitchen, and children's play space.
- Further funding was sought to upgrade access roads in Andamooka's surrounding environs to support the **'Andamooka Trails Project'** which will assist the development of local tourism-based businesses, in particular tours both within the town and surrounding regions and to assist with the development of a cooperative marketing strategy to assist the establishment and growth of local business and employment opportunities associated with tours, which includes services and events. These trails are designed to link with other regional tourism trails.

BIG THANK YOU

A big thankyou from the APOMA Committee and Town Office crew to the many volunteers who have dedicated time and an enormous effort this past week towards clearing out and preparing various project sites ready for work to be done on construction and fit-out.

Thanks to Ian's huge crew who worked hard to clear the Old Post Office in just one morning and relocate or dump items. Also to Bushy and Harley who sorted the kitchen, container and space ready for the WiFi Hub.



R&H Roxby Downs RLA 208715

Contact our R&H team if you're looking for

- free appraisals • sales & property management
- property in Roxby Downs & Andamooka

Shop 4/14 Tutop Street, Roxby Downs

Telephone: 08 8671 3355 Fax: 08 8671 3366

Email: info@roxbydowns.rh.com.au

COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS LUNCH

What a great day it was for almost 60 members of Andamooka's community who turned out to celebrate the Orphan's & Elder's Christmas Lunch at the Community Hall on Christmas Day.

It was a wonderful spread of cold meats, salads, nibbles and delicious desserts and thanks to so many people who helped with organising, setting up, cooking, food preparation and on the day and so many donations, not to mention the great company, all contributing to the huge success of the day.

Special mention to the 'little elves' who assisted Tanya so much, Judith Perrett, Claudia Mitchell, Mash and Greg McDevitt, Emma (CCP), Lara and Ben, and the CDP crew.

Thank you too for so many donations gratefully received that helped us to put on such a great spread with special mentions for Terry Gardiners Meats in Port Augusta, Andamooka Cellarbrations bottle-shop, John & Katalin Wilby, Angela & Ian Thompson, and Margot Duke & Peter Taubers from the Post Office.

The day was relaxed and full of fun and laughter thanks to all who came along, so if you were here alone in Andamooka on Christmas Day in 2019, make sure you join us in 2020.

Tanya Simpson, Events Coordinator



'Boot Camp' Get Fit

Starts 8.00am till 10.00am Sundays

First session 'Andamooka Playground' or Hall if it's hot!

Casual attendance - Join in or leave at any time during the session

Work as hard or as long as you like

Activities for all, from beginners or 'the unfit' to tuff-stuff that will challenge your boundaries.

Bring a friend and work as a team, or do your own thing...

All welcome... donations will go to maintaining or purchasing equipment

**First Sunday
8th March**

Casual 'Walk-a-cise' Sessions

Community Hall

Wednesday morning 8.30 to 9.30

Friday evening 'drop-in / drop-out' session 4.30 to 6.00

Great for beginners, all ages and stages catered for

An easy, fun way to fitness...

**First Wednesday
4th March**

Redgum Vet & Pet Boarding

Visit www.redgumboarding.com.au

Ph: (08) 8642 3308

*Dr. Roger Absalom, Redgum Vet, will
be consulting in Roxby Downs*

Please phone (08) 8642 3308 for appointments



COMPLETE
personnel

group

Thinking employment?
Think Complete

Jenna Post Consultant

1B 20-22 Tutop St, Roxby Downs SA 5725

Ph: (08) 8671 0621 Fax: (08) 8671 0481 M: 0418 807 450

Email: jenna.post@complete-personnel.com.au

Web: www.complete-personnel.com.au

Do you know where your cat is at night?

Lock it up

For its own protection & for the protection of our native fauna.

Have your cat microchipped, de-sexed & immunised.

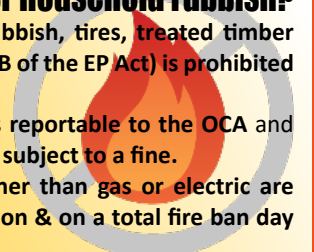


Can I burn plastic and other household rubbish?

No, burning plastic, household rubbish, tires, treated timber and listed wastes (Schedule 1 Part B of the EP Act) is prohibited under the Air Quality Policy.

