



THE ANDAMOOKA PRESS

January / February 2016

Volume 6, Issue 1

First published in 1973

ACROSS THE EDITOR'S DESK:

- ◇ Apologies. Due to a change of editor, the late January and February editions have been combined.
- ◇ Unfortunately some regular features have not been included due to time constraints.
- ◇ Your input is both welcome and vital. So please let's all work together to get the March issue out by the end of the month.
- ◇ Please contact Gill on 0427508075 for queries on placing articles, notices or advertisements

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Header photo: Storm clouds at sunrise, White Dam. GR

NEW YEAR OFF TO A BRIGHT START IN ANDAMOOKA

Andamooka's townsfolk are busy getting back to business following the traditional exodus over the Christmas break.

We were all delighted to see the Tuckabox re-open when Johnnie & Anna returned from their family holiday, the AYC café reopened its doors on March 5 and the store is back to regular hours. Much to everyone's relief Jim and Rob had toughed it out with business as usual at the Bottle Shop over the long, hot holiday break.

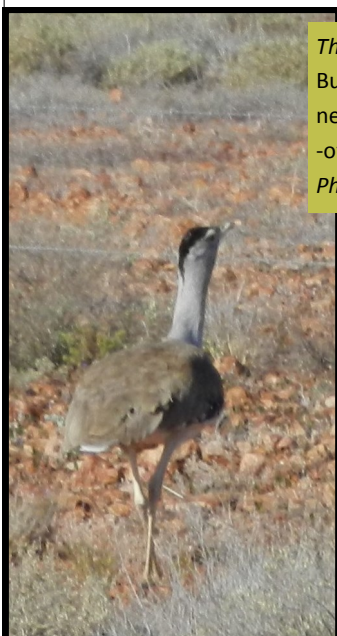
Our youngsters returned to school to be met with the news that their beloved Principal, Debbie Pagsanjan has sadly resigned and we are now awaiting the appointment of a new Principal. We will all miss Debbie and her go-getter approach. The school is currently in the good hands of Acting Principal, John Sutton. Check the new Library hours on page 2.

The popular CWA Boo-Teek op-shop got back to business raising funds for our hospital and other charities. See page 2 for regular opening hours.

Planning is now underway for 2016 community events so keep an eye on the 12 month calendar of events in future newsletters and save the dates.

There were many working groups and community activities during 2015. This year there is much work to do on tasks such as researching, recording and archiving our historic records, continuing with restoration projects, more tree planting, maintaining the machinery display, establishing walking trails, and the KESAB clean-up days. All serving to build Andamooka into a great place to live and a special place to visit.

The Ping-pong competitions have been revived, there are darts teams, art and craft groups, Youth Group activities, Sports Shooters Assoc., a walking group, gardening group and so much more. So why not make it your new year's resolution to get involved and enjoy your community.



This months photo:
Bush Turkey , spotted near White Dam turn-off, July 2015.
Photo: G Rowley

WEBSITE PHOTO GALLERY

Please help us develop a true picture of Andamooka on our website. We encourage you to submit your photos of everything from wildlife to social gatherings. Each month we will publish the 'Photo of the Month' in the Newsletter and that will be uploaded onto the website photo gallery together with other selected photos from those submitted.

Submissions are also invited for the header photo at the top of the front page. Aim is to represent our spectacular skies by month.

COMMUNITY & VISITOR INFORMATION

Police: 86727072

SES/CFS:

John West: 0408807943

Stefan Bilka: 0427181752

Andamooka Medical Service:

Hospital Road 86727087

See page 6 for daily clinic hours.

After Hours: Emergencies only.

Post Office: Open 7 days.

Dukes Bottlehouse Motel:

Laundry-mat:

Opal Creek Blvd. 86727007

Mines Office: 86727017

Hrs: 6-12/1-5 Tues & Wed,
6-11 Thurs

Andamooka Powerhouse:

86727135

Power cards: Friendly Grocer

Friendly Grocer: 86727034

Gas refills/Fuel/Hardware:

Opal Creek Blvd. Open 7 days

Open: 9-6 weekdays, 9-3 Sat.,

10-1 Sun.

OCA (Outback Communities

Assoc.) & ATMC: 86727246

School Road

Andamooka School &

Children's Centre: 86727018

Public Library: internet/Wi-Fi

8-10 & from 1.30 weekdays.

Check for closing hrs.

School Road.

Community Hall:

Enquiries contact APOMA

Kids Splash Pad & BBQ

AYC Café: 0478139188

Opal Creek Blvd.

