



ANNUAL REPORTS 2023-24

Preserving our past & planning for our future

ANDAMOOKA PROGRESS & OPAL MINERS ASSOCIATION

Incorporated 1960

Chair's Report

To the members of APOMA and the Andamooka Community, once again it is time to reflect on the past 12 months of growth and opportunity which have occurred within our community.

2024 has been a year of consolidation after the post covid recovery experienced last year. Not only APOMA, but all organisations in Andamooka have increased their activities and engaged with the community & visitors with greater frequency, impact and success than in the recent past, a hopeful indication of faith in the future for Andamooka as a community.

To begin with, I'd like to acknowledge the committee who together have overseen and supported a raft of opportunities presented to the community and supported the town office in their everyday work maintaining town facilities, and services and supporting community programs. The committee have also supported the office in ongoing efforts to seek and secure funding and resources to enhance and maintain the quality of life for all town residents through infrastructure enhancement and planning, also responding to environmental events the consequences of which, may at times compromise these.

This year has seen the committee and office work closely together to inaugurate a succession plan, with staff training being an ongoing commitment throughout the year, ensuring that vital skill sets and redundancy are well entrenched within the committee and town office staffing structure.

As always, volunteers ensured the success of many projects and events, from maintenance to specific event activities, both fundraising and targeted, such as wellbeing focused activities. Without the ongoing commitment of a large number of volunteers and the volunteering beyond paid hours of the town office staff (which eclipses the paid time allocated to them), many events and activities would not be possible.

As economic factors reduce availability of time to commit to organisations, all voluntary organisations within the town remain under the stress of reduced numbers of people volunteering. This is a trend that began prior to the covid years, was consolidated during the covid years, and will possibly be the hardest to recover from. Volunteer availability is felt not only by Town Office staff coordinating events and activities, but also at the emergency services level. Despite this, the bright side is that when emergencies and events occur, informal volunteering and support still occurs spontaneously from within the community, evident during floods (storm) and fire events that have occurred across this year – a credit to the spirit of cooperation and support which exists within the town residents in stressful and demanding times.

A primary focus this year was to construct an updated Town and Community Plan, based on community aspirations for the future. This document will be a blueprint guide to realising aims for future development and for enhancement of Andamooka township, to be shared with the Outback Communities Authority (OCA) and associated agencies. Although at the point of completion, the Plan will remain a dynamic document to provide for and incorporate change. Where possible, aspirations and desires have been prioritised through ongoing community consultation, and aligned with the Outback Futures plan which drives the OCA's regional focus for the foreseeable future.

I would like to thank the community for their contribution to this long and detailed process, and hope that the greater majority of outcomes can be represented and achieved, and to acknowledge Gill Rowley, who has spent many hours examining and collating community responses, and bringing the the plan together with assistance of the committee and community groups, in preparation for submission.

Unforeseen opportunities also arose this year, and I would like to acknowledge the swift responses of both the Town Office staff and volunteers in enabling the fullest response to these. An offer of cubby house structures was made and responded to, as was the offer of capital resources from the Australian Defence Force (ADF) managers in Woomera. I'd like to acknowledge the volunteers lead by Ian Thompson, John Wilby, and town Projects Manager Richard Hawkins, who made the acquisition of these resources possible. Also Paul Williams' assistance with logistics and storage. Currently, the cubbies are being installed by volunteers, and a plan developed to obtain funding to utilise the ADF resources for new community infrastructure here in Andamooka. On behalf of the community, I express gratitude for both the generous gift from the ADF, and for the time and effort by both staff and volunteers for its acquisition and delivery.

I'd like to congratulate the Colour Run organisers and thank the volunteers who organised this event making it once again, an impressive success. Also, those who contributed to the camp-oven cook out who, assisted by members of Roxby Downs Rotary, worked hard to revitalize one of Andamooka's favourite events. Also Ben Roberts for curating this year's SALA event, which together with Andamooka Arts Collective ongoing exhibits, showcased the depths of artistic talent residing and practicing within this community. Also to acknowledge Office staff who yearly plan and deliver town BBQs, and other significant cultural events such as Australia Day, Easter events, and ANZAC and Remembrance Day ceremonies.