Backyard burning in Andamooka is reportable to the OCA and people breaching the policy can be subject to a fine.

Remember that no open fires other than gas or electric are permitted during the fire ban season & on a total fire ban day without a schedule nine permit.



ANDAMOOKA COMMUNITY PROJECTS

PLANNED PROJECTS 2020

A number of projects are in the planning process that will assist with building income streams will be invested across 2020 with some extending into 2021. These include:

- Fit-out and fencing for the Town Workshop, located at the grader shed site. This will service town maintenance but importantly, provide for 'Men's Shed' metal and woodworking activities and for developing cottage industry around metal and woodwork as well as assisting work-readiness for youth and others within the town. Layout plans are under discussion with stakeholders.
- Fit-out of the community kitchen/workshop – plans have been completed and orders are in process for materials and appliances. The kitchen is proposed to be functional by Easter.
- Caravan & Camp Ground improvements which will be funded by donations received in 2019-20:
 - Installing an additional 2 power points to the caravan & camp ground to meet the increased high season visitor demand for power.
 - Groundwork and installation of a second shade shelter at the caravan & camp ground to increase visitor comfort during the hotter months.
 - Development of a camping area adjacent to the existing shelter shed with soft surfaced tent sites and a fire pit.
- Installation of slides and a sandpit to the existing splash pad – utilising the high side of the splash pad and shaded space behind that. A donation column will be installed at the entrance to assist with funding improvements. The plan is to have a new feature installed annually with the removal of those which have deteriorated over time. This will assist with keeping the activity 'fresh' and well maintained year by year.
- Defining the recreational space from carparking space at the community hub site to enhance use of the space. This will be a cost effective exercise utilising local and donated materials. It will also allow for more tree planting to provide additional shade and wind mitigation. Ground cover will assist with reducing heat build-up and retention. Plantings will be funded by the 'Greening Andamooka' project.
- Planning and development of existing structures as community facilities which will assist to build the towns economy, create employment and business opportunities and assist community wellbeing is being undertaken, with a number of structures and sites under consideration and subject to community and stakeholder discussion and approvals. The existing Community Church, which is currently under an insurance claim for repair of storm damaged walls, has been identified as the site for the proposed community recreation and sports facility with the existing structure to be ungraded to provide a complimentary meeting and passive activity space, kitchen and restroom facilities to the proposed youth space, fitness and children's play space, shared indoor sport and activity space and outdoor modified court space.

DESPERATELY SEEKING VOLUNTEERS

There is a ton of work to be done around these projects and events...

This has culminated from a lot of work put into planning and seeking funding for critical community projects and programs that our community require for their wellness and wellbeing, and to assist the town's economy, business and employment opportunities.

The Town Office team of four is flat-out with so much going on for the community and they work well above the collective 38hrs of paid work in the office – averaging over 100hrs a week not counting their donated time on weekends. Committee members collectively donate over 100hrs a month plus more around events and community programs.

There is currently about 40 volunteers registered with the Town Office who assist with a variety of tasks that benefit the community, some have very limited hours and others are more available.

Training is available for those who wish to learn new or improve their existing skills, including assistance to enter courses, also to gain accreditation where appropriate.

But for this very busy year, we need as much help as we can get from the community:

- This might be as simple as helping with an event or selling raffle tickets...
- you may have an interest in helping to put together the historic records and exhibitions,
- or with the new trails projects – including historic and arts based tours.... Perhaps willing to train as a tour guide for short or extended tours...
- you may have skills that will assist with building in cupboards or painting walls,
- maybe planting trees and other plants,
- or basic office skills that can assist with all sorts of day to day tasks and free up office staff to get on with their projects and events.
- You may be able to help with re-locating bits and pieces as new storage and activity space develops
- Or skills to lead or assist with community workshops and programs including IT and craft
- Or you may be able to provide basic labour for a myriad of tasks from paving and concreting, to installing benches or self-install flooring, putting in posts and erecting signs, or tidying up some spaces that need a bit of TLC.
- Or perhaps you would like to get involved with the exciting restoration projects of historic sites and structures as we approach these decade by decade – the first this year concentrating on those from circa 1930-40s.

