



# The Andamooka Press

First Published in 1973

AUGUST - 2021  
VOLUME 11, ISSUE 4

## UP-COMING EVENTS

- ◆ 1<sup>st</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> August: **SALA Exhibition** Drop by the Community Hall and check it out!
- ◆ 7<sup>th</sup> September: **SALA Closing**
- ◆ 12<sup>th</sup> September: **BINGO**
- ◆ 24<sup>th</sup> October: **APOMA AGM**

**Please Be Advised:**  
Due to the ongoing spread of COVID-19, events may be cancelled or postponed.  
*More on Events page 9...*

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**Header:** Wattle flowers in the community garden.

Source: E. Morris, 2021

## Digging Out A New Life In Wonderland

I visited Andamooka for the first time in 2018, sparked by an amazing trip we did through the Simpson Desert and outback SA in 2017, which we had 2 small kids in nappies, one still crawling and a teen in tow. It was my first experience of the Outback and certainly was testing at times but I loved it and that's when I found myself wanting more of these outback adventures, more of times with the kids around a campfire, seeing history of our state, getting dirty and back to nature, maybe just not so much the dingo eating teens favourite t-shirt though haha.

I've always had a love of the rock and mineral kingdom and this grew in some of my darker moments when anxiety and depression was looming, in a sense they saved me. My passion for opal began around 2015 when at the Southern Rock Hounds Gem and Mineral festival with my dad I was introduced to opal via dads friend, I came away with a bag of mostly potch but I was instantly hooked, holding the plastic bag trying to capture the sunlight on the chips floating around the bag, looking for any flicker of colour. I added to my rock collection, read about rocks, minerals and started lapidary, I haven't looked back.

After my first visit to Andamooka I was amazed at the Post office museum and inspired by Minnie Berrington's artifacts, I knew I wanted to try my own hand at opal mining and I remember posting on social media about Minnie and writing 'if Minnie could do it back then in the harsh conditions with so much less than we have now, then so can I', that was in Sept 2019.

Fast forward to now and my family and I are now living in Andamooka and I can say I'm an opal miner, very much a newbie but an opal miner. I feel very lucky to have met

wonderful people here, mentors and friends who are willing to help out, lend me tools and teach me valuable knowledge of the opal fields, which I pass on to my children whilst we mine together. My 6 year old can swing a pick better than me! Being out on my claim I have found has done wonders for my mental health as does visiting the Lapidary shed when I can. I have learnt and continue to learn more to the skill of lapidary and it's a wonderful space to socialize with amazing people, much more than just a place to cut and polish stones!

Prior to moving to Andamooka I felt lost in what to do with myself, I knew I wanted to take my passion for opal further but didn't know what that looked like. Upon moving here, I now have a job, an opal claim, space to think out of the box and create my visions, I have something just for me again. I am part of the Minnie Berrington project, which truly is a labour of love for me, I feel so grateful to be helping bring her story to light. Minnie inspires me everyday as do many of the people I have met here in Andamooka.

Thank you for welcoming us into your community.

- Olivia Newell



## 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

Power Cards @ Post Office

#### Andamooka Powerhouse:

8672 7235

**Town Office:** 0477 184 485

School Rd

Open: Tue-Thur, 10am - 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 Dine-A-Mite Cafe:

Opal Creek Blvd. PH 0409 512 692

Located at the Community Hall

#### Andamooka Caravan Park & Playground:

0477 184 485

Opal Creek Blvd.

**Bottle Shop:** 8672 7183

Opal Creek Blvd. Open 7 Days

**CWA:** 8672 7044

Andamooka Boo-Teek Op Shop

Open Fri & Sat, 9am - 12pm

Top of CWA Rd

#### Motor Vehicle Registration:

Roxby Downs Town Council

**Roving Vet:** 8642 3308

For more details, visit:

[www.andamooka.sa.au](http://www.andamooka.sa.au)

## ANDAMOOKA PROGRESS AND OPAL MINERS ASSOCIATION INC.

### Points from Committee Meetings July & August:

- Grants and funding – on track and on budget. Acquittals and reports up to date. New development grant opportunities coming up to continue development of the central hub and campground/ grader shed precincts. Also for roads, trails and community programs.
- Financials – the new GST branch system is working well especially as our asset base and development, and our community programs are expanding, as are income streams.
- Budget – 2020-21 basically on budget. Surplus funds into projects. C&C Ground income higher again. Bus replacement fund growing.
- Budget 2021-22 – CARM funding improved. Budget passed by community. Currently on budget, with the Town Budget still being worked on to incorporate new income streams and grants. This will be presented to the community at the AGM.
- Committee met informally with BHP to discuss the future of their operations and that of the town, and how we can work together in a beneficial relationship. Very productive discussion included the proposed Borefield connector BHP keen to meet with the community this year. Forum to be arranged.
- Committee and community program coordinators met with RFDS consultants to discuss community health and wellbeing concerns and issues. Positive and productive meeting to be followed up for further discussion and action.
- Committee meeting with OCA representatives in attendance covered several urgent matters including the ongoing issues with the town water pipeline which is now being resolved, asset management, roads, community programs and projects and funding opportunities.
- Andamooka will have broad representation at the OCA Outback Futures forum in September. Six locals are attending covering tourism and tourism projects/infrastructure, community programs and importantly finances and funding as we move towards a new model of funding in 2023. It is essential that Andamooka's unique position in a range of small outback towns is fully discussed so that the town does not come out of this worse off than it is under our current system.

