UP-COMING EVENTS

- ◆ 2nd 4th October:
 Long Weekend
 Andamooka Opal Festival
- ◆ 24th October: APOMA AGM

Please Be Advised:

Due to the ongoing spread of COVID-19, events may be cancelled or postponed.

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Header: Out on the fields.

Source: E. Morris, 2021

LABOUR DAY WEEKEND HOTS UP

Some people call it Labour Day, some people call it The Opal Festival but one thing most agree on is that October weather in Andamooka is beautiful. The problem for event organizers is that the October long weekend sits right slap bang in the middle of the school holidays, which is both a problem and an opportunity for our town.

The problem is that some local kids go on the road with their parents. The opportunity is that people from other towns and cities come to the outback. Team Minnie grabbed the opportunity and in a quest to rekindle the once popular October long weekend annual event, they created a great program aimed to promote Andamooka's foundation to future through the Minnie Berrington story. Also to raise funds towards the associated documentary and a regional Trail which will benefit both our town & others in our region.

There has been the usual 'don't like changes' and yes, there are plans to rebuild traditional October event features such as the Wheel Barrow Race. No, there isn't a barbeque at the Cottages on Friday night this year, but this doesn't stop locals from enjoying the free facilities and services provided there for them, and there is a great range of BBQ meats available at the bottle-shop.

On Friday this October there will be an extraordinary night at the Dine-a-Mite Café with great food available till 8pm. Edge2centre volunteers will be setting up a sound system outside the Hall and broadcasting live mixes of their Andamooka songs. Inside the Hall there will be information about the Minnie Berrington Film Project and an art exhibition celebrating Andamooka's foundation in the 30's, plus a chance to view the Opal raffle prizes and purchase tickets.

Thanks to our volunteers, the Cottages are looking great! There will be people setting up that venue on Saturday morning, who can steer visitors in all sorts of directions. The Lapidary Shed will be open from 10am. It's incredible what's been going on there, a true renaissance of the art of opal cutting and polishing. Or go out into the field with Andamooka Observatory or call the Observatory to visit Cal the Stoner and the "Andamooka Tiger" as it nears completion.

The Cottages will be the venue for an afternoon tea showcasing our excellent local cooks served in Mrs Perry's Kitchen on Saturday from 2pm.

After having a nice cup of tea and locally made scones and cakes you and your group can visit the Bottlehouse museum and learn about opals, fossils and opal mining. Saturday night the Café will be open for dinner till 8pm, and there will be an Open Mic for musicians and singers till late. Don't forget Cellarbrations shuts at 8pm.

On Sunday the focus will be on The Cottages early. An Arts and Crafts Market will await you from 9am and there will be live music and an opal hunt for the kids and the young at heart. From The Cottages you and your group can walk over to the Lapidary Shed just across the corner and see the excellent work going on there.

At the Hall there will be a display of the work done on props and restorations by The Minnie Berrington Project volunteers whose incredible historical research and prop making will bring authenticity to the documentary and it will be a welcome chance to catch up to where we are with that ambitious and fascinating project.

So get out and about on the Labour Day long weekend. If you have visitors, we have a modest and well-focused program of events that, with the help of our volunteers, will present our town and our unique community in a good light.

- The October Long Weekend Team

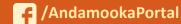


The way it was. Community Hall circa 2005









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 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

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

ANDAMOOKA PROGRESS AND OPAL MINERS ASSOCIATION INC.

IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL OF OUR ANDAMOOKA COMMUNITY

OCA PRESENTATION & DISCUSSION

OUTCOMES FROM THE OUTBACK FUTURES PLANNING WORKSHOP

Sunday Oct 24th, following the AGM, commencing at approx. 2.45pm

ALL MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY NEED TO BE PART OF THIS DISCUSSION

This extremely important community consultation forum about the future of funding, development and management of our Out Of Areas region and our outback towns, follows a regional strategic planning workshop held in Coober Pedy, Fri 3 to Sun 5 September 2021, which was attended by over 50 representatives from towns, stations and other stakeholders from across our outback region. *Andamooka had 6 representatives at this forum to provide broad input towards how we as a region, shape our future.*

A primary outcome was that around 80% of participants agreed that our towns and cluster groups need to be working more closely together, sharing resources, and that we need to take time to collectively ensure that the best possible model in regard to funding, governance and development, is put in place. That this new model is flexible enough to fit and meet the needs of different sized towns and communities as well as the region as a whole. Importantly too that it incorporates more fully, direct input from outback communities and representatives.