What-ever you can offer will be gladly accepted and very much appreciated.

**Coffee Available
From Town Office**



**Mon - Wed
9:30am - 3:00pm**



ANDAMOOKA YACHT CLUB
COFFEE, TOASTIES, SMOOTHIES,
ART & JEWELLERY



COMMUNITY HALL
SCHOOL RD, ANDAMOOKA

Ph: 0412 264 168

Email: andamookayachtclub@gmail.com

www.andamookayachtclub.com

HOURS:

THURS - SAT: 9am - 3pm

SUNDAY: 10am - 3pm

MON - WED: Closed

OPAL HUNTING SEASON OPENS



© Sally Grundy Photography



© Sally Grundy Photography

Twilight, Easter Thursday, 9th April
Chance for all Wanna-Be Opal Hunters

to seek their fortune in the

“GREAT OUTBACK OPAL HUNT”

Andamooka Opal Field

Commences April

and closes 29th August 2020

Register at Andamooka Town Office,
Post Office or Cellarbrations bottle-shop

Registrations open 1st April 2020.

Proceeds to Andamooka community
recreation & sports facility



WANT TO SELL: PC60 Komatsu Excavator

Roughly 6 ton machine, digs well, all mechanically sound and well looked after, well greased so bugger all wear in the pins.

Comes with: Knuckle boom to allow for horizontal digging, bigger mud bucket, bucket with welded teeth and spare teeth, spare pins, spare arms going from boom to bucket.

Looking for \$15,000, open to offers.

Call 0427 831 032 or get a hold of Peter Allen for more info.

ANDAMOOKA CARAVAN PARK

Fossil for opal, fossils & many other minerals in & around the friendly, un-spoilt opal mining township. Get up close to its colourful history & take time to explore the unbridled horizons & fascinating town attractions.

Unlimited nights at \$3 per person, per night
Or \$10 per night with power (2 people)
Pay at the Donation Column.

CNR. OPAL CREEK BLVD & WATER WAY

All-Weather sealed road from Stuart Hwy

Grid ref: 30.4499 S / 137.1635 E

- Showers & Toilets
- Potable Water
- Undercover BBQ Kitchen
- Undercover Playground
- Waste Pump-Out Facility
- Walking Distance To Town Hub



ANDAMOOKA FRIENDLY GROCER

“YOUR ONE STOP SHOP”

- Fuel
- Gas Refills
- ATM
- SA Lottery Agency
- Pre-Paid Power Cards
- Groceries
- Craft & Stationary

If we don't have it, we'll try to get it for you.



ANDAMOOKA MINER'S SHACKS

SHORT-STAY ACCOMMODATION

Step back in time ... to a more relaxed pace ...

Stay for a Weekend, Holiday or Short-Term Rent

Accommodates 2 up to 6 People
Fully Enclosed Outdoor Space with BBQ
Family & Pet Friendly

Ph: 0427 508 075

Town Hub, Opal Creek Blvd

Ph: 08 86727034

What's On In Andamooka
 Find us on
Facebook
 @andamookaportal

**Welcome All Seniors
 Wacky Wednesdays**

Join in the fun & activities or
 just enjoy a cuppa & chat

10AM - 12PM
 At the CFS / SES Shed

**Andamooka
 Community Church**

Meet at Hall on Sun @ 3pm
 For music, worship & sharing
 of evening prayer

More Details: 8671 0270

**Andamooka / R.D.
 Bible Church**

Worship Service 10:30 Sunday
 Bible Study 7:30 Wednesday

Water Way, Andamooka
 Contact: 8672 7004

**Andamooka Sports
 Shooting Assoc.**



For more information on
 activities & events

Contact: Matt 0419 504 200

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Proudly sponsored by the Andamooka Opal Showroom & Bottlehouse Motel

JANUARY

APOMA Memberships Due
 26th: Australia Day &
 Citizen's Awards

FEBRUARY

14th: Valentines Day

MARCH

21st: Hot March Night:
 Rock Concert
 BINGO Monday 9th March

APRIL

9th Outback Opal Hunt opens
Good Friday BBQ - cottages
 Sat 11 Anniversary Ball
Sun 12 Opal Presentations
 Lapidary Program launch
Minnie Berrington launch
 Mon 13 Easter Market
 25th: Anzac Day

MAY

ASSA Opal Classic

JUNE

June Long Weekend
 Activities
 Winter Markets

JULY

Dog Registration Due

AUGUST

SALA Festival Exhibition

Hospital Auxiliary Camp
 Oven Cookout

29th Outback Opal Hunt
 closes.