### Financials as at end July 2021:

Operations Account: \$182,723

Debit Card: \$5,790

Allocated Funds: \$46,300

Project Account: \$29,216

Reserve Funds: \$15,577

### 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.

## ANDAMOOKA TOWN OFFICE

YOUR ONE-STOP SHOP FOR OCA, APOMA & TOWN BUSINESS

OPEN TUESDAY - THURSDAY

10AM - 3:00PM

### URGENT ENQUIRIES

OCA: 08 8648 5970

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](mailto:oca@sa.gov.au)

APOMA/Town Office: [secretary@apoma.com.au](mailto:secretary@apoma.com.au)

Town Maintenance/Projects: [admin1@apoma.com.au](mailto:admin1@apoma.com.au)

Events & Memberships: [admin3@apoma.com.au](mailto:admin3@apoma.com.au)

Newsletter: [admin2@apoma.com.au](mailto:admin2@apoma.com.au)

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

CCS & Avdata payments accepted at Post Office

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; to 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:** Ian Thompson

**Secretary:** Rodney Mitchell

**Treasurer:** Gill Rowley

PO Box 246 Andamooka SA 5722

**Email:** [secretary@apoma.com.au](mailto:secretary@apoma.com.au)

### NEXT MEETING

TBA September 2021

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

[www.andamooka.sa.au](http://www.andamooka.sa.au)

### PUBLISHER

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PO Box 246 Andamooka SA 5722

**Email:** [admin2@apoma.com.au](mailto:admin2@apoma.com.au)

**M:** 0477 184 485

**Chair:** Ian Thompson

**CIRCULATION:** 250 hard copies & Digital distribution by web and email.

**Web:** [www.andamooka.sa.au](http://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](mailto:treasurer@apoma.com.au)

**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.





# APOMA NEWS & NOTICES



**Andamooka Progress and Opal Miners Association Inc.**

*'Preserving our past and planning for our future'*

**: NOTICE :**

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – Sunday October 24<sup>th</sup> 2021**

**COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS OPEN**

**FOR ELECTION ON TO THE APOMA COMMITTEE of MANAGEMENT**

**FOR TERM COMMENCING October 2021**

**Elections will take place at the APOMA Annual General Meeting, to be held Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2021, Andamooka Community Hall.**

To nominate for election to the Andamooka Progress & Opal Miners Association (APOMA) Committee of Management, nominators and candidates need to be eligible, and must fill in and sign the APOMA nomination form available from the website, by email or directly from the Andamooka Town Office, and must lodge this with The Secretary, APOMA by the due date as below.

Signed original forms only will be accepted via:

- Post to PO Box 246, Andamooka SA 5722 to be received by final post, Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2021
- By email scan of the original form to [secretary@apoma.com.au](mailto:secretary@apoma.com.au) This must be verified by telephone call by the Secretary to the nominator, seconder, and nominee by 12.00 noon Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2021
- or by lodging the form at the Town Office, located School Road, Andamooka, by 12.00 noon Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> 2021.

**Nominations are open from Thursday 26th August 2021 and close at 12.00 noon on Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2021 under the above conditions of acceptance.**

*To be eligible for nomination, persons must be a financial member of APOMA for a period of three months prior to nomination. To be eligible to nominate or to second, persons must be a financial member of APOMA and eligible to vote requiring the expiration of one full month from joining the Association prior to placing the nomination. Retiring or seconded members of the Committee are eligible to stand for election or re-election without nomination. It is the sole responsibility of members to check their financial status before signing this form.*

For assistance, please contact the Secretary via Phone or SMS on 0477 184 485 or email: [secretary@apoma.com.au](mailto:secretary@apoma.com.au)

Andamooka Progress & Opal Miners Association Incorporated (APOMA)  
Postal: PO Box 246 Andamooka SA 5722 email: [secretary@apoma.com.au](mailto:secretary@apoma.com.au) [www.andamooka.sa.au](http://www.andamooka.sa.au)  
Phone: 0477 184 485

## Community Contribution Scheme (CCS)

Quarterly Payments  
Avdata Water Payments &  
Keys managed at the

**Andamooka Post Office**

Reminder that the next CCS  
Contributions are due.

**MAKE SURE YOUR CONCERNS  
OR COMPLAINTS REACH THE  
RIGHT PLACE FOR ATTENTION**

*The OCA is the responsible body to manage and have addressed issues, concerns or complaints about:*

◇ **ROADS:** Including major external access roads, outer tracks and town roads.

◇ **CAT & DOG (Not feral) ISSUES:** Including attacks, nuisance, wandering and other serious concerns.