Caravan Park/ Playground:

Opal Creek Blvd.

Tuckabox Hotel: 86727137

Takeaway available.

Opal Creek Blvd Open 7 days

Bottle Shop: 86727183

Opal Creek Blvd Open 7 days

Roving Vet: 86423308

CWA: 86727004

Boo-Teek Op shop:

Top of CWA Road

Hrs: 9-12 Wed/Fri/Sat

Motor Vehicle Registration:

Roxby Downs Town Council

More details:

www.andamooka.sa.au

APOMA NEWS

Points of Interest from the January 2016

APOMA Committee Meeting:

- The committee is focused on ensuring that the new OCA /ATMC contract commencing July 2016, works in the best interest of the Andamooka community.
- The tourism sub-committee is working on various tourism projects including the SA Tourism advertisement and also promotions to link into the town business plan.
- The Remote Jobs & Communities Program is working well with work continuing on facilities and services around the town.
- Organisers are moving forward with the Andamooka Easter Markets with the support of APOMA

MINUTES & OTHER INFORMATION:

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

NEW EDITOR APPOINTED

APOMA appointed Gill Rowley as newsletter and website editor for 2016, on Thursday 25 March. Over the next few months Gill will be working on the development of an integrated approach to our newsletter, website and social media to better serve the community and to also attract more visitors to the town.

APOMA ACTIVITIES

The Committee advises that:

- Installation of air-conditioning in the Community Hall has been completed.
- Caravan park—toilets and showers have been completed with wheelchair ramps. Work on the carport over the facility scheduled for the next 2 months.
- The rubbish tip remains legal for dumping.
- **Reminder:** Community Contributions due 15 March 2016.

Disclaimer: Information within the Andamooka Press is intended for the Andamooka Community. No Liability is accepted for any unauthorized use of the information contained within this publication. We 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 and township of Andamooka.

APOMA'S key objectives are to lead the community and protect miners rights; promote social wellbeing; maintain and develop the township; develop and promote opal mining and opal markets; promote tourism, promote and facilitate social inclusion and equality within the township.

Chairman: Stefan Bilka

(m) 0427181752

Secretary: Peter Allen

Email: apomaprogress@gmail.com

Treasurer: Rob Hancock

www: andamooka.sa.au

Next meeting March 2016

Correspondence addressed to The Secretary due 1st of each Month.

PUBLISHER:

Produced & published by the Andamooka Progress & Opal Miners Assoc. Inc. (APOMA)

PO Box 246 Andamooka SA 5722

Chair: S. Bilka (m) 0427181752

Editor: Gill Rowley

(m) 0427508075

(Email) andamookapress@gmail.com

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

ADVERTISING & NOTICES:

Advertising & notices are free of charge for local charities & groups.

Business & commercial rates:

Full page: by sponsorship only

Half page: \$25 or \$220 annually

Quarter page: \$15 or \$135 annually

Business Card: \$5 or \$55 annually

Other sizes: available on request.

CONTACT: Gill Rowley

(m) 0427508075

Email: andamookapress@gmail.com

ADDITIONAL FUNDING SECURED FOR ANDAMOOKA ROAD MAINTENANCE

Andamooka Town Management Committee (ATMC) has negotiated with Department of Planning, Transport and Infrastructure (DPTI) for additional funding for road maintenance repairs to be undertaken on roads within the Andamooka Township for 2015/16 and 2016/17.

This has been made possible by additional funding provided through the Roads to Recovery (R2R) Program run by the Federal Government. The additional road maintenance work will focus on reducing ongoing annual maintenance costs by re-sheeting dirt roads within the township.

Office for the Outback Communities Authority
12 Tassie Street, Port Augusta SA 5700
PO Box 2353, Port Augusta SA 5700 |
Ph +61 8 8648 5380 (85380) **Fax** +61 8 8648 5971 |
Web www.oqa.sa.gov.au



Caravan tourers Mark & Linda, recent visitors to Andamooka, spent a morning exploring both above ground and underground opal mining operations as guests of local opal miners.

Photo: Mark helping to break up potentially opal bearing rock.