Local allied clubs and organisations have also enhanced their presence this year. The Lapidary club are expanding their workshop into more buildings, enabling a broader range of activities for members and opportunities for community workshops, with visitor donations funding additions to their range of equipment. The recreation and fitness group have three members undertaking formal training towards accreditation, sponsored by APOMA, in order to offer local fitness activities, as they move towards becoming an independent group..



Historic cottages

CHAIR'S REPORT cont.

Our wellbeing advocacy group, ACHWAG, have held information sessions and training and awareness programs across the year, many in association with other agencies both Government and independent, such as the Royal Flying Doctor Service. ACHWAG is also in the process of, through APOMA, negotiating for infrastructure to independently base its activities and to enable discreet meetings for providers and clients. Also possibly house a training centre. Collaboration between ACHWAG members and town office staff has made this possible, and I congratulate them as yet another layer of social support is embedded into our community, and for our community.

As with last year, I'd like to congratulate organisations and individuals external to APOMA for contributing to the vibrancy of Andamooka. This includes those who run private fundraising events supporting national health campaigns, those who yearly run the sentimental All Souls event held annually at the Cemetery, also the Andamooka Sports Shooting Association (ASSA) for the highly successful annual Andamooka 'Classic', showcasing Andamooka and attracting visitors from across Australia. Although held post June 24, the Andamooka Opal Fields Tourism Association (AOFTA) for their Opal Evolution Event. Congratulations also to AOFTA on its recent funding win for the Andamooka Airfield, Well deserved recognition for the effort they have put in.

Andamooka is growing, recovering, and responding. This year's challenges have been met, and I look forward to seeing the growth of Andamooka and its residents in all areas of life over the next year.

David Simons

APOMA FINANCIAL REPORT**A Snapshot of 2023-24:**

The 2023-24 financial year has primarily worked to budget and at 30 June 2024, delivered a modest overall surplus, with some funds generated via Association income streams, together with surplus funds in some budget sectors which are to be carried over into 2024-25. Additionally there is around \$15k of reimbursements, mostly under maintenance, billed out after the end of June, which will be received into the Operations account in the first quarter of 2024-25.

Reserve funds maintained their level, and both Operations and Association accounts hold carry-over and residual funds which, if not assigned or for contingency, will be presented to the incoming committee in February 2025 for discussion and discretionary distribution or assignment.

At the end of June Projects are running to budget with approximately \$130,000 outstanding to be settled following acquittal of four major grants in June, and a new major grant lodged in late June which is due for acquittal in June 2025, with the first of the funds due to be received into the Projects account in July 24.

We thank True North Business Solutions who provide the Association with an excellent bookkeeping service, and SKG Accountants for ongoing support to the Association, also for undertaking the complex annual audit. This professional combination assists APOMA to maintain independently serviced and overseen financials and a transparent approach to financial reporting.

FAQ - Summary of outcomes for Association services and activities:

ITEM	INCOME	EXPENSES	OUTCOME	NOTES
Community Bus - CARM \$7000, Community Donations & Hire \$1680	\$8,680	\$7,290	\$1,390	Bus remains serviceable, Due for replacement. Upgrades under discussion
Caravan & Camp Ground –net income contributes to the Recreation Precinct	\$13,040	\$2,290	\$10,750	Significant rise in the cost of utilities in this financial year.
Community Hall complex - net income contributes to the Town Hub Precinct	\$8,475	\$3,000	\$5,000	Rise resulting from increased Hall space use agreements 2024—\$3000 to current hall upgrades
Community Events overall outcome	\$6,210	\$4,210	\$2,000	Expenses include costs of non-fundraising events.
Community Scifi Event Aug 23—funds to courtyard shade structure upgrade	\$2,115	\$1,620	\$500	\$500 assigned to upgrade the shelter from shade cloth to hard cover.
Easter fundraiser events 2023 ex BBQ	\$980	\$30	\$850	Assigned -Trivia Night \$500 to Outdoor stage / Bingo. \$400 to RFDS
Colour-Run Oct 2024 - these funds not reflected in the 2023-24 financials	\$3,680	\$930	\$2,750	2024 Colour Run income incl \$1000 OCA sponsorship..

Overall, financials have run to budgets, those being Association, which relates to APOMA income and expenses, the CARM related Town Management budget which has community funds assigned as approved by the community following OCA consultation, and Projects into which grant funds are lodged. Project funds are assigned to and spent entirely on projects that the funds relate to.