◇ **DUMP**

Please call direct: (08) 8648 5970 or after hours if necessary Byron Gough: 0427 687 772

*Or visit the Andamooka Town Office who will assist your call to the OCA via the Office.*

## APOMA MEMBERSHIPS

**APOMA 2020 memberships  
lapsed end of March 2021.**

*To make your vote count, please make sure that you have paid-up your 2021 membership fees.*

**Fees can be paid at the Town Office or online to: NAB**

BSB:085 896 Acc: 2425 11591

**MY LITTLE DESERT SUPPLY CO**  
**WATER**

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Old Kingoonya Road, Pimba SA

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**Cash paid for all deposit-able items**

**Bottle Collection**  
Fortnightly at the Tuckabox

# KEEPING UP WITH BUSINESS

## ON OUR WAY FORWARD...

Andamooka is busy. There is a lot happening right across the town with lots of new things popping up throughout the town, buses dropping in, the kitchen Bakehouse is busy serving homemade fare to visitors and locals when the Dine-a-mite café is closed on Mondays and Tuesdays, our SALA exhibition at the community hall has expanded again this year and open until the first week of September, and Friday nights are abuzz at the community hall with great food served from the Café.

Quietly in the background a lot of work is going into community programs and services. There are some who might feel forgotten in the current urgency to meet grant deadlines for construction of our new recreation, sport and youth facility and upgrades to other facilities to accommodate the program expansion. But please rest assured this is not the case.

**Our Youth program:** the new youth facility incorporated in the Recreation complex offers so much more scope for youth activities and a new program is being worked on by youth coordinators Donna Waters and Ali Maleckas, who are also working with the Town Office on the interior features for the youth space.

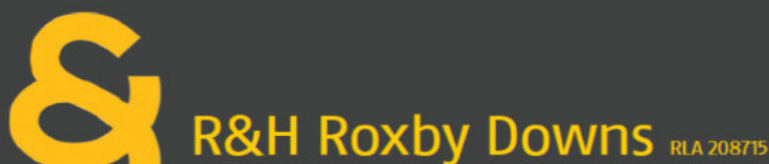
**Our Seniors Program:** with around 60% of our residents over the age of 50, this program is progressively expanding to offer more services and activities for our seniors to ensure their wellbeing. Our next seniors' luncheon is being planned for October, where you can chat with members of the committee about your ideas and concerns, and also talk with various service providers to learn more about how they can assist or support you.

Currently, the community church building is being upgraded to not only provide a place of solace and worship for members of our community, but to also create a passive community recreational space that will accommodate a senior's hub where they can meet to perhaps simply share morning tea and conversation with others, maybe join in Wacky Wednesday activities, perhaps join in an art or craft morning, or enjoy a movie together.

Our seniors' coordinators Ali Maleckas and Kath Wilby, together with Ally Smoker and Rodney Mitchell from the APOMA committee, have been listening to and seeking feedback from seniors about what they consider they need and what they would like to see included in our seniors program.

The recent visit by RFDS consultants brought a variety of concerns to light from seniors who attended the informal discussions. *Thank you to those, who made the time to put those concerns forward on behalf of others in our senior community.* Following the open forum, representatives of the APOMA Committee and seniors' programs met with the consultants to put forward our concerns and seek solutions for the future in a very productive discussion. We will follow up results of the RFDS consultation and will continue to press for solutions to be put in place.

*So, look out for the invitation to come along to the seniors' luncheons, where you can find out more about what's on, what's available and what's happening for seniors in Andamooka.*



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Shop 4/14 Tutop Street, Roxby Downs  
 Telephone: 08 8671 3355 Fax: 08 8671 3366  
 Email: [info@roxbydowns.rh.com.au](mailto:info@roxbydowns.rh.com.au)

### Our roads and signage program:

The ongoing town road maintenance service has frustrated many residents, businesses and organisations over the course of many years, but this has improved over the past couple of years with the OCA, Northern Earthmovers and Town Office working together on schedules and problems.

We have gone from a town that looked after its own roads from the mid 1900's. APOMA had a town grader expertly operated by volunteers who drove that and other equipment to keep our roads in good order until the roads were assigned to the care of DPTI. Works are contracted out to a local earthmoving operator, and this helps to support his business which is also critical to servicing our opal mining industry and town development.

However, DPTI imposed restrictions and funding shortfalls on our roads. We have continued to argue that an additional \$20,000 per annum would see our roads maintained in an orderly manner, also for the need to maintain the Torrens Lake Track and the difficult first stage of the track out to Stuart Creek, and other sections currently deemed outside of the works schedule.

These works would assist with economic returns and business development for the town which would result from major events, increased visitor numbers, new or expanded tourist operations, new jobs and the attraction and retention of residents.

This year, the OCA was able to make DPTI road grant funding available to upgrade our local roads and a year with little storm damage left enough in the kitty for the outer roads and tracks to be repaired and tidied up to assist access to local tourist attractions. Keeping these tracks accessible is vital to our tourism economy which is a primary driver for town sustainability and growth, so we will continue to lobby for those to remain maintained.