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

31st: Halloween

October Long Weekend
 Sunday Family Fun Day &
 Markets

NOVEMBER

2nd: All Souls Day
 11th: Remembrance Day

DECEMBER

25th: Community Christmas
 Lunch



VISIT

ANDAMOOKA OPAL SHOWROOM ANDAMOOKA DUKE'S BOTTLEHOUSE Motel

Opal
 Opal Jewellery
 Opal Cutting and Demo's
 (by appointment)

**INFORMATION
 &
 ACCOMMODATION**

View our **ANDAMOOKA OPAL MUSEUM**
 Underground Worldwide Opal & Mineral Display

Ph 0886727007
 275 Opal Creek Boulevard, Andamooka, SA.
 Email... andamookaopal@hotmail.com
 Web... www.andamookaopal.com.au



Open 7 Days

WHAT'S ON IN ANDAMOOKA

ANDAMOOKA DECADE BY DECADE
ANNIVERSARY
BALL

1930'S SWING BALL
 THEME AND DRESS

CELEBRATE ANDAMOOKA'S
 FIRST DECADE OF SETTLEMENT

EASTER SATURDAY
11TH APRIL
 AT THE
 ANDAMOOKA
 COMMUNITY HALL

Visit the Renowned

Tuckabox Hotel

Serving Miners Since 1960

Open 7 Days from 11:00am

Full A La Carte Menu

Lunch 12pm to 2pm
 Dinner 6:00pm to 8:00pm
Full Salad Bar

Check the Board for Daily Specials
Ph: 08 8672 7137

Get Your Teams Together For
 Relaxed, Fun Competition

TEN PIN BOWLING

(On the Big Screen)

Seeking Casual Teams of 3
 for Daytime or Evening
 Rounds.

Proposing daytime rounds
 for Tuesday afternoons.

Evening rounds for Friday or
 Wednesday nights.

*For more information or to register a team, please contact the
 Town Office or register at the PO or Cellarbrations.*



PRESENTING ANDAMOOKA'S HOT MARCH NIGHT

ROCK THE COTTAGES CONCERT

ENTRY BY
DONATION

WITH FOOD, BAR
 & KARAOKE

FEATURING
 ADELAIDE BAND
META4
 + LOCAL ACTS

AT THE ANDAMOOKA HISTORICAL COTTAGES

21 SATURDAY
ST MARCH

FROM 6PM
 KIDS 'TILL 8
 THE REST STAY LATE

BINGO

EVERY THIRD SUNDAY
1:30 PM at the TUCKABOX

NEXT DATES
8TH MARCH

All proceeds go towards the new community kitchen

ANDAMOOKA CITIZEN AWARDS 2020

Over 40 locals gathered together at the Community Hall to celebrate Australia Day with an Oz style breakfast. Kicking off at 8.30am and with everyone breakfasted by around 9.45am, the 2020 Australia Day Citizen's Awards were presented by APOMA Chairman, Peter Allen.

The primary Award of **'Andamooka's Citizen of the Year'** was presented to Dianne Bilka for her long-term and unwavering dedication to the health and wellbeing of everyone one of us here in Andamooka. This Award recognises her outstanding actions, and we all so much appreciate how Di goes over and above her duties to care for so many within the community, in times of need and especially in recent times of tragedy. Andamooka has been blessed to have had such a wonderful and capable person looking after our wellbeing for so many years.

Di received huge applause with big smiles on everyone's faces as she received this most deserved honour of being Andamooka's 2020 Citizen of the Year – *however, we suspect that she is always considered to be just that by all who know and love her.* Di was also presented with a two-night stay at the historic Jamestown Hotel, located where the northern Lofty ranges joins the Southern Flinders and central to emerging vineyards and a wealth of historic towns to explore, we hope that Di and Stefan take a couple of well-deserved days off relaxing in the mid north.



and community over the past year.