The workshop was a most successful sharing of issues, ideas, solutions, and information, and ultimately this resulted in a direction being set by the group, towards a new more united way forward for our region & ultimately, for Andamooka....

The Andamooka consultative forum will outline outcomes from the regional planning workshop and this is your opportunity to add your thoughts and concerns, and to provide your feedback on ideas that emerged from the workshop.

This all goes towards creating a draft 'blueprint' for South Australia's outback as well as looking at potential financial models for the OCA and regional governance in the future.

There is an on online meeting on Tuesday 2nd Nov for those who can't attend in person.



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

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.

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P.O. Box 246 Andamooka SA 5722

UP-COMING AGM TAKING ANDAMOOKA FORWARD



Andamooka Progress and Opal Miners Association Inc.

'Preserving our past and planning for our future'

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

2021 APOMA Annual General Meeting

Reporting for the financial year 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021 together with a forecast for the financial year July 21 to June 22 will be held at 1.30pm, Sunday 24th October 2021 at the Andamooka Community Hall, School Road, Andamooka

Followed by OCA Outback Future discussion forum— All Community Members attendance encouraged

AGENDA & ORDER OF BUSINESS:

- 1. OPENING OF MEETING & CHAIRMAN'S WELCOME
 - 1.1. ATTENDANCE
 - 1.2. APOLOGIES
 - 1.3. LODGEMENT OF PROXIES
 - 1.4. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES:
 - 1.4.1. 2020 Annual General Meeting
 - 1.4.2. General Meetings held 2020-21
- 2. PRESENTATION OF ANNUAL REPORTS
 - 2.1. Chairman's Report
 - 2.2. Treasurer's Report
 - 2.3. Presentation of Financial Statements
 - 2.4. Project & Development Report
 - 2.5. Asset and Maintenance Report
- 3. ADOPTION OF ANNUAL REPORTS
- 4. OUTCOMES AND PROJECTS 2020-2022
 - 4.1. 2020-21 Budget & Projections for 2021-22
 - 4.2. Grants and Projects 2020-22
- 5. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS
 - 5.1. Elections
 - 5.2. Appointment of Public Officer
- **6. GENERAL BUSINESS**
- 7. CLOSURE OF MEETING

Items for GENERAL BUSINESS: must be lodged addressed to The Secretary, APOMA in person at the Town Office by 3.00pm Thursday 14th October 2021, or by email to secretary@apoma.com.au or by post to PO Box 246, Andamooka 5722, to be received by COB Monday18th October 2021.

Items accepted for General Business will be published on a revised agenda to be circulated on Thursday 21st October 2021.

Lodgement of PROXIES: The proxy form is accepted only as a signed original, lodged with the APOMA Secretary;

- in person at the Andamooka Town Office before 3.00pm, Thurs 21st October 2021,
- by mail received by last post Friday 22nd Oct 2021,
- as a scan of the original forwarded by email to <u>secretary@apoma.com.au</u> by 1.30pm Friday 22nd Oct 2021 with parties available by phone for confirmation prior to 5.00pm, Friday 22nd Oct 2021.

Copies of Minutes: for the 2020 AGM and General Meetings 2020-21 are available on the website at: www.andamooka.sa.au or at the Town Office, or may be requested to be sent via email.

Reports:

Copy of un-audited draft Financial Report to end of June 2021 will be available on the website in early October 2021. Copy of the Audited Financial Report for 2020-21 will be posted on the website once completed and emailed to members together with the updated agenda on Thursday 21st 2021.

Copy of the Annual Report for 2020-21 will be posted on the website and available via email for from the Town Office once the audited financials have been inserted.

A BLAST FROM THE PAST:

- BY WAYNE DRIES

Continued from last issue... William Creek....

"Now it was a bare fifty miles to William Creek, Roger (Victor) and the real beginning of my adventure. The prelude had, if it were possible, sharpened my anticipation."

On her arrival at William Creek, Minnie was re-united with her brother Victor and introduced to his employer, Mr Royal (real name, Archibald King), and after her first meal cooked in a camp oven, they loaded the traders van and set off to their first camp for the night, Sandy Creek Station. That night, "We got a bright campfire going as darkness fell, and after we'd settled round it one of those things happened which stand out always after as a turning point in life. Mr Royal and Roger started telling me about an opal field they had visited recently. Opal was the one gem I loved, and any mention of it brought every faculty I possessed to attention. Now I didn't miss a word."