**Road signage:** At last, the DPTI 'brown directional sign' to 'Andamooka opal town' has been erected on each side of the Pimba turnoff, so finally Andamooka is 'on the map', so that tourists and travellers know they are at the right turn-off, where we are and what we do.

### Our History Program:

A new inclusive approach is being implemented across our community to research, recreate, display and celebrate our extraordinary Town's history from our beginnings and to promote how that can contribute so much to our community as we progress into our future.....

**The 'Decade by Decade' history project** has struggled over the past 18 months due to disruptions related to Covid 19 restrictions and risks. But behind the scenes we are forging ahead with collating our historic records and interpreting these into a History Trail, which will incorporate the 'Minnie Berrington Trail'. This Trail follows an amazing tale and will extend from the Mid North to Coober Pedy and culminate in Andamooka. This regional Trail is being developed right here in Andamooka in conjunction with the Minnie Berrington documentary, the production of which is also experiencing delays due to Covid 19 events.

### Arts Community:

This amazingly talented, diverse and vibrant community is expanding making arts a primary economic driver for our town. As our town's reputation as an outback arts centre grows so will visitation, in turn encouraging new investment and residents.

As the arts community grows, so will their infrastructure and business opportunities. The Community Hall is a developing cultural centre incorporating a new community shop and exhibitions spaces, plus an everyday pop-up market-place to create vibrancy and interest, and a selling forum for local artists.

The active Lapidary Group is expanding and a small grant from Easternwell will fund expansion of their headquarters on the corner of Christmas Hill Rd. and Opal Creek Blvd. The 'Lap Shed' attracts many visitors who not only come to watch, but also to actually try their hand under expert guidance to cut and polish opal that they have found when out fossicking.

We will be working with the Arts community around funding opportunities that can support programs, events, and development to assist growth and marketing. It is the Arts that we believe will become a primary 'arch' supporting our town's future economy and will also bring a greater depth into our already multi-cultural and multi-talented township.

### The next critical step:

The vital importance of Community Programs to our town and community is well recognized, and vital to the next development stage, which is to create a vibrant economy utilizing the infrastructure network which has been rationalized and developed to form a sound foundation to build this upon.

*Community collaboration and cooperation is the key to this growth*, ensuring that we progress at a pace that will make sure that existing business can consolidate and grow and importantly, remain viable, but simultaneously encourage emerging and new business opportunities to compliment growth.

**Skills and Jobs:** a community program is being rationalized and developed to ensure that we re-build a local skills base to sustain business growth by developing management skills and job ready workers to fill local positions across a variety of pathways and needs.

**I wonder if you can see that we are back to where we started back in the 1940's?** A strong, determined and resilient community that will rise to the challenge of creating a town that is great to live in, great to visit, and... which has a future.... *but this time, not built on a single primary source of income.*

Existing toilet at the Community Church - To be replaced



**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

Australian Government

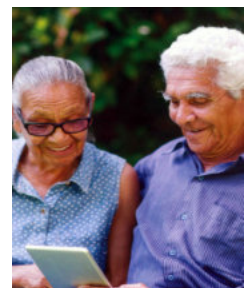
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Sessions for 2021: TBA

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# ANDAMOOKA COMMUNITY PROJECTS

## GRANT AND PROJECT REPORT:

Community projects are progressing well. There have been hold-ups with deliveries of materials due to a national transport backlog, and this has extended the finalization by around a month, of the new Recreation, Sport and Youth Centre as well as the upgrade of the community church building to a community passive recreation facility which will continue to accommodate worship as well as create welcoming headquarters for our Seniors and for other passive community activities.

At this stage we hope to see the youth program operating out of the new Centre around the end of October and the seniors into their headquarters a little ahead of that, with those upgraded facilities also available for community use.



This Community Facilities Grant is running to budget and we are in the process of ordering a new toilet unit to service the recreation precinct area which encompasses the grader shed and new rec centre and waiting on news of a grant submission made to assist with the cost of this.

The Country Arts SA Grant for the Minnie Berrington project has been successfully acquitted and progress is ramping up on the rebuild of the original post office and other historic structures that will be included in the filming of the documentary.

We have recently received a \$2000 grant from Easternwell towards erecting a veranda to the front of the Lapidary Shed.

BHP Vital Resource Funding continues to enable and support development of new services and facilities that will serve to build our local economy.

*We thank our sponsors and supporters for their generous and much needed funding towards our towns development and services, and our volunteers for their dedicated assistance with projects.*



Desert Threadz

FASHION FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

118 Christmas Hill Road Andamooka  
Find us on Facebook, Instagram and at  
[www.desertthreadz.com](http://www.desertthreadz.com)



# THINGS TO DO AND SEE IN ANDAMOOKA

## Lapidary Group Updates

We've had a wonderful few weeks' at the Lapidary Shed, with members continuing to polish amazing stones and trying their hands at silversmithing with group coordinator, Greg.

There have been lots of visitors to the shed, enjoying themselves and learning lots about the art of Lapidary. Marie Bartels visited and was staying at our campgrounds, where she found herself a 51ct opal in the public noodling area. She was advised and helped by local Jonny Klinoskvi, to visit the Lapidary Shed where Greg and other group members advised her on how to cut and polish her stone.