SEEKING EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Offers accepted on sale of

3000 gallon water tank
(no lid)

Contact: APOMA

Rob: 0429 889 210

Peter: 0427 831 032

Email: apomaprogress@gmail.com

ATMC Office Hours

Monday to Thursday
8:30 am—1:30 pm

Please leave a message Ph: 08 8672 7246

Email: admin@atmc.sa.gov.au

Urgent enquiries:

Byron Gough (OCA) on (m) 0427687772

ATMC minutes available at

oca.sa.gov.au/atmc

ANDAMOOKA CARAVAN PARK

Cnr. Opal Creek Blvd & Water Rd

Grid ref: 30.27.92 S / 137.9.40 E

Sealed road from Stuart Hwy

Unlimited nights at \$3 per person per night

- Shower & Toilets
- Undercover BBQ area
- Water available
- Pump out facility
- Undercover playground
- **Walking distance to town hub**



ANDAMOOKA FRIENDLY GROCER

- Big range of groceries, fresh fruit, veg & meats
- Fuel & Gas Refills
- Hardware & camping gear
- Car accessories & batteries
- Pre-paid phone & power cards
- SA Lottery Agency
- ATM
- Craft & Stationary



If we don't
have it, we'll
try to get it!

Your one stop shop

Opal Creek Blvd. Ph: **86727034**

Hellmut F

**OPAL MINER / CUTTER
DEALER IN PRECIOUS GEMS**

Phone / fax:
(08) 8672 7162

**PO BOX 53
ANDAMOOKA SA 5722**

WHATS ON IN ANDAMOOKA MARCH & APRIL 2016

All Welcome

Wacky Wednesdays

Join in the fun and activities
including Scrabble games
10.00-12noon at the CFS Shed

Ping Pong nights

Tuesdays 6.00pm
Community Hall

Contact: Kurt 0478143595

ANDAMOOKA COMMUNITY CHURCH

Meets 3rd Sunday of each month

1.00pm for lunch,
Communion 2.00pm

Next meeting: 20th March

ANDAMOOKA / R.D. BIBLE CHURCH

Worship Service 10.30 Sun.
Bible Study 7.30 Wed.

Water Way, Andamooka

Contact: 8672 7004

More details.

Visit www.andamooka.sa.au

12 MONTH CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Watch this space.!!

Does your organisation run a regular local activity or upcoming event?

We invite you to forward details of your organisations events and activities to add to the new Calendar of Events and/or What's On column. Please provide the title of the event or activity, date/s, location, and contact phone/email. Also provide a short description and photo if available, to post on the website events page.

\$168,000 Opal

The December 2015 issue called for assistance with the date of the biggest opal find in Andamooka.

Ann Fisk emailed that she had found a brief article on the find via Trove.

Extract: 'World record price paid in Adelaide to four miners who found a 220oz crystal opal at Andamooka last month. The opal which was split in two pieces of 162oz and 58oz, is the largest ever found in Australia.'

Source: \$168,000 Opal, Canberra Times, Thurs 4 Dec 1969, Page 31.

ANDAMOOKA HISTORY GROUP

Contact: Email andamookaprogress@gmail.com

Andamooka Sports Shooting Assoc.

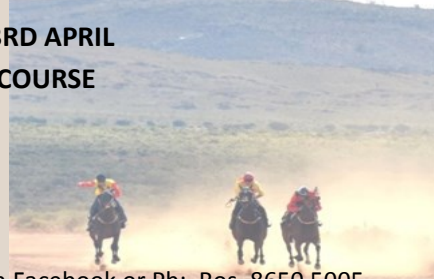


For more information on
activities & events
Contact: 0419 504 200

2016 YUNTA PICNIC RACES & GYMKHANA

SATURDAY 23RD APRIL
YUNTA RACECOURSE

See you there.



Find updates on Facebook or Ph: Ros, 8650 5005



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

ANDAMOOKA EASTER MARKET ON TRACK

Work is progressing well towards the 2016 Andamooka Easter Market which will be held on Saturday 26th March.

Everyone is welcome at this casual community market which is aiming to have something for everyone among the stalls and features.

There'll be great food, live music, competitions and more, together with art displays, opal sales, artisan stalls, tarot reading and a car-boot sale.

There's loads for Kids to do with plaster painting, a jumping castle and the Splash Pad for cooling off, so don't forget to pack towels and dry clothes.

There is still room for additional stallholders so don't hesitate to call and register your interest.

Visitors are welcome with accommodation available at the local Motel, or there's plenty of room to stay at the Andamooka Caravan Park and camping area at just \$3 per night per person.

