



# THE ANDAMOOKA PRESS

FIRST PUBLISHED IN 1973

OCTOBER - 2020  
VOLUME 10, ISSUE 6

## UP-COMING EVENTS

◆ 17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup> Oct:

**Cirkidz Workshops and Comedy Night!**

Watch out for more Info coming soon.

◆ 19<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> Oct:

**Get Online Week**

Workshops to assist members of the community access technology

◆ 8<sup>th</sup> November:

**APOMA AGM**

◆ Saturdays:

**Lapidary Workshop**

**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:** Potted succulents flourishing in the Andamooka climate.

Source: E. Morris, 2020

## NEW FUNDING: ANDAMOOKA BUILDING AN EXCITING FUTURE

At member and community meetings across the past three years there has been discussion about the need for a functional and localised town management model. Thank you to all those community members who have had their say.

We need more of this talk around town planning, facility management and community programs and services. Come to *community* meetings and participate.

The Committee have improved the financials and have created some *useful* income streams. This is improving the value of our community assets and allows us to make good use of these assets. Here, we are talking about the *Old PO*, the Community Hall improvements, the Camp Ground and the cottages to name a few.

As a community, we have ambition to build Andamooka's population. We also want to be able to provide some basic services for our people, old and young, so they can live fulfilling lives here in the desert.

Together, we have put in place infrastructure for building tourism, improving roads, signage, creating walking trails, a range of visitor services and attractions and visitor information brochures. We have staged some major events *with more on the agenda*. That means income and employment.

In meetings and at Committee level we have talked about mining and the needs of seniors, young people, families and the arts.

The APOMA committee and the town office staff have been researching, writing and submitting grant applications with some good success *With volunteer assistance* we have built a very functional and busy community kitchen and put time, money and effort into a new lapidary shed with the aim to encourage new and younger people into the opal industry. We have upgraded the grader shed as a functional town maintenance facility which with the community's support this could evolve into an open access workshop for metalwork, woodwork, and to meet rising interest in mosaics, resin and cold-fired pottery.

This has been a huge effort. Local contractors, CDP workers and independent labourers backed up by the Town Office staff have delivered. It couldn't have happened without our wonderful volunteers. *Collectively*, they have saved the town around \$100,000 in labour and expertise spread across new projects and programs.

The Community hall improvements have created a multi-functional cultural complex housing an upgraded

and very popular café, a separate youth space and a new community wifi hub servicing both our young people and the "Be Connected" internet programs. .

There are plans for further upgrading of the Caravan and Camp Ground including another shade shelter. It has gone from bringing in around \$7,500 in 2017-18 to \$12,500 in 2019-20, and \$8000 in the first three months of 2020-21. This has required 24/7 availability for managing visitors. Quite a big load in the time of Covid. Thanks to Joe and the "camp ground crew" and the Town Office team. You know who you are.

Right now the APOMA Committee are in negotiation with BHP to support community programs and a second historic cottages restoration. We are also looking for funding to support our recovery from Covid-19 impacts. We lost the general store and access to fuel, and we need to mitigate the effects of that upon our wellbeing. Rob is doing a great job at the Bottlo by selling most of the basics.

For a long time we have been looking for funding to build a dedicated community leisure facility. Something most small towns have. We can now proudly announce that we have been granted a one off opportunity to fund it using \$305,000 of Drought Relief Funding sourced through our friends at the OCA. The best thing about this grant is we do not have to match it on a dollar for dollar basis. *It's new money to the town well over and above what we pay in CCS contributions.*

Together, as a community, we are going to need to build a community leisure facility ready for fit out by the end of June 2021. It will have a space especially for young people to hang out (under supervision) another larger flexible activity space, and a passive area supported by a basic kitchen and toilet facilities. It will also have an outdoor sports court. It is going to take a big effort by all of us to bring this one home. Please let us know if you can offer any assistance. We need labour, equipment, landscaping expertise, cement workers. We also need to lay artificial turf, install insulation, install cladding to structures and a myriad of other construction jobs.