The **'Community Wellbeing' Award** recognising those who contribute directly to the health and wellbeing of community members or as a whole, was presented to the RFDS Health Clinic Staff for their outstanding contribution and commitment to the wellbeing of all men and women and to their health awareness, which has included staging a 'Men's Health BBQ' and a 'Women's Health Day' both of which were very well attended by locals who all enjoyed their day and most of whom admitted to learning something new about caring for their health and importantly, developing connections with others within the community. They intend to hold these days on a regular basis throughout the year to the benefit of all those who attend.



The second major award is the annual **'Community Event of the Year'** Award which was presented to Peter Sach, who has continued on with his brother Joe's 'All Souls Night' event held annually in November at the Andamooka Cemetery, which he started following the loss of their Father and in recognition of all those Andamookan's before us, many of whom did so much one way or another and pioneering the town and opal fields.

This special event has always been popular with locals, but this past year Peter has taken the event to another level that has assisted the attendance of many others, with the provision of essential comforts, serving to ensure that this highly cherished annual event will continue successfully into the future. Thank you, Peter, also to those who assisted you with the night.

A number of other Awards were presented recognising other people or activities that have contributed towards our town

and community over the past year.



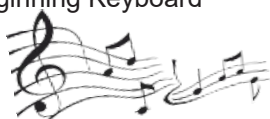
Music Tuition

edge2centre studio

- Individual Guitar
- Group Mixed Instruments
- Group Guitar
- Beginning Keyboard

Fee: \$15 / 30 Minutes

Concession for groups
Adults welcome



CALLING ALL ARTISTS! SHARE YOUR ART IN THE CREATIVE CORNER

Come share your work and creativity with the community, and get your art showcased here. We're always on the look out for creative talents, whether it's painting, drawing, sculpting, metal, wood, opal, or anything really, we'd love to hear from you.

Drop Us an Email: admin2@apoma.com.au

Or see Emma at the Town Office: Tuesday & Thursdays, 9:30am to 3pm



A **'Local Hero' Award** was received by Greg Franklin on behalf of five members of the Andamooka CFS who have spent weeks away fighting fires across three states since the fires began in November. These same members also dedicate so much time to ensuring that Andamooka has an effective emergency service ready to respond to all manner of call-outs and to training local cadets to serve town and country in the future. Those receiving the Award included Stefan Bilka, Greg Franklin, John (Sarg) Scheibel, Bronwyn Cunningham and John West.

The **'Services to Community Award'** which recognises individuals who contribute towards the wellbeing and development of the Community was presented to Gill Rowley in recognition of going beyond her role within the town office, volunteering many additional hours towards community development, programs and projects including grants, creating and working behind events and promotions, and her ongoing willingness to contribute to, encourage and to seek a path forward for the development of the town and community. Gill was presented with a voucher for a two-night stay donated by the recently upgraded 4.5star Waikerie Hotel. It looks like an ideal getaway ride on the Harley up to the heart of the Riverland for her and husband Lester.

The **'Young Entrepreneur Award'** is an incentive award created to encourage young people within the town who have demonstrated a 'go getter' attitude, strive to achieve and/or look for development or business opportunities for themselves or others. This was presented to 12 year old, William (Will) Franklin, who is a lively go-getter, CFS cadet and always at the front of youth activities, actively demonstrating leadership abilities which are usually positive but may sometimes lead others astray... also great initiative with business activities such as a market stall or his project to set up 'slushy machine' at the splash pad on weekends to provide something extra for kids on hot days and to earn funds towards greater things. In 2018 Will won the 'Youth

Film Makers Competition' promoted through the Andamooka Youth Group. This young man is going to give life a good shake, so thanks to Award sponsor Rose Williams, Will now has \$200 to put towards his next project.



A **'Long-standing Services to the Community' Award** was presented to Ray Christensen, a member of one of Andamooka's pioneering families, who has always been a 'quiet achiever' with an on-going demonstrated commitment to the community and always happy to help where he can. Ray was a long-term active member of the APOMA committee and in years gone by he has assisted with maintaining the Town's airstrip, a vital link to the world pre Roxby Downs, especially in an emergency, and with supporting the re-build of the community hall after it was ravaged by fire in the 1970's. It is great to see Ray recognised with this Award for all he does and has done in the past.