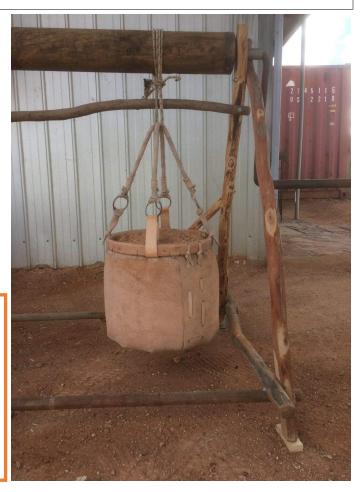
Learning she would be legally entitled to mine for opal herself if she chose to do so, must have been a welcome revelation to her, and possibly for the first time in her life she sensed the possibility of living a free and independent life.

"That night the thought of sleep seemed nothing but an intrusion on a mind seething with excitement and happiness. I couldn't waste time sleeping. I wanted to hug my happiness as I lay looking at the southern cross through my flywire ceiling."

NEXT ISSUE – Arrival at Coober Pedy

Wayne's brilliant replication of Minnie's leather mining bucket, the original made by 1930's pioneer, Bill Hallion alias 'Mac' in her book, will add a special level of authenticity to the documentary re-enactments of Minnie's time in Andamooka.

You can see this 'prop' on display in the Community Hall over the October Long Weekend.



Andamooka Opal Festival Raffle



All proceeds from raffle sales go directly to 'The Minnie Berrington Project' to support the making for our documentary & 'The Trail of Minnie."

1st Prize:

Rough Andamooka Opal parcel, kindly donated by local miners. **Valued at \$3590** *including certification.

2nd Prize: Sterling silver, Coober Pedy crystal opal inlaid hoop earrings, kindly donated by former Andamooka resident, Elizabeth Lloyd of Desert Jewells. **Valued at \$900**

3rd Prize: Andamooka matrix parcel, cut by Kym Faehrmann **Valued at \$500**

Winners contacted by phone and published in the Andamooka Press and the Minnie Berrington Facebook page

Ticket price: \$10

Total of 2,000 tickets available

Drawn on: 21/12/21 @5pm at the Andamooka Historic Cottages *unless sold out prior



WHAT'S NEW AND WHAT'S ON:

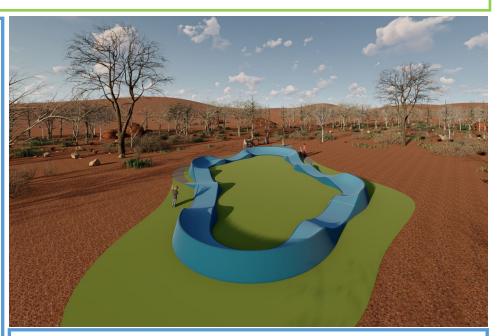
NEW 'PUMPTRACK' SET TO GIVE LOCAL KIDS A BUZZ

Thanks to OCA funding, a new modular Pumptrack will give kids a place to take their bikes and scooters for some excitement and exercise in the great outdoors.

Plans are progressing to build the track into the existing BMX track space adjacent to the playground at the recreation precinct. That will expand the existing track facility adding to the fun for kids in that space.

Together with the indoor sports court,

proposed mini-golf course and outdoor theatre /drive-in, and picnic/camping spots, the space is progressing towards a great recreation precinct for the whole family to enjoy year round.



These popular bicycle and scooter tracks are popping up all over the country and Andamooka has been lucky enough to have one installed under an OCA grant.

Lapidary Group Update:

Visitors will be welcomed and encouraged to drop into the Lapidary Shed over the October long weekend, with the Minnie Berrington Project team hosting the come back of the 'Andamooka Opal Festival' for 2021.

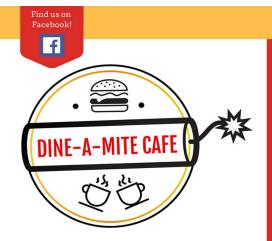
Greg the group coordinator, will be bringing his amazing collection of Opal and Rock specimens to the Lapidary shed for people to view and admire. He has a wealth of knowledge to share and will kindly help you with anything rock related.

Come in, meet Greg and the wonderful members and see them in action cutting and polishing opal and maybe give it a go for yourself.