*The ball is in our court.*



Photo: Neil Walker on Andamooka Press. Photo: E. Morris

0477 184 485

admin2@apoma.com.au

www.andamooka.sa.au

/AndamookaPortal

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

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

**Police:** 131 444

**SES/CFS:**  
John West: 0408 807 943  
Stefan Bilka: 0427 181 752

**Andamooka Community Health Service:**  
Hospital Road 8672 7087  
See page 6 for daily clinic hours  
**After Hours: Emergencies Only**

**Post Office:** 8672 7007  
Open 7 Days, Opal Creek Blvd.  
- **Dukes Bottlehouse Motel**  
- **Laundry-mat**  
- **Claims Registration**  
**Hours:** 9am - 5pm Weekdays  
11am - 3pm Weekends

**Andamooka Powerhouse:**  
8672 7235  
Power Cards @ Post Office

**Town Office:** 0477 184 485  
School Rd  
**Open:** Tue-Fri, 9:30am - 3pm

**Andamooka School & Children's Centre:** 8672 7018  
*Public Library Hours, See Pg 15*

**Andamooka Community Hall:**  
Enquires, contact APOMA  
- **Kids Splash Pad & BBQ Area**  
- **Book Exchange & Art Exhibitions**  
- **Andamooka Dine-A-Mite Cafe**  
Opal Creek Blvd.

**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****Andamooka Town Office**  
*One-Stop Shop for OCA, APOMA & Town Business*

**Open Tuesday to Friday**

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

**Ph: 08 8672 7246**

**Urgent Enquires:**

**OCA (Byron Gough): 0427 687 772**

**APOMA: 0477 184 485**

**Town Maintenance: Richard Hawkins 0418 855 165**

**Address: Community Hub, School Rd, Andamooka**

**Postal: PO Box 246 Andamooka SA 5722**

**Email:**

**OCA: oca@sa.gov.au**

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

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

**Events & Memberships: admin3@apoma.com.au**

**Newsletter: admin2@apoma.com.au**

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

*CCS & Avdata payments now accepted at Post Office*

**Notes For Meetings July - October:****Focus Meeting with OCA 30 Sep 2020**

- Discussion around budget outcomes 2019-20 and projections 2020-21

- Discussion insurances and maintenance including roads 2020-21. \$200,000 allocated to Andamooka for road upgrades. Discussion around Torrens lake upgrade and Borefield Connector - on-going

- Discussion around new town management model and approach to introducing change at 2020 AGM - approach supported in principle by OCA

- Discussion around tourism, review of regional management and progress with road signage - Andamooka now included in regional tourism group. Road signage to be followed up with RDAFN.

- Formal announcement that further \$200K has been granted via Drought Relief Fund for the community leisure facility. This is added to the \$105k from the first funding round for a total of \$305K

**Committee Meeting 9<sup>th</sup> October**

- Focussed on progressing the new approach to town management and committee - committee unanimously agreed that with recent events impacting on the township and the extent of new funding won which will require very sound management around projects, finances, contracts and compliances - that this needs a well invested and dynamic committee to head this up.

- It was agreed that the fact that no nominations of individuals has been received for committee this year, that this strengthens the approach for the

**At bank end of August 2020:**

Operations Acc: \$62,227+ \$650 in CC acc,  
Allocated Funds: \$31,311  
Reserve Funds: \$15,574  
Asset Maintenance: \$5,750

**At bank end of September 2020:**

Operations Acc: \$152,416+ \$1,142 in CC acc,  
Allocated Funds: \$31,311  
Reserve Funds: \$15,575  
Asset Maintenance: \$5,750

**MINUTES & OTHER INFORMATION:**

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

**Disclaimer:** The information presented within the Andamooka Press is intended for the Andamooka community. No liability is accepted for any unauthorised use of the information contained with this publication.

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

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

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

**Acting Chair:** Donna Waters

**Secretary:** Rodney Mitchell

**Treasurer:** Gill Rowley

PO Box 246 Andamooka SA 5722

**Email:** secretary@apoma.com.au

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

**Next Member/Community**

**Meeting: TBA Sep 2020**

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

**PUBLISHER**

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**Email:** admin2@apoma.com.au

**M:** 0477 184 485

**Acting Chair:** Donna Waters

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**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



# APOMA NEWS & NOTICES



**Andamooka Progress and Opal Miners Association Inc.**  
*'Preserving our past and planning for our future'*

## NOTICE TO MEMBERS & ANDAMOOKA COMMUNITY

**Please be advised that the 2020 APOMA Annual General Meeting**

Reporting for the financial year 1 July 2019 to 30 June 2020

together with a forecast for the financial year 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021

will be held at **1.30pm, Sunday 8th November 2020** at the  
**Andamooka Community Hall, School Road, Andamooka**

*Preceded by a 'meet & greet' BBQ from 12.30pm*

### 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. 2019 Annual General Meeting
  - 1.4.2. General Meetings held 2019-20

#### 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. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- 4.1. Elections
- 4.2. Appointment of Public Officer

#### 5. GENERAL BUSINESS

- 5.1. 2020-21 Budgets & Projections
- 5.2. Grants 2019-21

#### 6. CLOSURE OF MEETING

Items for general business must be lodged addressed to The Secretary, APOMA by 3.00pm Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> October, via email to [secretary@apoma.com.au](mailto:secretary@apoma.com.au) or by mail PO Box 246, Andamooka 5722, or in person at the Town Office.