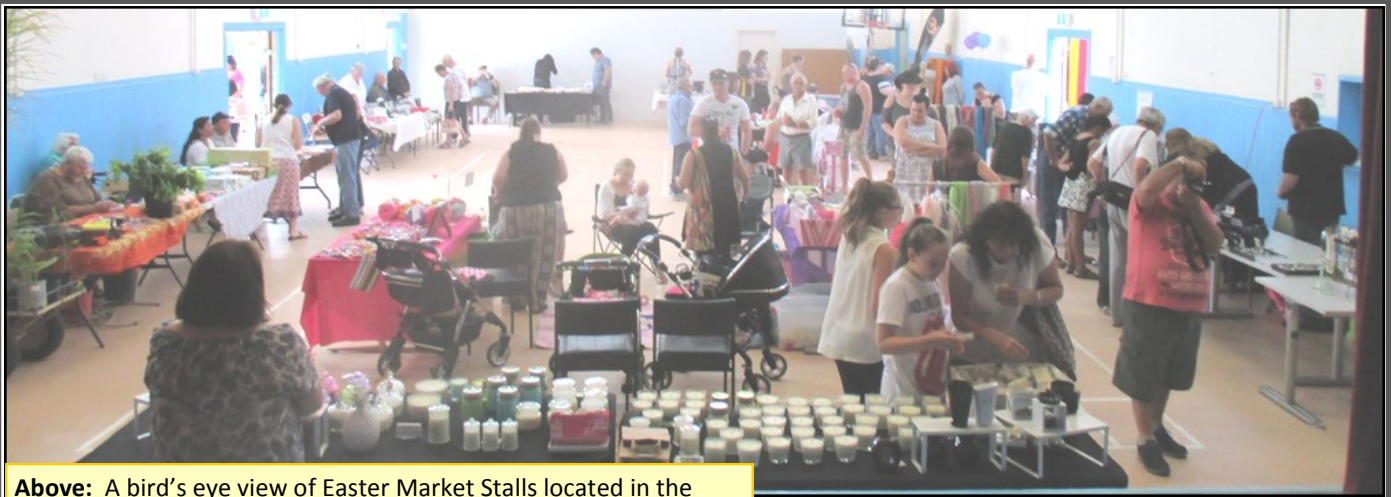


ANDAMOOKA YACHT CLUB

COFFEES, TOASTIES, SMOOTHIES
ART & JEWELLERY

HOURS:
Tues-Sat: 9-4
Sun: 10-3
Mon: Closed

Community Hall
School Road, Andamooka
PH: 0478 139 188
Email: andamookayachtclub@gmail.com
www.andamookayachtclub.com



Above: A bird's eye view of Easter Market Stalls located in the Andamooka Community Hall in 2015.

ANDAMOOKA EASTER MARKET

Andamooka Community Hall

Sat. 26th March

Activities start from 9.00am till 3.00pm

**Stalls, Kids activities, Opal Sales Car-boot sale, Live Music,
& more...**

For more information contact Matilda on 0478 139 188 or by email at andamookayachtclub@gmail.com and check the website for updates



Come join in the fun. Cooking, play sport, watch movies, do artwork OR catch up with your school work. **All supervised activities.**

Andamooka Youth Group will run every

Friday and Saturday night during school terms at the Andamooka Community Hall. Some food and drinks provided.

Supervised by Donna Waters,
Youth Development Officer for Andamooka.

Cooking

Basketball

Boxing

Badminton

**Healthy afternoon
snack provided!**

Crafts

Fridays @ Community Hall!

Time: 7.00 pm – 10.00pm

11 – 18years old.

Saturdays @ Community Hall!

Time: 7.00 pm – 10.00pm

11 – 18years old.

Please contact
Donna for further
information on
0447593590

**WHEN IN A
BUSHFIRE RISK AREA.**

STAY INFORMED FOR A SAFER TRIP.



Download the CFS
FireApp, listen to local
radio and check daily
local Fire Danger Ratings
at www.cfs.sa.gov.au





SOUTH AUSTRALIA POLICE
KEEPING SA SAFE

February Police Report

I'd like to start by saying happy New Year and hope that everyone had an enjoyable Christmas and hopefully had a good time seeing family and friends.

Overall the summer period has been relatively quiet with only a few matters coming to the attention of police. On 16th February a twenty year old female has damaged a glass door on a property on Treloor Road. This female has been interviewed and reported and will be attending court at a later date.

A number of fines have been issued throughout the township for simple offences such as speeding, driving an unregistered vehicle and driving whilst talking on a phone. Please stick to the speed limit of 50 kilometres an hour on all roads in Andamooka. There is no excuse for using a mobile phone whilst driving, this distracts you from driving and it is much more likely that you'll be involved in an accident, this included texting, using a phone for music and using a phone to view maps or as a GPS. And please ensure that vehicles are registered before driving them on a road. Some fines for driving unregistered vehicles are now reaching over \$1000 and police are now instructed to clamp or impound vehicles for people who have been fined before, and send the driver to court.