The results are amazing, she ended up with a 27ct beautiful opal. What an awesome find and great polish job Marie. There is something very special in finding your own opal and slowly revealing its beauty to the final polish.

We are very excited to announce that the Lapidary Program has received a \$2000 grant from



Easternwell for materials and the build of a veranda structure out the front of the shed, giving us more space for more equipment and for social interaction. Thank you Easternwell for seeing the potential in this wonderful group and program.

The Lapidary shed is now open on a Sunday's 12pm-4pm as well as its usual Saturday 10am-2pm

All members and visitors please be advised that masks are now required. Please bring your own.

- Olivia Newell

## 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.*

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

Unlimited nights at **\$3 per person, per night**  
Or **\$10 per night** with power (2 people)  
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All-Weather sealed road from Stuart Hwy

**Grid ref: 30.4499 S / 137.1635 E**

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Phone 0409 512 692

**DINE-A-MITE  
CAFE**

Open Wednesday- Sunday 9am-3pm  
Including Friday Night until 8pm

LOCATED IN THE ANDAMOOKA COMMUNITY HALL

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MINER'S SHACKS**  
SHORT-STAY ACCOMMODATION

*Step back in time... relaxed pace...*

**Stay for a Weekend, Holiday  
or Short-Term Rent**

Accommodates 2 up to 8 People  
Fully Enclosed Outdoor Space with BBQ  
Family & Pet Friendly

**Ph: 0427 508 075**



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 Community Hall

**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

## JANUARY

26th: Australia Day

## FEBRUARY

14th: Valentines Day

## MARCH

## APRIL

2nd: Good Friday BBQ  
 25th: Anzac Day

## MAY

6th: SALA Registrations Due

## JUNE

**June Long Weekend**  
 - 11th: Dine-A-Mite Pizza Night  
 - 13th: Geology Presentation  
 - 13th: Ribs, Shanks & Shashliks  
 26th: 'Death by Carrot' Concert

## JULY

Dog Registration Due

29th: SALA Exhibition  
 Installation

31th: SALA Launch Event

## AUGUST

1st- 31st: SALA Festival

## SEPTEMBER

7th: SALA Exhibition  
 Disassmbly and Closing Event

12th: BINGO

## OCTOBER

October Long Weekend

24th: APOMA AGM

31st: Halloween

## NOVEMBER

2nd: All Souls  
 11th: Rememberence Day

## DECEMBER

25th: Christmas



### 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

## The Bakehouse @ The Community Kitchen

Serving in the Community  
Hall Courtyard

**MONDAYS & TUESDAYS**

**OPEN FROM 10 AM**

**LAST ORDERS: 1:30 PM**

**RANGE OF HOMEMADE**

- Pies
- Sausage Rolls
- Toasties
- Cakes
- And More!

**A GREAT SELECTION OF**

- Coffee
- Tea
- Kombucha
- Coconut Water

**CHECK FACEBOOK FOR  
WEEKLY SPECIALS**

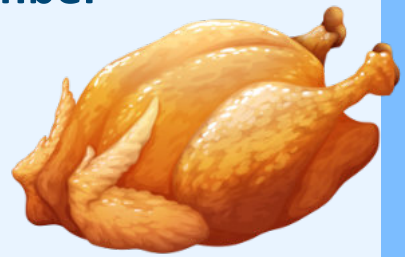
**@ AndamookaHub**

**Bakehouse** Temporarily closed due to unforeseen circumstances, but will be back up and running before you know it. Please watch Facebook for details!

## NEXT TUESDAY CHOOK NIGHT

14<sup>th</sup> September

with an  
Asian  
flavour!



## BINGO

**Sunday, 12th September**

At The Andamooka Community Hall

**1:00 PM Arrival**

**1:30 PM Start**

**BYO Drinks and Nibbles.**

Proceeds raised go towards  
seniors programs.

## BINGO

**EVERY THIRD SUNDAY**

**1:30 PM at the Community Hall**

All proceeds go towards new community facilities

**NEXT DATES  
SEP 12th**



# THE CREATIVE CORNER

SHOWCASING LOCAL ARTISTS

**SALA 2021**  
GET READY FOR ARTY ANDAMOOKA



## SALA IS HERE!

After a short delay due to COVID restrictions, the SALA exhibition is up and in full swing! Drop by the Hall and check out a wonderful array of creations by locals and wannbe locals!

The exhibition will be in place throughout the month of August, closing on September 7<sup>th</sup> with a casual meet while the artwork is being taken down.

Most artworks are available for purchase, with sales being conducted through the town office.



**SALA Exhibition "Arty Andamooka" @ Andamooka Community Hall**

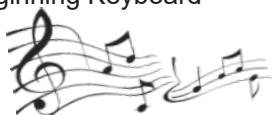
## Music Tuition

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](mailto:admin2@apoma.com.au)

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



# A BLAST FROM THE PAST

- BY WAYNE DRIES

Minnie and Victor Berrington disembarked from the twin screw steamer S.S Bendigo in Adelaide on the 3rd of February 1926, after a 47 day voyage from Tilbury, the principal part of London, England.