**Lodgement of PROXIES:** The APOMA proxy form is accepted only as a signed original and must be lodged with the APOMA Secretary, in person at the Andamooka Town Office before 3.00pm, Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> Nov 2020, by mail received by last post Friday 6<sup>th</sup> Nov 2020, or scan by email by 1.30pm, Friday 6<sup>th</sup> Nov 2020 and with parties available by phone for confirmation.

Andamooka Progress & Opal Miners Association Inc. (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: 8672 7246 (m) 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 December

### 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

RENEWALS DUE 1<sup>st</sup> JANUARY

For the year  
 1st Jan - 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2020

Individual/Single: \$10

Family: \$20

Concession Rate of \$5 applies to  
 Concession card holders.

**MY LITTLE DESERT SUPPLY CO**  
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# KEEPING UP WITH BUSINESS

## CRUNCH TIME FOR ANDAMOOKA

### NO MORE SITTING AT THE CROSSROADS – IT'S TIME TO ACT

In community meetings and newsletters for the past year, the Committee have promoted that Andamooka is now in a stable financial position with a solid foundation in place upon which to build our future, but that we are sitting poised at a crossroad looking for the right way forward...

We as a community now need to take that momentous step forward onto a new road that can lead to a sustainable and vibrant future, or choose to keep to the same circular route we have travelled for the past decade and risk going backwards, or simply do nothing and be taken down a road we may find finishes in a dead end.... So, it's decision time.

Much has been achieved in this past five years by the committee and town office staff supported by a band of dedicated volunteers. Significant grant funding has provided for new developments in community facilities and programs. Income streams have been established despite the negative effects of Covid-19 restrictions.

But this effort is not sustainable for the long term under the current town management model which expects so much from so few, and new developments (and new money) continue to increase the workload.

Over the past decade several different approaches to town management have been introduced, some succeeded in part and others have not survived, but ultimately these have not fundamentally changed the pressure upon the Committee.

To assist change we have established a support team of experts that we work with for advice and guidance on such aspects as finances, insurances, compliances, property management, development and planning, business development, tourism and town management.

The advantage of them being familiar with the community, committee and town office and with the towns strengths and issues is of great value in assisting our progressive approach to a new management model.

But on Friday 9<sup>th</sup> October the APOMA Committee made a stand for a new way forward. It has largely been prompted by the fact that the town has been impacted by recent business closures and that we have not received any nominations for the APOMA committee. We realised that the very fabric of this township and our community is under threat of collapse and could leave us in a position of having little income, no necessary insurances, and no staff or town office.

#### HOW CAN WE PREVENT THIS?

We need members of the community to take stock of this situation, and in traditional Andamooka style, to *work* together. If we do nothing we will have to take whatever alternative the OCA comes up with.

*Think of what we place at risk:*

- The hall complex and **all** that goes with it,
- The café,
- The splash pad,
- The Wi-Fi education programs,
- The lapidary workshop
- The retail shops,
- The camp ground and its income
- The community bus,
- The seniors and youth programs
- The community events
- The cleaning and maintenance programs.

Grants would need to be handed back which would represent a loss of over \$600,000 in new one-off grants that did not require a \$1 for \$1 contribution from APOMA, including \$305,000 for the new community leisure facility. These special grants are not likely to be offered again.

#### HOW DID WE GET TO THIS POINT?

Andamookans are a freethinking and creative lot, and although the committee were already feeling the pressure and seeking change, as a community, we weren't particularly happy with the town management model introduced in 2012 which took away the local approach and replaced it with government management via the OCA. We also saw the introduction of the Community Contribution Scheme (CCS) which has, despite some controversy succeeded in delivering benefits to the town and community.

After an initial flurry of development and associated funding within two years the approach diminished to a 'taking care of business' model undertaking general maintenance, day-to-day administration and recruiting contractors at 'government rates' often managed out of Port Augusta, the cost of which chewed into community funds raised by the CCS.

From 2017-18 APOMA gradually took on various responsibilities for town management which are now administered by a local part time staff working within the Town Office, a move which has resulted in better service delivery and less costs leaving funds to invest in other projects.

Since that change a lot has been achieved to bring the town alive. The APOMA committee has been re-organising the way things are done.

#### THE NEXT STEP:

The APOMA Annual General Meeting will now take place on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November to allow people more time to give sound consideration to our proposed new approach.