I am looking forward to what the rest of 2016 will bring, and I'm sure it'll be a great year.

Thank you

Brevet Sergeant Tristan Fantinel
Andamooka Police Station
South Australia Police
8672 7072

CRIME STOPPERS
.com.au
1800 333 000

ANDAMOOKA HEALTH SERVICES

The change across to RFDS management is progressing well and Clinic hours remain the same. There will be more news on this and the Calvary Community Care Silver Circle service in the next issue.

REMINDER: Don't Forget to check on your **AMBULANCE COVER**. Private health insurance does not always cover non-emergency services including transfers and these can cost hundreds of dollars. SA Ambulance Service offers Full Ambulance Cover or Ambulance Cover Extras for non-emergency services including transfers.

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

Andamooka Health Service

Lot 33 Hospital Road, Andamooka.

Attended by: Diane Bilka & Vicki Finzel, Remote Area Nurses

Opening Hours:

9.00 –12noon—2.00 to 5.00pm Mon/Tues/Thurs/Fri

9.00-12noon Wed. **On call 24hrs— emergency only**

Ph: **08 8672 7087** Fax: 08 8872 7222

Email: andaclinic@bigpond.com

24/7 MEDICAL ASSISTANCE
(in Outback SA)

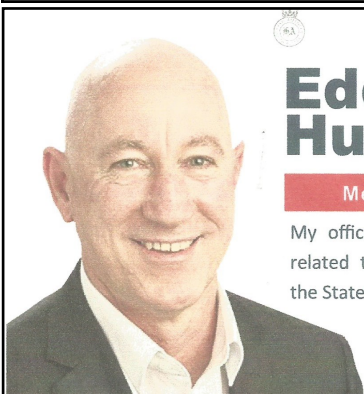
Ask to speak with the on-call **RFDS Doctor**

1800 RFDS SA
1800 733 772

HF Radio
4010 kHz
6890 kHz
8165 kHz




Royal Flying Doctor Service
CENTRAL OPERATIONS



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 Owen Lewis

MBBS DCH DRCOG DA FRACGP
GDPHC

Clinics held most weeks on Tuesdays
10 am - 12.30 pm

Andamooka Dukes Bottlehouse Motel

Appointments: please ring
Roxby Downs Medical Practice

ROXBY DOWNS FAMILY PRACTICE

Dr Simon Lockwood - MBBS FRACGP
Dr Natalia Bezrukova - MBBS PhD

24 Gregory St
ROXBY DOWNS
SA 5725

Ph: (08) 8671 3231
Fax: (08) 8671 2392



NEW EDITOR ASSIGNED WITH NEW DIRECTION FOR OUR NEWSLETTER AND WEBSITE

This is the first edition for 2016 and my first edition as editor. I have been a 'part-time' resident of Andamooka /White Dam for around 11 years and have recently retired from working in marketing and events. So I now find myself with more time to dedicate to my passion of living and promoting the Andamooka lifestyle. I look forward to working with you all as editor of your newsletter.

The Andamooka Press has undergone various changes over its 44 years of publication but has continued to be the sounding board and vital information source for residents of Andamooka. It has also developed via the web into a valuable promotional tool for the township and its visitor attractions.

The recent downturn in mining has depressed our local economy, but in truth our greatest economic asset is our unique township and its friendly and diverse community. Primarily it is for this reason that you will see some changes to our newsletter, website and social media presence to better promote our town.

An integrated approach will serve to maintain up to date, clear and transparent communications to all members of the community. This new approach also provides some cost savings so that more of APOMA's limited funds can be invested into the community.

Most importantly, the changes will ensure that the needs of the community are met in a more inclusive manner. Secondly, and vitally, this media mix will more broadly promote Andamooka as a unique and friendly visitor destination with great visitor facilities, in turn providing economic benefits and opportunities for our businesses and community.

I will be working in conjunction with the APOMA Committee, local clubs and organisations, as well as members of the community to ensure that we continue to deliver a great community newsletter, but in a mix of

formats that ensures everyone receives a publication they can continue to enjoy.

In general The Andamooka Press will reduce in size over the following months as we progressively re-develop the website, but it will remain similar in content with more of the detail and photographs posted on the website. This condensed version will be made generally available at various outlets and also emailed out to registered recipients. Readers can then access detailed information via the website.