With an interest in radios and mechanics, Victor quickly found work with bush traders servicing stations in the north of the state, while Minnie found work as a domestic helper in Kingswood, Adelaide. Her book begins at this point "Come if you possibly can. The train only runs once a fortnight. It's called the Afghan Express. It takes a day and a half to reach this siding, which is six hundred miles north of Adelaide", so read the invitation from her brother and as Minnie put it, "the idea of a settled job in Adelaide faded into a shadow and was replaced by the alluring prospect of freedom and adventure."

One week later with a large suitcase in hand she sought out the Afghan Express, destination 'Wonderland'. It was aboard the Ghan, at a point north of Quorn that she experienced her first taste of bush hospitality. That night unprepared for the cold winter inland temperatures, she arranged a bed as best as she could on one of the trains bench seats, using her suitcase as a pillow and an overcoat covering the top portion of her body, she attempted to sleep. "The train was stationary and I could hear the deep breathing of the engine. Feigning sleep I surveyed the scene around me with half closed eyelids. Four men had entered the far end of the carriage, bearing with them an assortment of suitcases. Each man also had a roll of grey or coloured blankets, fastened with straps. I shivered and wish one was mine. As they caught sight of me their voices became more subdued, but I had already learnt they were shearers. One of them spoke and the others glanced with low laughs in my direction. Apprehension gripped me, but I remained motionless, watching."

"The one who had spoken crept stealthily towards me. Petrified with fright, I shut my eyes and clenched my teeth-frozen, in more senses than one. And then...a delicious warmth stole over me. Gently he had laid one of his blankets across my legs. Glowing with warmth and gratitude, I must have slept again almost at once." The trains arrival at Beltanna was heralded by the sudden chilling of her legs as the shearers departed and the one who had lent his blanket, re claimed it.

"With a few preliminary jolts and jerks, the Ghan resumed it's journey. Constant peerings through the window assured me that dawn was beginning. As we rounded a slight rise of ground, I sat, spellbound with delight and scarcely breathing. Before me a large campfire burned brightly, and round it, their faces ruddy in the glow moved a number of men wearing open-necked blue shirts and wide-brimmed hats. Behind them and silhouetted against the pale lemon of dawn, their humps and disdainful heads clear cut, were the forms of half a dozen camels. Romance and adventure had come to life before my eyes. I to be part of this, who so short a time ago had been typing in a London basement office! As the scene passed out of sight, I thanked the Ghan in my heart for not going very fast."

It was at sunrise, at a point between Beltana and Marree that Minnie Berrington first viewed the country she penned a 'Wonderland'. Unimpressed with the pre-dawn sight she writes, "My expectations were smothered with disappointment. But at that moment the sun rose, and I knew what Rodger (Victor) meant. It was pure magic. A golden light suffused everything, the air was so clear it seemed to sparkle, and the hills were as sharp cut as the cardboard ones that look so impossible on stage. Even the trees seemed to dance differently. The sand was a lovely shade of rose. The enchantment of that golden serenity was so complete that I knew I'd never willingly live in a city again."

That mode of thought set the stage for the next 25 years of her life. By breakfast the train had reached Marree, and after a brief stop at Coward Springs resumed its journey.

The Facebook group supporting and sharing local artists and creatives:



Join Us On Facebook:

@ARTYANDAMOOKA



## LAPIDARY WORKSHOP

OPENING HOURS: SATURDAYS, 10AM - 2PM

HOURS SUBJECT TO CHANGE OVER THE HOLIDAY PERIOD

## Obituary for Betty Christensen

Mrs Betty Christensen, born 8<sup>th</sup> May, 1925. Passed away peacefully on the 16<sup>th</sup> August, 2021 at her home in Andamooka, aged 96 years.

Devoted wife of Henry (Hank) Christensen (Dec)

Loving mother of 8 children

Beloved Grandmother of 14 grandchildren

Great Grandmother to 7 great grandchildren

**Funeral, Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> August. Public graveside committal at Andamooka Cemetery at 3:30pm**



CINEMATICA FILMS & APOMA PRESENTS

# The Minnie Berrington Project

*From Foundation to Future!*

Would you like to be a Film Producer? Well now you can be! We need YOU! Support the Minnie Berrington Project