It is important for the community to understand that although APOMA funds supplement the CARM budget, the Association budget is separate to the CARM Agreement budget. Association funds are assigned and overseen by the APOMA committee, which also has discretion for expending surplus funds from APOMA income streams, reporting to members. This includes donations to community.

The Committee oversees management of CARM funds which result from the CCS, and which are set out in the community approved CARM budget, reporting quarterly to the OCA, and audited annually.

Balance Sheet

Andamooka Progress and Opal Miners Inc (APOMA) As at 30 June 2024

30 JUNE 2024

Assets

Bank

Allocated Funds Account	19,671.20
Andamooka Projects	880.58
Debit Card	1,465.01
Operations Account	144,884.72
Reserve Funds Account	22,532.45
Total Bank	189,433.96

Current Assets

Accounts Receivable	206,375.80
Total Current Assets	206,375.80

Fixed Assets

Buildings & Facilities	2,464,305.00
Less Accumulated Depreciation on Building & Facilities	(121,716.74)
Less Accumulated Depreciation on Motor Vehicles	(10,514.15)
Motor Vehicles	28,125.00
Total Fixed Assets	2,360,199.11

Total Assets	2,756,008.87
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Liabilities

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	25,653.77
BAS Suspense Account	284.00
GST	(184.40)
PAYG Withholdings Payable	3,072.00
Rounding	0.37
Superannuation Payable	2,927.22
Suspense	150.00
Wages Payable - Payroll	(671.16)
Total Current Liabilities	31,231.80

Total Liabilities	31,231.80
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Net Assets	2,724,777.07
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Equity

Current Year Earnings	41,610.70
Retained Earnings	2,411,735.37
Revaluation Surplus	271,431.00
Total Equity	2,724,777.07

ACCOUNTS: What are these all used for?

- **Allocated funds** - this account is now the Association Account - now used for Assoc inc & exp
- **Andamooka Projects** - this holds grant income deposits - grant expenses paid out from this account.
- **Operations Account** - this holds CARM funds and other funds related to town management. Has been used as an everyday account for all deposits and most outgoings in the past. Still holds some Association funds.
- **Reserve Account** - Association's historic Reserve Funds also holding funds allocated for Bus replacement.
- **Debit Card** - this is a multi-use account where funds are deposited from other accounts to be used as assigned.

Projects and Maintenance

Maintenance:

Keeping up with maintenance was disrupted in 2024 by unforeseen government changes to the Community Development Program (CDP) which threatened the loss of the Program to Andamooka.

To their credit, the shattered CDP Crew of seven, volunteered to keep maintenance assistance going in the interest of the community. We thank each one of them for their dedication and significant volunteer time.

Following negotiation undertaken by the town office, the Program was reinstated and an agreement put in place commencing November till the end of June 2025, during which time we will continue to lobby to retain this valuable program in Andamooka.

The following significant maintenance asks were undertaken and completed across 2023-24 either fully done, or assisted by the hardworking CDP crew.

- Cemetery entrance shelter reroofing
- Repair & replacement of retic systems in all areas
- New pads in hall airconditioner
- Hard roofing to the café outdoor seating space
- Splash pad water system overhaul
- Cubby house repairs—pre installment

Grants and Projects

Carry-over Grants 23-24

Camp Ground Upgrade - Local Roads & Community Infrastructure (LRCI) Grant Phase 3 - Installation of a second ablation block and 3 new all-weather hard roof shade shelters.

Pump Track hard roof LRCI Phase 3 Grant— Installation of an extensive hard cover over the pump track recreational space, creating a sun and rain protective play space.

New LRCI Grant 2024-25 - Phase 4 -Old Grader Shed complex extensions June 24-May 25 to provide spaces for community groups and craft activities.

Small Grants

For 3 Recreation & Fitness group members to gain Certificate 3 in Fitness in order to provide local fitness instruction and activities,

For 3 local community members to train to become registered Snake catchers in order to comply with strict regulations imposed by Parks & Wildlife,

Aquittals -

Pump track and camp ground grants acquitted on time in June 2024.



Acknowledgements:

We thank the following sponsors, corporates and government funding bodies that have provided vital support to our community in our quest for growth, sustainability, resilience and wellbeing.



Government of South Australia
Department for Infrastructure
and Transport



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