So what is this new approach?

We want to spread the load. We want to recognise and empower the existing active groups within the community and have them represented at committee and we want them to do their groundwork supported by town office staff.

This approach allows the peer groups to identify leaders so those leaders don't necessarily stand alone and it creates clear lines of command between the town office and the committee.

Please take time to discuss this approach with your interest group whether it be tourism and events, the arts, in local business, employment, training and town development, in projects, community programs and activities, or opal mining.



**R&H Roxby Downs** RLA 208715

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## TIME FOR ANDAMOOKA TO FORGE AHEAD

### *A new way of doing things...*

#### Do we need a new way forward?

There is no need to re-invent the wheel – just modernise and adjust the one that is already turning to the advantage of the town.

Covid-19 and recent major events have exacerbated the need to get this new approach in place and to ensure our own brand of democracy. We need solutions for a new local general store, new fuel supply and new business opportunities in tourism, events, the arts, community infrastructure and projects and the community leisure facility.

#### Taking a step back to go forward:

On April 20 the Committee made strong representation to the OCA in about the very real vulnerabilities and limitations within the current system. The OCA are now in the middle of a review of their work in the Outback. They are looking to change the way they do business. So are we.

Year on year we have sustained casualties:

- Individual committee members have vacated their position on the committee out of frustration, or an inability to cope with the pressures
- Or sometimes because they just get tired and worn down.
- Many members of the community are either reluctant to or choose not to attend community meetings.
- Social media has its unkindnesses...

But social media has also changed the way we do things, so that can be used to advantage and make being on the committee easier for members who are time poor or spend time 'out of town'. It can connect us easily with groups and with those who can offer advice or services.

#### HERE IS OUR PROPOSED WAY FORWARD:

Basically, the proposed new model is a simple system, based on the way Andamooka has traditionally done things, and it brings depth and inclusiveness from across the community into town management.

Its success relies on members of the community with an interest in particular activities working together in informal working groups from which a member is chosen to be nominated onto the APOMA Committee to represent the ideas, views and needs of that interest group. This does not exclude individuals who have the passion and or skills to offer, from being nominated for a position on the committee.

The new model would be flexible enough to provide for on-line meetings or for individual electronic attendance, and for discussion or

audiences with experts to assist groups or the committee with research, planning and decision-making. Under this model, the groups would do the groundwork and the committee would make it happen.

The committee will work with a group of expert advisors across the next 12 months and beyond to advance a functional and effective town management model. What are the advantages?

- There is much value in collective thinking and a broad perspective. Also in cooperative strength for obtaining funding and making things happen, and spreading the load.
- Individual groups and fraternities will benefit from direct representation.
- Overcoming the issues around availability and commitment is major hurdle – flexibility is the key - the ability to perhaps appoint a proxy or to step down and enable another group member to step up provides for continuity and surety.
- Concerns of individuals around being singled out for criticism can be greatly overcome by the value of group representation.
- Other non-voting members of the group should also be able to attend by request from time to time to present ideas, lobby for funding, or to raise specific issues or concerns.

Groups should be able to request committee discussion with experts in certain fields around an issue or need specific to their group – this could be arranged online.

Identified interest groups could include:

○ **Commerce** – local business owners & operators and those with an interest in business development, Wi-Fi hub, employment, training etc.

○ **Tourism /Marketing/ Major Events** – those with interest or investment in tourism operations, promotion or activities or with expertise or interest in marketing and major events.

○ **The Arts** – those involved in art related businesses and activities, programs or groups and development of the community's arts base which includes photography, film-making, music, fabrics, mosaics, painting, metal-art, sculpture, lapidary and jewellery making.

○ **History & Preservation** – those with dedicated interest in the preservation, display and presentation of Andamooka's history.

○ **Town Development and Planning** - those with interest and expertise in the formalities of planning, development, and property management.

○ **Projects & Maintenance** – those with interest or actively working in project development, management and maintenance – general and asset.

○ **Community programs and fundraising/events**, including youth and seniors, health, safety, education and skills development as well as activities for fundraising and community events that promote wellbeing and social interaction - those with interest and skills in the development and on-going retention and delivery of community programs.

○ **Opal Miners** – those with a direct interest in opal mining and on-going promotion and retention of this industry and associated programs and activities.

This approach will give the town a body of representatives who are actively involved and invested in the town.

#### • Two positions for individuals that have skills to take on vital roles:

○ Chair – this could be an independent chair holding a casting vote.