SALA Returning in 2020

Donna Waters and Heather Gordon have volunteered to co-ordinate Andamooka's entry in the South Australian Living Artists (SALA) Festival Exhibition held during August 2020. You're invited to participate.

Contact Donna 0476 298 992 or Heather 0414 318 829 early in the New Year to register your interest.

Muso's Corner

Inviting anyone with an interest in music to join in, for an opportunity to express your passions, develop your talents, learn from others or simply just enjoy the music. **Interested in participating? Get in touch!**

For more information, or expressions of interest, please contact:
Wendy: 0447 170 607

RE-BUILDING ANDAMOOKA'S HISTORY

Post WWI, 1928, at the time that legendary crooner Bing Crosby was releasing his first early American Jazz albums and Britain was experiencing a depression and the onset of Art Deco, two outback stockriders in remote Australia, Sam Brooks and Roy Shepard, were on horseback checking fences for Andamooka Station which was established in 1872, when they were caught in a passing rain-storm on Treloars Hill. The storm washed away dust from the rocky surface of the endless arid landscape and as the rain cleared, the riders remounted and headed back to work when one noticed a couple of rocks reflecting brilliantly in the sun. After closer inspection they marvelled at the amazing flashes of rainbow colours in what appeared to be beautiful crystal embedded in the rocks.

Taking these with them, the stockriders decided to keep their discovery of these amazing rocks (since called 'floaters' because they sit on the surface) quiet until they had time to decide what to do about them. They eventually showed Station Manager, Bruce Foulis, their wonderous rocks on **29th August 1930** when they were identified as precious opal and so the story of Andamooka township begins.

However, the secret got out sometime in 1930 and although this was at first largely disregarded, by the end of 1930 there were 14 miners working the field. By 1931 quite a number of intrepid pioneering miners had arrived on Andamooka Station determined to 'make their fortune' from the high grade opal they'd heard stories about being found in the area.

The first mines were rudimentary tunnels dug to a depth ranging from 2ft to 24ft, that barely accommodated a miner lying on their side as they gouged the unforgiving ground with picks and shovels in the quest to find a patch of opal. Unlike Coober Pedy, Andamooka 'levels' are inconsistent, and opal can be found in any of four 'levels' which are found at varying depths, with a broad variety of opal types as well as matrix which can contain all the vibrancy and colour of true opal. So, mining could tend to be hit or miss, with no rhyme or reason to locality or type. However, by 1935 the first claims had been made at One Tree Hill, Treloars Claim, Middle Hill, Boundary Riders Hill, Steven's Gully and German Gully, which are fields still actively mined today. In 1934, opal to the value of 646 pounds was produced.

Among the first to arrive were brothers Franko and Andrew Albertoni who came to Andamooka from Blinman in 1931. Together they worked as opal gougers in the German Gully area, living a rough and primitive lifestyle but settling for the long term and building one of the first semi-dug-out cottages to be built on the Andamooka Opal fields, constructed over three levels on the banks of Opal Creek. There was a nearby well which was needed by Frank for his blacksmithing, this being accommodated in the central level where he created and repaired tools



Photography by
KEV PERRY
Post Office Box 1109
Port Lincoln 5606
Ph. 08/86821447

DECADE BY DECADE: THE 1930s

and other necessary items for themselves and other miners. With building commenced in 1931, the Albertoni cottage still exists today and has seen little alteration or structural change since the time of its construction. Andrew Albertoni died in 1942 and Frank spent the rest of his life living and working in Andamooka. According to those who knew him, Frank Albertoni was a small energetic man who had a knack of improvising and making do - this house bears witness to that.

Ref: State Library of South Australia; April 2015; legal agreement held; Part of ACC 2539, order record attached to b30197971.

In 1933, another Andamooka legend Minnie Berrington, who was at that time living and mining in Coober Pedy, had an growing interest in the rumour about high grade opal found on Andamooka Station which eventually prompted her decision to relocate to the precious stones field at what is now Andamooka, where she became the first female opal miner in her own right in Andamooka, successfully mining side by side with often ruthless characters, and striking a find of highly prized black opal. During the 1930's Minnie also took on a variety of other jobs including driver, general store assistant, police agent and census taker. Read more of her story in future editions.