### Fundraising for Minnie Berrington Community Film Project



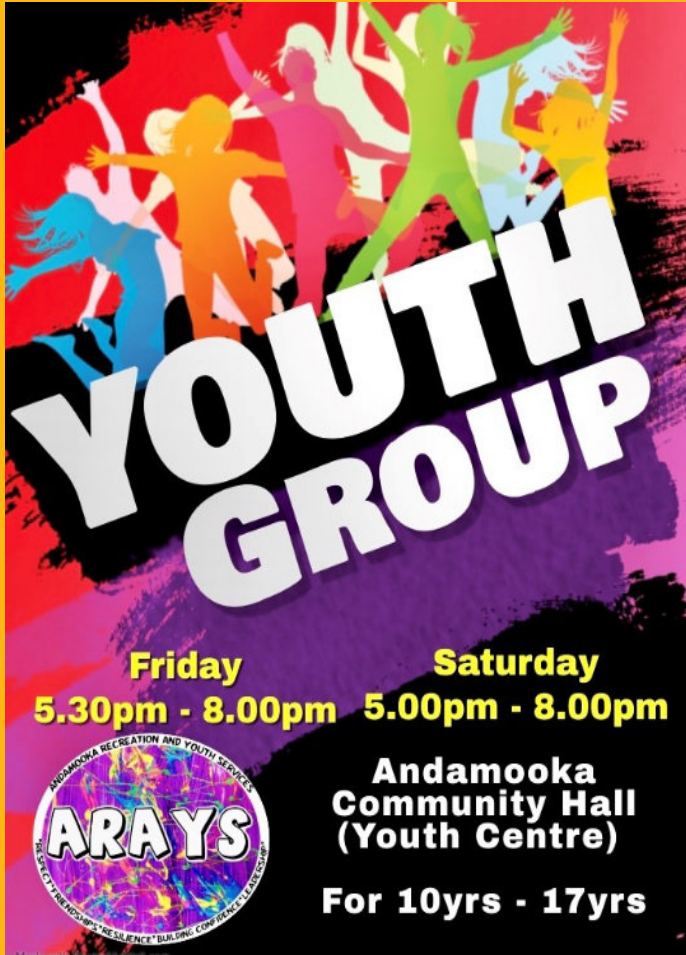
Ali Smoker is a keen local photographer and has very kindly donated these wonderful garden ornaments to help fundraise for our community project.

Made from recycled items these cute Bumble Bees and Lady Bugs make a lovely addition to your garden.

All the funds raised from your purchase go towards the making of our Minnie Berrington Film project or if you would like to just donate to the project please click on the QR Code to find out more and make a donation to support our project

Purchase a Bumble Bee or Lady Bug  
\$5 for large or \$3 for Small





**Friday** 5.30pm - 8.00pm      **Saturday** 5.00pm - 8.00pm

**Andamooka Community Hall (Youth Centre)**

**For 10yrs - 17yrs**

**ARAYS**

ANDAMOOKA RECREATION AND YOUTH SERVICES  
 ANDAMOOKA RESILIENCE \* BUILDING CONFIDENCE \* FOSTERING



## SENIORS GROUP

The group has been meeting each Wednesday at the Community Hall from 10am to 12noon

We have acquired new board games to offer new challenges and fun for our members There's always someone keen to join you in a game

And if we don't have a game you like to play please tell us and we'll get it in! Rather than sitting at home alone or feeling bored come on down! A friendly welcome from cheery folks is guaranteed And if you don't have transport or need a lift please call Gill at the APOMA Office to arrange it.

Last month we unfortunately had to farewell a well-known Andamooka resident, artist & joke teller when "Tarzan" left to live in Adelaide

A Farewell Luncheon of roast chicken and roast pork with delicious vegetables was arranged for the Community at the Hall and many people attended to give Tarzan a heartfelt send off

Local identities spoke about his exploits and a few secrets were told about this great man

Tarzan was visibly moved at the expressions of love and respect spoken And so you're off on your next adventure Tarzan! You will be missed

The Senior's Group has had meetings disrupted by COVID restrictions meaning we've had a few weeks when we could not open but we've ensured we can now operate safely each week and look forward to increased numbers to participate in enjoyable activities together

Within the next few months we anticipate moving into our "New Home" - the old Church on the hill which is currently being renovated to provide us with an air-conditioned building with new kitchen and toilet facilities plus a large carpeted area making a comfortable and welcoming "Senior's Special Place"

Until then we invite all local residents over 50 to join us at the Community Hall on Wednesdays to enjoy the company of others, perhaps to play a board game, computer game or simply have a chat over a nice cuppa

Hope to welcome you soon.

- From Katalin and Alil

**CellarbratiOns**  
 Helping you celebrate

**CHECK OUR SPECIALS**

1002 DODGY DRIVE  
 ANDAMOOKA

(08) 8672 71183

**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.**



# POLICE REPORT



On the 10th of July police stopped a male driving on Lenke Road. A 52 year old driver from Andamooka returned a positive roadside test and was taken to the Roxby Downs Police Station for follow up testing. He returned a breath alcohol content of 0.124. He was issued with a six month instant loss of licence, his vehicle was impounded and he will be summonsed to appear in court at a later date.

On the 20th of July police stopped a vehicle after leaving an address on Hallion Hill Road. Police had reason to search the vehicle containing two females, and located a small amount of Meth-Amphetamine. These drugs were seized and the female was reported for the matter, and issued a drug diversion compliance notice.

If anyone has any information, they are asked to contact the Roxby Downs police station on 8671 4200, or if you wish to remain anonymous please contact Crime-stoppers on 1800 333 000.

