



## UP-COMING EVENTS

### ◆ 3rd - 31st August:

#### **SALA Exhibition**

*In The Community Hall*

### ◆ Stay Posted For Up-coming Events:

#### **- A Camp Oven Event**

#### **- Quiz Night!**

*Get your teams together!*

#### **Please Be Advised:**

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

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Header: A quaint day at the cottages.

Source: O. Newell, 2021

## FROM LITTLE THINGS, BIG THINGS GROW

I'm in Alice Springs recording music and doing gigs around the beautiful MacDonnell Ranges and as far up as Ti Tree. It's by being away from Andamooka that I can see what a unique place it is. When people ask me about Andamooka I say it is a beautiful, mad village of about five hundred souls. It's set in an austere remote desert but it has an airport 30 kilometres away.

It has a beautiful night sky and the people are friendly and helpful, also somewhat eccentric at times. I tell people that Andamooka was one of the first multicultural towns in Australia. It has people from all over Europe, people who were fleeing the nasty side of totalitarianism both left and right.

I tell people we have a unique system of government which sits somewhere between a social club and a local council. It's a lot cheaper than a local council and as a social club it's punching above its weight. The community kitchen is picking up the days when the Café is shut and providing a valuable point of contact with visitors. There are musicians waiting to play in the Community Hall. The Youth Group is organizing management of the new sports and rec space. Donna is leading the charge and we have recruited a great team around her.

I tell people it's more like an anarcho-syndicalist commune. There is no one boss. Andamooka is

not a totalitarian state. It seems to work like this. Workers and volunteers work together on specific projects and then go home to relax. Sure Gill works late. We have a great set of financial statements to prove she does. She is a great Treasurer and she runs an orderly office. That office door needs to be open. Without the everyday support of the community APOMA loses its legitimacy.

I tell people that it is sometimes amazing to watch what the people of Andamooka can do. I like the computer literacy workshops. They are as regular as clockwork. Everyone can see the Lapidary program is a runaway success. It has spawned new interest in opal. People are traveling to participate, and then they are having lunch at the Café. Maybe buy some clothes for the kids. If they have timed it right they can shop for secondhand.

After a while I have to shut up. But people get the message. It's the same when I sing songs that name check Andamooka. It makes me proud to say I come from Andamooka. But hey, I've only been here since 2006 so I'm still a new chum. Fully understood. See you next week.

**- Rodney Mitchell**





## 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-Thu, 10am - 3pm

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

**Andamooka Community Hall:**  
Enquires, contact APOMA  
- **Kids Splash Pad & BBQ Area**  
- **Book Exchange & Art Exhibitions**

**Andamooka Dine-A-Mite Cafe:**  
Opal Creek Blvd. PH 0409 512 692  
*Located at the Community Hall*

**Andamooka Caravan Park & Playground:** 0477 184 485  
Opal Creek Blvd.

**Bottle Shop:** 8672 7183  
Opal Creek Blvd. Open 7 Days

**CWA:** 8672 7044  
**Andamooka Boo-Teek Op Shop**  
Open Fri & Sat, 9am - 12pm  
Top of CWA Rd

**Motor Vehicle Registration:**  
Roxby Downs Town Council

**Roving Vet:** 8642 3308

For more details, visit:

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

**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.

### VOLUNTEERS – THE BACKBONE OF OUR TOWN AND COMMUNITY:

Many hands make light work and volunteers have been major contributors to the town since its pioneering days, and many significant achievements have been made by volunteers to the absolute benefit of the town today. Without volunteers this town would not have such access to everyday community programs nor day to day access to our wonderfully maintained community facilities.

Currently with such busy lives and greater pressures on a day to day basis, many who would volunteer on a regular basis are finding it difficult to find time to volunteer. Yet they repeatedly and willingly put their hand up to assist where and when they can.

Conversely, there are others with time on their hands, who see no benefit in giving their time and abilities to the community, yet many of those place a high demand on community programs that are run by overworked volunteers, and occasionally some see it as their right to abuse the personal space and time of volunteers, or demand of them, and indeed some shamefully bully our volunteers if things don't go their way. We ask that if you encounter a problem with a community program, please contact the office via the office phone, email or in person within business hours.

Volunteering offers its own rewards. These may be different to each individual, but that sense of giving without need for reward is a reward within itself. We greatly value our volunteers and we work to ensure that they get access and support around safety and training, and for covering expenses. Volunteering can open up training opportunities to improve work readiness or to build an income, including around cottage industry. So yes, there are worthwhile benefits from volunteering.

We are establishing a great team of volunteer coordinators across a variety of community programs and facilities, so if you would like to know more, please contact the town office and we will put you in touch with the right people to discuss how you would like to get involved.

Email [volunteers.apoma@gmail.com.au](mailto:volunteers.apoma@gmail.com.au) or Call / Text **0477 184 485**

### 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**

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# KEEPING UP WITH BUSINESS

2020-21 has been an enormous year for town and program development, with major projects providing vital infrastructure to house and support the development and expansion of key community programs. Andamooka is undergoing change and expansion on a community level which should increase demand on services that will in turn serve to reinstate and grow local business.