Ref: Minnie Berrington-Andamooka's First Postmistress, Stuart Wattison, ACCCF; Philatelic Society of SA Inc., Journals; August 2018.

Many other early day miners settled and went on to raise families in Andamooka and they constructed their houses from tent fabric, corrugated iron, local wood and stone as humpies or dug-outs, wherever it suited them and largely of what-ever available materials they could get their hands on. Existing in such weather extremes soon resulted in some great innovations to keep their houses cool and well ventilated, but also capable of withstanding savage storms and flooding rain events.

In 1934 Ernie Sherman, an opal buyer constructed a rough stone shelter at 'The Cottages' creekside site, but this eventually fell into disrepair and was demolished in 1951 when a new, quite sound semi-dugout dwelling was built in its place to accommodate Mrs Perry who had arrived in Andamooka with her husband James in 1931, later recalling Bill Hallion, Bert Wilson, Minnie Berrington and Andy Absalom as being the first people she got to know in Andamooka and naming Jim Watson and Harry Vickers as her great friends. She described their mining success as 'moderately successful' and the amazing story of May Perry over many years until till she left Andamooka in 1965, will unfold across the decade celebrations.

Ref: Andamooka Heritage Survey, L Brasse/M Sanders, Heritage Conservation Branch, 1984.

Another legendary family who settled in Andamooka from the 1930's are the Bartrams. Walter 'Pop' Bartram arrived in 1936 and descendent, Keith Bartram is actively engaged with the Andamooka community today. More of their story in future editions.

Andamooka's 1930's would have been incredibly challenging, living in primitive conditions including for mining with just the barest of tools, which together with scant belongings were often walked in from as far away as Western Australia, across rough unmarked country. These early settlers of our amazing opal town must be admired and given great respect for their legacy of resilience and ingenuity.... traits that proudly live on within our township and community today....




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ADVICE TO ANDAMOOKA RESIDENTS

Please be advised that there will be elevated noise levels emanating from the community concert to be held on Saturday 21st March 2020 at the Community Hub in the hours between 6.30pm to 12 midnight.

There will also be elevated noise levels on occasions during the set-up period during the day on the 21st March, from 9.00am to 6.30pm.

We thank you for your support for this community fundraising event.





 **Eddie Hughes MP**

Member for Giles

My office can help with issues related to services provided by the State Government.

PO Box 2476 Whyalla Norrie 5608
 Phone 8645 7800 Fax 8645 0713
 Email giles@parliament.sa.gov.au

 **Eddie Hughes MP**

Dr Simon Lockwood

Practising monthly in Andamooka

From 1:30pm, Tuesday Afternoons.
 At the **Andamooka Health Service**

Strictly by appointment.

Book an appointment through **Roxby Downs Family Practice**
Ph: (08) 8671 3231

Are you covered for Ambulance Services?

Did you know that many private health insurers only cover emergency ambulance services?

Ambulance services are expensive. For a modest annual investment you can take out comprehensive ambulance cover, or cover for non-emergency services to top up your medical benefit arrangements.

Contact: SA Ambulance Ph: 1300 13 62 72
 or visit: www.saambulance.com.au

Andamooka Health Service

Lot 33 Hospital Rd, Andamooka
 Attended by: Diane Bilka, Anne Alexander & Health Service Assistants

Opening Hours:

Monday/Tuesday	9am - 5pm
Wednesday	9am - 12pm
Thursday/Friday	9am - 5pm
Saturday/Sunday	Closed

Closed 12pm to 2pm for Lunch on all days
Ph: (08) 8672 7087 Email: andamooka@flyingdoctor.net

After hours calls will be redirected to the RFDS

24/7 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
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 Australian Government

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SESSION ONE

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AFTERNOON TEA WILL BE PROVIDED