Open Saturday 10am – 2pm and Sunday 12pm – 4pm. Members and visitors please remember your masks.

- Olivia Newell





Phone 0409 512 692

DINE-A-MITE CAFE

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

LOCATED IN THE ANDAMOOKA COMMUNITY HALL

OPEN

Friday & Saturday Night
October Long Weekend
From 5 – 8pm

PROJECTS UPDATE:

Andamooka Community Recreation, Sport and Youth Centre: Work is progressing well with the project nearing completion prior to year-end. As always, the last more complex bits take time. This past month has seen the interior walls and doors fixed, air-conditioning in, lighting installed through-out, sliding doors installed to the two community activity spaces with carpet in the process of being put down in those areas, as are pavers and planter boxes in the entry point. The 'drop in' toilet block is ordered and work will commence on groundwork to also tidy up entry points into to the complex.

'The Church' Community Passive Recreation Centre: Upgrading this facility is progressing well, but like many construction projects, being held up by long lead times on delivery of materials. However, it's on track for seniors and other user groups to commence their activities pre-Christmas.

'The Cottages': This restoration project funded by the BHP Community Fund, is nearing completion. The structures, including the 'outback toilets' have had critical repairs including the damage to roofs. Interpretive signage has been refreshed, and new security arrangements are being completed including fencing across the rear to prevent children accessing and damaging cottage roofs.

The cottages have had a clean and are looking fresh again, there are a few new arrangements in place to help keep these irreplaceable structures protected and looking good.

Community Hub: The next stage to this critical and progressive project has been enabled by BHP Vital Resources funding plus some support from small grants for special projects from time to time. In August hanging rails were installed which lifted the presentation of SALA and will support exhibitions on-going. The next small project, will be to install shade/wind protection across the veranda to mitigate and control air-flow through the front doors, taking best advantage of cool air flow onto the veranda to maintain that as a popular seating space, especially for those watching over children enjoying splash pad fun.

The next major stage of this project will see the creation of a much needed tourist information centre in the hub in space to be made available once youth and seniors have transitioned to their new headquarters. This will then be extended into a community shop during 2022, aimed at promoting and supporting local arts and crafts.

Pumptrack: this project, funded by the OCA, is progressing along with 3 other outback towns that have also received funding for a PumpTrack and are sharing resources. Delivery costs will be minimized, so the cost of the track installation and will provide more funds towards landscaping and shelter. The proposed site is on the flat surface space of the existing BMX track located within the community recreation precinct. A draft precinct map will be presented at the AGM.

Proposed projects 2021-22:

Outdoor Theatre with Drive-in annexe: this is planned for location adjacent to the new rec & sport structure to take advantage of wind shelter, and it will include a grassy picnic rug space, deck chair seating space, proposed quirky seating options and will flow through to a 'drive-in' space for locals to enjoy movies etc from the comfort of their vehicles. *More on this at the AGM.*

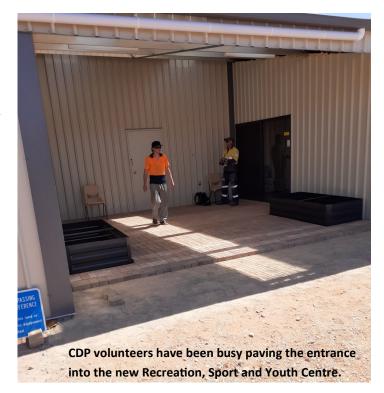
Mini-golf course: this has been in the planning pipeline for some time, but with funding for greening and landscaping the rec precinct spaces, this can now be progressively built with the assistance of volunteers and locals creating a variety of challenging 'greens'. Although this might not happen overnight, it will become a reality.

VOLUNTEERS:

As always, our thanks goes out to those volunteers that form the backbone of our towns programs, fundraising and services. This includes the CWA, Emergency Services, seniors and youth programs, the lapidary program, community bus, and those who assist with so many other services, programs and projects.

As we open up the new sports and recreation centre and pumptrack, this in turn will open up opportunities for new children's and youth activities, as well as other sports activities, all of which will benefit from volunteer assistance and coordination.

There is a myriad of needs, from sports coaching to workshops for all ages and stages, so if you are interested in getting involved, there will be training opportunities and assistance with costs and apparel, so please don't hesitate to drop in and have a chat about how you would like to get involved, or about an idea that you might have.