For those members of the community that don't have or use internet access we will continue to offer a detailed print version in a choice of standard or large print. We will follow up registrations for these people.

The newsletter and website will be supported by a community Facebook page that will not only allow us to keep the local and visitor communities updated on a day to day basis, but will also allow for more community feedback and input.

Importantly, the Facebook page will also develop a following across visitor and business networks, potentially bringing economic benefits to our community via visitation, sponsorship and business development.

We thank the previous editor, Jenny Moxham, for the work she has put into the newsletter during her engagement. Also for developing features such as the garden and cooking pages which have proved popular with so many of the Community. With the help of the community these features will continue to be part of both the newsletter and the website.

I look forward to working with the APOMA Committee, local organisations and businesses, and the community to develop a mix of print, web and social media that productively serves our community.

Gill Rowley
EDITOR

Cellarbrations
Helping you celebrate

CHECK OUR SPECIALS

ANDAMOOKA
1002 DODGY DRIVE(08) 8672 7183

Please register to receive your newsletter via email, or register someone you know who would need a print copy
andamookapress@gmail.com or (m) 0427 508075

The
Monitor

Your Community Newspaper ~ Roxby Downs

*Delivered to
Andamooka weekly!*

Local news, sport,
weather and
community
interest pieces.



COMMUNITY NOTICE BOARD

Proudly sponsored by: (seeking sponsor for this page)



RURAL BUSINESS SUPPORT & CENTRELINK visiting this region 19-23 March 2016.

Pre-arranged appointments can be scheduled at your property or at a convenient location and the services offered include the following.

- Confidentially assess and prepare reports on your current financial, cash flow and viability circumstances.
- Identifying government assistance eligibility.
- Assisting in identifying financial and business options for the future of your enterprise, including potential succession plans.
- Reviewing contracts and loan applications and facilitate meetings with lenders.

Businesses may be eligible for the Australian Government's Farm Household Allowance which provides financial assistance and support to improve a businesses' long-term financial situation.

Centrelink's Robert Holtham can assist with assessing your situation and along with your Rural Financial Counsellor, assist in the development of future plans.

For further information and to make an appointment please contact :

Lloyd Wright 0428 849 950,
email lwright@ruralbusinesssupport.org.au
or Robert Holtham 0408 857 691.

Keep up to date through RBS social media sites on Facebook and Twitter and sign up for updates and information by adding your details on the contact page at www.ruralbusinesssupport.org.au



SA Arid Lands Natural Resources Management Board (NRM)

The following media releases were received as follows:

- **Received 12 Jan: NRM Draft Business Plan** and Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs). Includes information on NRM levies.
- **Received 13 Jan: Call for NRM Group Nominations.** Applications close 21 March

Find documents and information on the website under News at:

www.Andamooka.sa.au

CLASSIFIED NOTICES:

Obituary

Peter Kasenkow

31 May 1951-18 January 2016

'Please raise a coca cola toast, let the stories flow, and celebrate the life of a man who found friends, freedom and happiness in a dusty town like no other.'

Extract from funeral eulogy written by Darren & Michelle Kasenkow.

Our Neighbourhood Community Grants

Apply Now

Online: ourneighbourhood.com.au

Applications close:

Friday, 1 April 2016

Information available Post Office

CWA

'Boo-Teek' OP Shop

Will be closed from
Sat 5 March.

Regular hrs re-commence
Wed 5 April.

The following information was provided by the Office of Rowan Ramsey MP, Federal Member for Grey.

- **Stronger Community Grant Round 2.** Applications close 31st March
- **Black Spots Funding** - what's happening with Federal roads funding for SA.
- **Cash injection for local tourism projects**

Find documents and information on the website under News:

www.Andamooka.sa.au

Monthly Quiz Question:

In which month and year, was the largest opal ever found in Andamooka?

Email or post your answer to The Editor. Addresses Page 2

Entries close last day of month

Correct answer scores go into a monthly draw with one prize awarded from our prize pool donated by local businesses. Correct scores are added monthly and placed into an annual draw in December.

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 8633 1744

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

PO Box 296 Port Pirie SA 5540

COMPLETE
personnel

group

thinking employment?
think Complete™

1B 20-22 Tutop St. Roxby Downs SA 5725
p 08 8671 0621 | f 08 8671 0481 | m 0418 807 450
e jenna.post@complete-personnel.com.au
w www.complete-personnel.com.au

Jenna Post
Consultant