Across the past twelve months with significant funding support from government grants and from BHP, together with many hours and many skills provided by dedicated volunteers and in-kind donations and labour provided by local business, we have achieved a huge leap forward with infrastructure in the town. This will see the emergence and establishment of new programs and activities in coming months bringing a new vibrancy to the town, which we anticipate will attract more visitors and increase residency on-going.

## TOWN HUB:

The town hub comprises of spaces within and around the community hall, extending across Opal Creek Blvd to the Christmas Hill corner and encompassing 'The Cottages'. This is being developed as a cultural heart to support and promote the town, it's amazing arts community and our history with their associated interpretive trails. Also to promote and support local business and cottage industry. This focus has been enabled by creating better facilities struggling to be accommodated within the Community Hall including youth and seniors, who will be relocated to purpose designed dedicated premises by the end of 2021. Also through the establishment of the community kitchen and wifi-hub, and the progressive development of the new tourist information centre and community shop within the hall spaces. A layout concept plan will be included in the next full newsletter in August.

## ANDAMOOKA RECREATION PRECINCT:

The existing camp ground power upgrade has attracted greater visitation and longer stays resulting in increased income to support maintenance and development across the whole of this significant community precinct which encompasses the developing 'Grader Shed Craft Centre' and the new Rec & Sport Facility. 2021-22 will see a major greening project extending from Water Way to Koska Street and along the space on the 'other side' of the campground creek line. Planting new areas throughout precinct as other recreational facilities are constructed including parking spaces, a Pump Track and mini-golf course. A master concept plan is being created and will be put out across the community before being presented at the forthcoming AGM/Community meeting in spring, for their approval.

## ANDAMOOKA RECREATION AND SPORT CENTRE:

This vital new project is on schedule for completion by November 2021 with the intention to have the Youth Program, social sports and children's and families activities underway by year end. The August newsletter will include a major feature on this new facility. Youth are busy working on how their space will look and function.

## 'THE CHURCH' COMMUNITY CENTRE:

This facility has a colourful but quite amazing history and it is being repaired, upgraded and revived to accommodate a range of passive recreational pursuits together with community worship activities. The Church was first built in the 1940's by local miners to meet the needs of many residents struggling to find a place of peace to gather for worship or personal solace.

From its inception it has brought many cultures together as they shared the labour of construction and maintenance, and their place of peace. This legacy continues today.

It has been literally flattened by extreme weather twice and badly damaged yet again in 2019, but through it all the rudimentary hand-built altar with its opal inlays has stood firm and undamaged, and it will continue to hold pride of place and will soon look over Andamooka to the East through the new sliding door that will open out into the open veranda from the main room.

The collapsed ceiling has been fully replaced with strong and well insulated corrugated iron and new power efficient lighting installed. Once the sliding door unit is delivered it will be installed in the centre of the wall connecting out into the veranda which will provide more air and light into the room and open up the veranda for easier access and social interaction between those two spaces.

A disabled toilet facility will replace the old 'long drop' arrangement under the main roof and the kitchen and entry spaces will be upgraded to better cater for a range of activities, primarily catering for seniors. Interest has been shown for a 'book club', music and choir, fabrics including quilting, and social gatherings for various groups including history groups, plus community group meetings, and the community church group will be happy to resume their activities in this upgraded space.

The upgrade project is looking towards completion in early spring subject to further delays from Covid19 lock-downs which has recently delayed delivery of the sliding door and other materials. In turn this delays progress with setting up the community shop in the hall. We are all looking forward to seeing 'the church' not only up and running, but also once again meeting needs within the broad community and assisting with community wellbeing.



***New ceiling and lighting has been installed.***



# COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

## The Bakehouse

**Mondays & Tuesdays**

**10:30 am - 2 pm**  
(last food orders in by 1:30 pm)

Homemade Pies & Sausage Rolls

Toasted Sandwiches

Munchies & Raisin Bread

Teas / Coffees

Range of Kombucha & Coconut Waters

Look for our weekly specials on Facebook:  
@ AndamookaHub

**At the Community Kitchen**  
Entrance Via Garden

## "Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> August is Hot Chook Night"

*'The Bakehouse' @ the Community Kitchen Via the Garden Side Entrance*

### MENU

#### Roast Chook & Chips

½ Chook n Chips Pack \$12.00

¼ Chook n Chips Pack \$9.00

Peas & Gravy (extra) \$1

#### Southern Fried Chook & Chips

3 Piece Chook n Chips Pack \$12.00

Peas & Gravy (extra) \$1

#### Takeaway by orders only

*Orders to be submitted by 2pm latest Monday*

*To order SMS or Mobile*

*0477 184 485*

*Cash or EFT transfer option available*

#### Call to place your Order & Pick-up Time



### 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**



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