○ Treasurer – an individual backed by a vice -treasurer, a local book-keeper and the town office who would work with a registered accountancy firm to oversee and present the financials, budgets, records and reports. This role maintains the integrity and transparency of our financial management.

#### • Advisory Collective – this group of experts would:

○ Be familiar with the town, entity, committee, and administration team

○ Assist with and advise on, governance and town management, finances, legal, insurances, property management, tourism, business development, projects and compliances and more.

○ Be available for meetings from time to time and to assist as needed.

This is nothing new. APOMA have had essential assistance from various experts over many years, but this approach essentially brings them 'into the team'. By using expert advice, we help Committee members do their job well.

This proposed new approach to town management has the 'in principle' support of the OCA. **It can only work successfully if it gets the backing of community.**

**It's crunch time people.**

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group

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# ANDAMOOKA COMMUNITY PROJECTS

## Maintenance & Project update

It appears that we are getting on top of the outstanding maintenance around town with very few issues raised over the last reporting period.

### **Caravan & Camp Ground:**

- On separate nights, each of the coin operated shower money boxes were ripped off the wall of the ablution block and stolen. This has been reported to the police & an official report completed. This senseless act will come at significant cost to the community to fix and in the meantime patrons at the ground and several locals are without shower amenities.
- We are currently sourcing replacements which use tokens rather than coins to discourage this type of behavior in the future.
- The claim form for insurance to cover part of the costs to replace the fused septic transfer pump has been lodged.

### **Community Hall Complex:**

On-going work in the hall:

- Painting of the hall interior is continuing.
- Air curtains for fly/insect control will be installed on entry points into the hall.
- No other issues reported.

Café premises:

- Up & running with no maintenance issues reported.

Community kitchen:

- An air conditioner has been installed & commissioned.

### **Community Bus:**

- No issues reported

### **Lapidary Workshed:**

- The lapidary workshop has opened to the public between the hours of 10.00 & 2.00 on Saturdays with a good turnout the past two weekends.

### **Minnie Berrington Project:**

- We have a number of community volunteers actively building the sets & props for the next stage of the Minnie Berrington documentary. The Covid safe plans for our public spaces have again updated to reflect the current restrictions

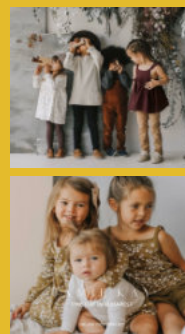
*We would like to thank our volunteers both local & visiting for their dedication and assistance.*



*Air cooling units have been installed in both the community kitchen and the lapidary workshop.*


  
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## COMMUNITY LAPPING UP ACCESS TO THE ART OF LAPIDARY

Since the official opening of the new Community Lapidary Workshed, centrally located opposite the community hall, this well-equipped facility has had around 60 locals and visitors drop in to learn more about cutting and polishing opal and other gemstones.

Many are eager to join up as members of the Andamooka Lapidary Club and this will offer them access to the machinery and to a series of workshops to develop and enhance their skills.

All are welcome to drop in during open hours, currently from 10am to 2pm on Saturdays, to watch others at work or to have a go at cutting and polishing opal. A very big thank you to Joe and Greg for taking on coordinating the program so that we can get it up and running and bring others on board to assist as it grows.

If you haven't been lucky enough to find a suitable opal specimen out on the fields for polishing up, local miners have donated plenty of 'potch' for beginners to get started with this relaxing but totally engaging art.

The better the opal the greater the challenge. Discover the art of following the lights and patterns that emerge from the 'face' of the opal as you take an artists perspective towards bringing the very best out in your individual opal. Each has its own secrets to be unlocked and to mesmerise you as you work.

But beware... this can become addictive!

Watch-out for news on up-coming workshops, or for more information on the program contact Richard at the Town Office on 0418 855 165.



**ANDAMOOKA**  
**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**

## 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)  
 Pay at the Donation Column.

**CNR. OPAL CREEK BLVD & WATER WAY**

*All-Weather sealed road from Stuart Hwy*

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

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

**Welcome All Seniors  
 Wacky Wednesdays**

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

**10AM - 12PM**  
 At the CFS / SES Shed

**Andamooka  
 Community Church**

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

**More Details: 8671 0270**

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

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

**Water Way, Andamooka**  
**Contact: 8672 7004**

**Andamooka Sports  
 Shooting Assoc.**



*For more information on  
 activities & events*

**Contact: Matt 0419 504 200**

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Proudly sponsored by the Andamooka Opal Showroom & Bottlehouse Motel