MONDAY 10TH FEBRUARY, 1PM-5PM
PAT'S CENTRE, OLYMPIC DAM

SESSION TWO

RESOURCEFUL MINDS COMMUNITY WORKSHOP

OPEN TO ALL COMMUNITY MEMBERS AND BUSINESSES

LIGHT SUPPER WILL BE PROVIDED

FREE SESSION

TUESDAY 11TH FEBRUARY 5-9PM
ROXBY DOWNS COMMUNITY HUB
(OLD BLOCKBUSTER BUILDING)
RICHARDSON PLACE, ROXBY DOWNS



Time for Wellbeing is a community partnership supported by BHP to promote health and wellbeing in our community



Surviving a Heat Wave

With the hottest months upon us, now is the time to be vigilant and aware of the dangers of heatstroke and dehydration. Drink plenty of fluids and keep out of the sun during the day. Take care of the elderly and the young, who are at higher risk from heat. Think of others as well, check on neighbours and those that are unwell.

LOOK OUT FOR SNAKES

Hot weather has brought out snakes & lizards so watch out for these creatures and make sure that you know what to do in the event of a snake bite.

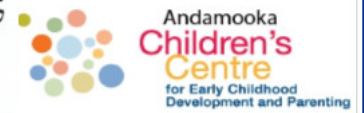
This region is home to potentially deadly venomous snakes including the dark skinned Mulga and the Western Brown variations of which may be orange with a black head, or yellow head with greenish body, some have black bands. Don't confuse this with the harmless Desert Banded Snake which grows to only 40cm long, or the Ringed Brown which is venomous but not dangerous, growing up to 60cm.

A good practice is to keep a large, firm pressure bandage at hand in your car and home.

Call 000 for emergencies



Andamooka
Primary
School



Find us on
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Visit: www.andamooka.sa.edu.au

Phone: (08) 86727018

Andamooka Primary School and Children's Centre are taking enrolments now for 2020. Do you think your child would thrive in a smaller setting? We have excellent resources, small classes and very experienced educators.

Community Library Open to the public:

Internet/Wi-Fi Available

Located:
Andamooka School

Mon: 11:30am - 4:00pm

Tues: 12:00pm - 4:00pm

Wed: 12:00pm - 4:00pm

Thur: 8:00am - 4:00pm

Check Facebook for holiday hours.

Andamooka Community Bus Services

REGULAR SERVICE TO ROXBY DOWNS
THURSDAYS WEEKLY

Departs Tuckabox at 11:00 AM

Leaves Roxby Downs at 1:30 PM

PORT AUGUSTA TRIPS

Call Sylvia (m) 0408 842 738

for information on scheduled trips.

AVAILABLE FOR HIRE:

(Andamooka community only)

Call Sylvia (m) 0408 842 738

Seeking volunteer drivers

If you can assist with volunteer driving for Roxby Downs Thurs trips, please contact Richard at the APOMA Office on (m) 0418 855 165 or admin1@apoma.com.au

FIGHT THE BITE, DAY & NIGHT



Protect yourself against disease carrying mosquitoes.

There is currently **NO CURE** and **NO VACCINE** to protect against Ross River or Barmah Forest virus so the only way to protect yourself and your family is to avoid being bitten.

COVER UP: Wear long, loose fitting, light coloured clothing, covering as much of the body as you can. Mosquitoes can bite through tight clothing including jeans.

REPEL: Use insect repellent containing DEET (diethyl toluamide) or picaridin and always follow instructions on the label.

ELIMINATE: Stop mosquitoes breeding in water pooling around your home.

For more information call SA Health on 08 8226 7100 or visit www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/FightTheBite

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

MINING CLAIMS

REGISTRATIONS AND RENEWALS

7 DAYS A WEEK

ANDAMOOKA POST OFFICE

9am-5pm weekdays

&

11am-3pm weekends

For further assistance or information on the procedure contact:

Ashley Wood, Acting Registrar,

Opal Field Program .

Ph: 08 8678 9058

Email: ashley.wood@sa.gov.au

Summer's Here Visit the Legendary 'Boo-Teek' OP Shop

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Breeze in for a hot bargain.

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- Workshops
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SES / CFS

CFS: John West: 0404 807 943
SES: Stefan Bilka 0427 181 752

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Ring my office for an appointment next time I am in ANDAMOOKA



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Ramsey MP**

Federal Member for Grey

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