ANDAMOOKA CELEBRATES THE LIFE & MOURNS THE PASSING OF A SPECIAL PIONEER:

VALE BETTY CHRISTENSEN

May 8, 1925 - August 16, 2021

Betty was born on the 8th of May 1925 in East Grinstead, West Sussex, England. Adopted by the Say family Betty grew up in Sawbridgeworth, Hertfordshire, England, excelling at school and working for a local law firm. She volunteered at the local fire service and worked long hours in a town factory for the WW2 war effort.

In 1944, she met Henry (Hank) Christensen, a U.S. GI, who was stationed nearby. They fell in love and married in February 1945. In 1946, after the war, Betty boarded the Queen Mary Cruise ship with thousands of other war brides to join their husband in the U.S.

Betty and Henry's first home was in North Dakota, then they moved to their own farm in Detroit Lakes, Minnesota. They had 7 children in the U.S. After the tragedy of losing their two year old son Jonathan, they sold their farm and booked passage for Australia in 1966.

Finally settling in Andamooka SA, they lived in a 16ft caravan for 2 years, while the family built a new home. In 1968, their 8th child was born.

Betty is lovingly remembered by her children Carolyn, Raymond, Paul & wife Janice, Elizabeth, Karl, Jonathan (*dec.*), Ruth & husband Colin, and Jeanie & husband Noel, her 14 grandkids and her 7 great-grandkids.

Betty has been a long standing member of the Andamooka community. She is remembered for her warm hospitality, her wonderful cups of tea, and her delicious chocolate cake, homemade bread and caramel rolls!

A poem by daughter Elizabeth Christensen:

A country boy he did enlist His freedom to defend, Taught him to fix those big old birds To England they would send.

T'was quaint and green and it did seem This strange land was not bad. The girls were fair! The sights were rare. For this young country lad.

His thoughts and prayers were with those dear.

So far, far, o'er the foam, And many nights while bombs fell near, He yearned for "Home Sweet Home".

It happened that one April day.
While with a soldier mate,
He chanced to meet the sweetest girl,
And asked her for a date.
Within four months they were engaged.

The date was set, arrangements made, She waited for her man.

They wedding they did plan.

The church awaiting, the vicar due.
The guests they all were there
But time moved on and he did
not come

The people all did stare.

"He's left her in the lurch", said they

"You just can't trust a Yank!"
But she stayed calm, was not alarmed

She knew her darling Hank!

She waited for some word from him.
But it did not arrive,
He'd sent it through the Red Cross staff.
They'd surely taken their time.

A letter came explaining it all.
The battle they'd been fighting.
T'was called the "Battle of the Bulge"
No leave "The Brass" were granting.

At last Hank came and they were wed. T'was such a wonderous day! The Firemen raised their axes high, Arched for young Maitress Say.

Four decades have now come and gone Since that fair, happy day. Which goes to prove, if love is true It cannot pass away.

"He'll be with us at the meeting, Just inside the Eastern Gate.

Oh, the joys of that glad meeting, With the saints who for us wait!

What a blessed, happy meeting, Just inside the Eastern Gate!"

Isaiah G. Martin, 1905



Thank you!

The families of Betty Christensen would like to take this opportunity to 'thank' everyone for their cards, flowers and donations in memory of our mother, Betty.

Thank you also for all your condolences, thoughts & prayers and may God bless you all,

- From Carolyn Christensen

Betty based her life on five important points; faith, family, friendship, food and fellowship.

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

THINGS TO SEE AND DO THIS OCTOBER LONG WEEKEND







SUNDAY 3RD OCT | 9AM-1PM

HISTORICAL COTTAGES, ANDAMOOKA SA

ART & CRAFT MARKET + OPAL TREASURE HUNT

Enjoy Market Day @ The Historic Cottages!

Have a go at rock art painting in the style of Hilda's famous Opal Rock Painting or create your own clay fossil. Fun Opal Treasure Hunt-find your own opal!

Enjoy Jack Mitchell tunes as you browse.

SEE YOU THERE!

Interested in having a stall? Contact Olivia: olivian.apoma@gmail.com OR DM us on The Minnie Berrington FB page



Other Places to Visit:

- ♦ The historic Andamooka Cemetery
 - ♦ Mining machinery museum
 - ♦ Lapidary Workshed
 - ♦ Booteek Op Shop
- ♦ Playground, Splash Pad & Explorers Garden



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