## JANUARY

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

## FEBRUARY

14th: Valentines Day

## MARCH

## APRIL

25th: Anzac Day

## MAY

## JUNE

June Long Weekend

## JULY

Dog Registration Due  
 26th: Quarterly Member &  
 Community Meeting

## AUGUST

## SEPTEMBER

## OCTOBER

October Long Weekend  
 4th: Bingo  
 Sunday Family Fun Day & Markets  
**17th - 19th: Cirkidz  
 Workshops**  
 31st: Halloween

## NOVEMBER

2nd: All Souls Day  
**8th: APOMA AGM**  
 11th: Remembrance Day

## DECEMBER

25th: Community Christmas  
 Lunch



### VISIT

## ANDAMOOKA OPAL SHOWROOM ANDAMOOKA DUKE'S BOTTLEHOUSE Motel

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

**INFORMATION  
 &  
 ACCOMMODATION**

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

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



**Open 7 Days**



# WHAT'S ON IN ANDAMOOKA

Outback Communities Authority and Country Arts SA presents

## CIRKIDZ & KEVIN KROPINYERI

Circus & Comedy Workshop



### Andamooka

**Kevin Kropinyeri Showcase & Community BBQ**  
5:30pm Saturday 17th Oct  
Andamooka Community Hall

**Cirkidz School Workshop**  
9am Monday 19th October  
Andamooka School

For Comedy workshop bookings and more info contact Nikki Ashby (Country Arts SA) 0491 174 421



## Get Online Week 19-25<sup>th</sup> October

Drop in between 10am-2pm, Tues 20<sup>th</sup> Wed 21<sup>st</sup> Thurs 22<sup>nd</sup> October  
Each day will have feature presentations and a light lunch

- Online medical services -
  - doctor's appointments – how to talk with your doctor online...
  - My Gov – 'My health' / Medicare online
- Presentation on making your own calendars and photo albums
- Presentation on Ancestry
- Workshop on creative writing
- How to do your shopping online... this will hopefully encourage locals to make shopping orders that we can pick-up via a weekly run to Roxby Downs – this could also include medical needs and the odd thing from Mitre 10...
- Major session on getting the proposed 'Andamooka Virtual Market' – up and running for local cottage industry and artists.

# BINGO

## October Long Weekend

Sunday, 4th October  
At The Andamooka Community Hall

1:00 PM Arrival

1:30 PM Start

BYO Drinks and Nibbles.

Proceeds raised go towards  
community facilities



Australian Government

## Be Connected

Every Australian online.

## Join Up With Be Connected Andamooka

Workshops to assist members of the Andamooka Community to 'Get Online' are held Tuesdays and Thursdays weekly, at the Wifi Hub, Andamooka Community Hall

### Learn how to:

- Use a laptop, tablet or phone to get online
- How to shop online or do online banking
- Access and enjoy online books, games, puzzles and entertainment.
- Make your own book, photo album or calendar
- Look up your ancestry
- Discover and explore history, travel, geology and more
- Find online courses and education tools
- Set up a MyGov account
- And more....

Contact the Town Office, or drop into the Wifi Hub on Be Connected days for more information.

# BINGO

EVERY THIRD SUNDAY  
1:30 PM at the Community Hall

All proceeds go towards new community facilities

NEXT DATES  
OCT 4th

# THE CREATIVE CORNER

SHOWCASING LOCAL ARTISTS

## SPOOKTACULAR OCTOBER

ART BY NECROSIS THE DARK

Get into the spirit of All Hallows Eve (Halloween) with some spooktacular digital artwork. Brought to you by Necrosis The Dark, your local practitioner of delectably wicked art.

While most people think of Adobe Photoshop as a computer software for editing photos, it is also great for painting and drawing digital artwork. Using a drawing tablet with a stylus pen allows me to create brushstrokes on a virtual canvas, in a similar fashion to sketching with a pencil or painting with a brush.

Digital art is a versatile medium, offering an endless array of possibilities to conjure forth monsters and creatures from my imagination.

- Emma  
aka Necrosis The Dark



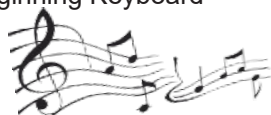
### Music Tuition

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

## ANDAMOOKA BILL'S STORY SUPPORTS MEN'S POSITIVE MENTAL HEALTH

Australian men's suicide rate is three times as high as that for women and that is why the Ebook *Andamooka Bill and the Lights on the Hill*, released this week, is such an important milestone in the promotion of men's informal mental health support networks.

Author Heather Gordon tells the partly true story of Andamooka Bill, a bloke who fronts up each morning for an iced coffee and a chat with his mates over the bonnet of a car.