Thank you

Senior Constable First Class Tristan Fantinel  
Roxby Downs Police Station  
South Australia Police  
8671 4200




**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  
f Eddie Hughes MP

## 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

(in Outback SA)

Ask to speak with the on-call RFDS Doctor

# 1800 RFDS SA

1800 733 772

**HF Radio**  
4010 kHz  
6890 kHz  
8165 kHz



Royal Flying Doctor Service  
CENTRAL OPERATIONS

## 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](http://www.saambulance.com.au)



Australian Government



myagedcare

Ph: 1800 200 422

[www.myagedcare.gov.au](http://www.myagedcare.gov.au)





# LET'S NOT UNDO ALL THE GOOD.

Keep playing your part to help Stop the Spread



Keep practising good hygiene



Stay 1.5 metres apart



Download the COVIDSafeapp

For more information  
[StopTheSpread.sa.gov.au](http://StopTheSpread.sa.gov.au)



Government of South Australia  
 SA Health



Centacare Catholic Country SA can provide the following services:

- Emergency Relief
- Budgeting Support
- Financial Counselling

Please call **1800 759 865** to refer yourself or someone else, or to check your eligibility for these services.



1800 759 865  
[WWW.CCCSA.ORG.AU](http://WWW.CCCSA.ORG.AU)



Andamooka Primary School



Find us on Facebook

Visit: [www.andamooka.sa.edu.au](http://www.andamooka.sa.edu.au)

For the latest school news @AndamookaPrimarySchool

Phone: (08) 86727018

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

## ANDAMOOKA COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Open Weekdays, 12pm - 4pm  
 Except Public Holidays

PRINT/COPY SERVICES AVAILABLE

FREE WI-FI, TEA & COFFEE

## 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**



### FIGHT the BITE

★ COVER UP. REPEL. ELIMINATE. ★

RISKS	PREVENTION
<p>MOSQUITOES CAN SPREAD <b>SERIOUS DISEASE</b></p>	<p><b>1</b> WAY TO PROTECT YOURSELF AND YOUR FAMILY: <b>AVOID BEING BITTEN</b></p>
<p><b>20+</b> SPECIES OF MOZZIE FOUND IN SA</p>	<p><b>COVER UP:</b> WEAR LONG, LOOSE FITTING CLOTHING</p>
<p><b>2</b> MOSQUITO-BORNE DISEASES COMMON IN SA</p>	<p><b>REPEL:</b> USE INSECT REPELLENT</p>
<p><b>0</b> CURES OR VACCINES FOR ROSS RIVER AND BARMAN FOREST VIRUS</p>	<p><b>ELIMINATE:</b> THE WATER THEY BREED IN</p>

[www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/fightthebite](http://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

**Snuggle In For Winter**  
*Visit the Legendary*

## 'Boo-Teek' OP Shop

Top of CWA Road

**Warm Cloths on the Rack**

Roll in and rug up!

**Regular Hours: Friday and Saturday**

9am to 12pm

**Andamooka CWA**

*Proceeds support local & other charities*



**Southern Ocean Construction**

**Asbestos Removal - Remove and Reinstall**

Remove the health risk and increase your property value

**Ph 0429 954 125 - Curtis Wilson**

BL 36659, Asbestos Lic 94870, EPA Licenced.  
Victor Harbour SA 5211, Kangaroo Island SA 5223

[www.southoceanconstruction.com](http://www.southoceanconstruction.com)

**Quotes • Advice**

**What's On In Andamooka**

Find us on  
**Facebook**  
[@andamookaportal](https://www.facebook.com/@andamookaportal)

**To find the latest updates & info on:**

- Local Events
- Community Occasions
- Workshops
- BINGO
- Special Info Nights
- Astronomical Events
- Meetings & More...

**Want to try Fossicking?**  
Visit the Post Office  
& talk to their friendly staff for all the information and equipment you need to get started.

# SES / CFS

CFS: John West: 0404 807 943

SES: Stefan Bilka 0427 181 752

**FIRE EMERGENCY CALL 000**

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



**Rowan Ramsey MP**

Federal Member for Grey

*My office can help with Federal issues including Centrelink, Immigration, Communications, Veterans Affairs & many more.*

Please contact Rowan's Office 1300 301 742 or 86331744

Email: rowan.ramsey.mp@aph.gov.au

PO BOX 296 Port Pirie SA 5540

**ANDAMOOKA MASSAGE THERAPIST**

**Therese Schofield – Qualified Trainer and Assessor**  
Remedial/Deep Tissue/Relaxation/Hot Stone/Indian Head Massage Therapist  
Qualified in Disability, Aged Care, and Palliative Care Therapy

Phone: 0427334883

Email: therese.scho@bigpond.com

**105.5 RoxFM**

Local live and loving it  
[www.rox\\_fm.com.au](http://www.rox_fm.com.au)

**Contact:**

**Station Manager**  
manager@foxfm.com.au

08 8671 2545

**SMS Request Line:**

0407 979 918



PO BOX 642  
Roxby Downs SA 5725

**2012 SACBA**  
Small Station of the Year

Please register to receive your newsletter via email, or to register someone you know who would need a print copy

**Email: admin2@apoma.com.au or call / text (m) 0477 184 485**