Referred to as the 'Bonnet Club', these friends share a camaraderie that belies their rough appearance and even though mental health is not on their agenda, they support each other through the tough times.

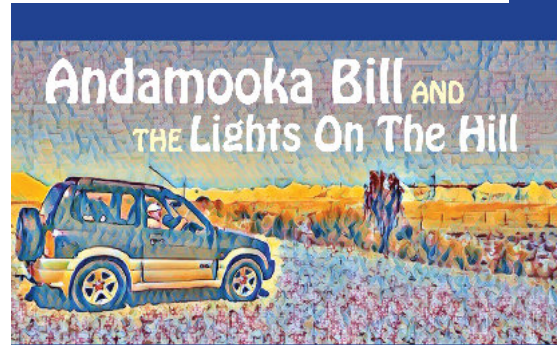
As Dr Jen Cleary, CEO Centacare Catholic Country SA said, "The Bonnet Club helps blokes take care of what's under their hoods, even though they don't know they're mental health mechanics."

Author, Heather Gordon said, "Meeting the blokes gave me a glimpse into their personal resilience and the importance of the Bonnet Club as an informal support system."

"When you realise that more men die from suicide than the National road toll and mental health services are sparse in rural and remote regions, this should be a call to action."

The book is beautifully illustrated by local South Australian artist Trish Curnow who diffuses the harshness of the Andamooka environment to display the subtleties of life in this iconic outback opal mining town.

*Andamooka Bill and the Lights on the Hill* published by Centred in Choice, is now available as an Ebook via Booktopia.



Author Heather Gordon

Photographer Trish Curnow

**AFTER  
SCHOOL  
HOMEWORK**

EVERY MONDAY &  
TUESDAY  
3:45pm - 4:45pm @ THE YOUTH  
AND  
COMMUNITY  
WIFI CENTRE

A safe and comfortable  
environment to sit and complete  
assignments with support.  
Internet services available for  
research online.

**ARTS  
AND CRAFTS**

**YOU  
WORKSHOP**

Age 10 - 17

Join us in the art  
room and cloth to  
create unique art for  
SALA and to keep.

Please  
pre-register:  
Call Donna on  
0476298992

**CLAY** **CLOTH**

JUNE 16TH - JUNE 19TH  
4PM-6PM

**ANDAMOOKA COMMUNITY HALL**

**POSTPONED**

The Facebook group supporting  
and sharing local artists and  
creatives:



Join Us On Facebook:

@ARTYANDAMOOKA



## LAPIDARY WORKSHOP

OPENING HOURS: SATURDAYS, 10AM - 2PM

COMMENCING SATURDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER

## YOUTH IS BACK...AND BIGGER THAN BEFORE!

After a long closure due to Covid-19 restrictions we have finally been able to re-open our doors for youth activities. We will be reminding everyone to wash their hands and to use hand sanitiser frequently to keep those bugs and germs away.

We welcome all young local people, ages 10 to 17 to our youth programs. (*Just remember that the official Youth Age is between 15 years to 25 years*)

We will be running regular programs [on Wednesday at 2.45 pm - 5 pm](#) but for the moment times will be subject to change. Also, look out for different times and days for youth activities over the school holidays.

Due to the Covid-19, our Youth Week Activities were postponed and will now happen later in the year at a date TBA.

Some exciting news to share is that APOMA has been awarded Drought Funding via the OCA towards development of Youth and Community leisure facilities. Planning is in progress and further funding is being sought to make sure that we get the most from the \$105,000 allocated.

On Saturday 1st August the Youth Group hosted a take-away Yiros Night for the community in the new community kitchen that's located in the Hall. This was a successful night with a lovely fire burning and great help in the kitchen from special volunteers. Julie Ryan from the camp ground, Amy Kemenyvary, Tamara Marsh, Jesse Andrew, Rose McKenzie, and all the others who helped on the night were amazing. I thank you all. We couldn't have done it without you.

**Clean Up Andamooka!** *Here is a message from one of our Youth members, Joey Lazic.*

Joey came up with this wonderful concept 'Clean Up ANDAMOOKA DAY' he told us that "*the reason I wanted to do an Andamooka clean up is that the town has got too much rubbish and after the clean-up there's gonna be prizes for the most collected rubbish, plus the cans and bottles that are found are going to be sold and then there's gonna be a barbeque and raffles for opal prizes, and all the money that gets made will be going to Youth Group.*"

We are looking to run this around the October Long weekend and we encourage ALL PARENTS / YOUTH and interested community members to attend and lend their support.

**- Donna Waters**

*Andamooka Youth Development Officer*



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

## JOB OPPORTUNITY ANDAMOOKA

### Casual Cook – Seniors Meals Delivery Program

Hours: Monday & Wednesday 9.30am – 12.30pm

Requirements: Police Check / Food Management

*To encourage local employment we will assist prospective candidates with acquiring necessary checks and qualifications*

Other opportunities include assisting catering for events at the Community Hall Complex

Commencing November 2020

For further information contact or drop into the Andamooka Town Office

Ph: 0477 184 485 email:admin3@apoma.com.au

Centacare have received extra funding to assist remote communities in the current climate (groceries)

What we will do is identify the need and I will contact the closest supermarket/ general store and set up a method of payment (credit card)

Individual will shop to the amount allocated after they have done a phone interview with our finance officer (Bernadette 8641 2379) to check eligibility.

# BHP

## OD-RDS

### Community Drop In Session

**Tuesday 27 October 2020 1-2:30pm**

**Andamooka Community Hall  
School Road, Andamooka**

If approved, the Olympic Dam Resource Development Strategy (OD-RDS) will authorise development to support the modernisation and upgrade of the existing Olympic Dam operation, providing a pathway for staged incremental growth.

BHP is currently progressing the Government requirements to support OD-RDS, and is reaching out to stakeholders to share information and seek feedback.



## GRANTS & INCOME STREAMS

Get Online Week - \$1000 grant received

SA Country Arts Grant – Minnie Berrington Documentary progressing

OCA 'Drought Relief Funding' round 1: 50% at \$52,500 paid.  
OCA 'Drought Relief Funding' round 2: \$200,000 awarded for community leisure facility.

Waiting on result of funding submissions to BHP

Continuing to work on grant funding around tourism, major events and community development and programs.

Caravan & Camp Ground Income – record quarter \$8000 July-Sep 2020

Lapidary Workshed – new memberships and donations are coming in now that activities have started.

Café – lease payments commence November 2020.

## SENIORS NEWS

### SENIORS OFF ON JOLLY JAUNT TO PIRIE

After attempts in the past two years to organise a seniors trip on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October, local seniors are heading off in the community bus on an overnight trip to Port Pirie, staying in a local motel with accommodation subsidised by the seniors allocation of CCS community program funding.

Whilst there, they will take time to enjoy some 'R-n-R', do some shopping, attend appointments and generally enjoy a short social break together.

### COMMUNITY BUS

The community bus has been busy this year with extra trips to assist with overcoming issues around Covid-19 restrictions, school trips and other community events. The replacement fund after this year is now up to almost \$6,000 after \$1000 was added from the CCS funding and for the first time, a further \$1700 will be added from donations received during 2019-20 which were not required to assist with covering costs.

# 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 15<sup>th</sup> August damage was reported to a vehicle parked in a property on Bartram Street. It is believed that the vehicle was deliberately driven into by another vehicle. This is not believed to be a random attack.

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> November a window at a property on Sherman Close was damaged by unknown persons. The house had been left vacant over previous months and the resident returned to a broken window.

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> of September a trailer was reported stolen from a property on German Gully Road. This trailer is a blue dual axel trailer, South Australian registration TCO-258.

If anyone has any information on the above matters, 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

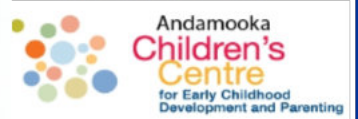
For more information  
[StopTheSpread.sa.gov.au](http://StopTheSpread.sa.gov.au)



Government of South Australia  
SA Health



**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](https://www.facebook.com/AndamookaPrimarySchool)

Phone: (08) 86727018

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

## 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**

# STOP THE SPREAD



**COVER COUGHS**  
and sneezes with a tissue or your elbow



**WASH HANDS**  
regularly, especially when unwell



**WIPE SURFACES**  
that are touched frequently



**STAY HOME**  
from work, school, childcare if unwell

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



Government of South Australia  
SA Health

## FIGHT THE BITE, DAY & NIGHT



**Protect yourself against disease carrying mosquitoes.**

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

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

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

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

For more information call **SA Health on 08 8226 7100** or visit [www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/FightTheBite](http://www.sahealth.sa.gov.au/FightTheBite)

## Surviving a Heat Wave

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

# 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

Shed Your Winter Blues  
Visit the Legendary

## 'Boo-Teek' OP Shop

Top of CWA Road

Now Open!

Come get your spruce on for Spring

Regular Hours: Saturday  
9am to midday

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

Quotes • Advice

What's On In Andamooka

Find us on  
**Facebook**  
@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

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 (m) 0477 184 485