

Award winning prospectus

Bega Valley Shire Council is celebrating after receiving a prestigious Local Government NSW RH Dougherty Award for community reporting last week.

The RH Dougherty Awards are named after former Local Government Association President, Robert Henry (Bob) Dougherty and recognise and encourage greater understanding and communication by Councils to their local communities.

It was the Infrastructure Prospectus that caught the eye of the selection panel of leading experts in the communications field and announced as the winner in the 'Reporting to Your Community' category for Councils from 30,000 – 70,000 in population.

Council's Acting General Manager, Anthony Basford, said the prospectus was developed to assist in driving investment in our area.

"It outlines a carefully mapped and scoped list of strategic investment opportunities across the Shire," Mr Basford said.



Council's Economic Development Manager Daniel Murphy, Mayor Cr Kristy McBain and Acting General Manager Anthony Basford celebrating the announcement of the Infrastructure Prospectus as the 2018 Local Government NSW RH Dougherty Award winner for 'Reporting to Your Community'.

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New contributions system good for business

Bega Valley Shire Council is putting local businesses first by becoming one of the first Councils in NSW to adopt a low upfront charge model for collecting business Water Supply and Sewerage Section 64 contributions.

It had been identified that the previous requirement to pay upfront could be seen as a deterrent to development in the Shire, with many businesses required to pay large amounts before the first customer even walked through the door.

The Section 64 headworks charges apply for commercial and industrial developments that place an additional load on water supply and sewerage systems.

The new high consumption system introduces a user-pays model, making the system fairer, more affordable, more transparent and more attractive to business.

Council's Water and Sewerage Assets Development Engineer, David Rodgers, said the new system will remove a significant financial deterrent to new businesses, or those relocating to new premises.

"Importantly all commercial and industrial customers will now pay for the water and sewerage service capacity they actually use, instead of paying upfront for their predicted use," Mr Rodgers said.

"We are very happy to better support small business in particular through taking this step and we feel strongly that it will encourage business growth and new start-up businesses.

"It will also act as an incentive for businesses to reduce their water consumption, with those using less water consequently paying less.

"The change is not retrospective, with the high consumption charge to be activated when a Certificate of Compliance for water supply and sewerage is issued," Mr Rodgers said.

For more information on the changes, visit www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/water/section64

Bega Valley Commemorative
Civic Centre
Zingel Place, Bega
www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/Civiccetre [begavalleyciviccentre](https://www.facebook.com/begavalleyciviccentre)

Visit our website to book a space or see what's on!

FOGO start set for October

More than 12,000 town residents will change to a new, innovative way to manage waste when Bega Valley Shire Council introduces the FOGO bin collection service from October 29.

More than 40 NSW councils are using FOGO which stands for Food Organics Garden Organics. In the Bega Valley, the new service will divert around 1000 tonnes of organic waste from landfill each year and turn it into high quality compost.

"FOGO is a simple way to make a big improvement in waste management."

- Toby Browne

When FOGO starts, weekly collections will replace the current four-weekly garden organics collection for households who currently have a green bin service. There will be no change for people who don't have a green bin service.

Waste Services Manager, Toby Browne, said FOGO is a simple way to make a big improvement in waste management.

"Instead of sending food scraps to landfill, residents will be able to put them in with their garden waste which will be made into high quality compost at the Merimbula Recycling and Waste Depot," Mr Browne said.

"We are excited to introduce FOGO because it saves on landfill, results in a valuable resource



Council's Waste Management Coordinator, Joley Vidau, shows St Patrick's Primary School pupils Lily Mark and Blake Taylor how to use the kitchen caddies which Council will deliver to residents when it introduces FOGO in late October.

and gives us all an opportunity to be smarter with waste."

A \$641,400 *Waste Less Recycle More* grant from NSW Environment Protection Authority is helping with the transition, including the purchase and distribution of kitchen caddies.

Householders will know it's time to start

'FOGOing' when they receive their kitchen caddy, which is a small, lidded bin that can sit on the kitchen bench or under the sink.

Additionally, the grant will go towards a free waste hotline and enhanced features on the Bega Valley Waste APP. Information booths are also in Council libraries and tips and Council has established a dedicated FOGO webpage www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/waste that includes frequently asked questions.

"Making sure there is no contamination of the compost product is the key to ensuring the success of FOGO, so it's really important we have the right information available on what waste goes in what bin," Mr Browne said.

"We understand and appreciate that change can be a challenge, but we have a great community here and most people understand how important it is that we reduce the amount of waste we produce, and ensure that we recycle as much as possible."

The *Waste Less Recycle More* program aims to encourage local communities to think differently about waste avoidance, recycling, littering and illegal dumping.

It funds projects which deliver conveniently located, value-for-money waste infrastructure that makes it easier for households and business to 'do the right thing'.

It also encourages innovative regulatory approaches to protecting the environment and supports investment in new waste programs.



will be in town for the summer holidays!

To help holiday accommodation managers introduce FOGO to our visitors, we are hosting FOGO Drop-In Sessions

- **Bermagui** Community Centre meeting room, August 21, 22 & 24, 9.30am-5.30pm
- **Bega** Civic Centre, August 23 & September 11, 9am-5.30pm
- **Eden** Library meeting room, August 28 & September 10, 9.30am-5pm
- **Tathra** Beach House, August 29 & 30, 9am-5.30pm
- **Merimbula** Bega Valley Regional Learning Centre, September 3, 4, 5 & 7, 9am-5.30pm

FOGO is coming to the Bega Valley on October 29

Stay updated Follow our Facebook page @BegaValleyWasteandRecycling
 Download the FREE Bega Valley Waste APP
 Visit www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/waste Phone 6499 2222



Celebrating National Tree Day

Bega Valley Shire Council celebrated National Tree Day this year by providing 2000 trees and tree guards to Far South Coast Landcare for Bega Valley Landcare group revegetation projects.

The plants are locally sourced natives funded by fees from tree action requests received by Council.

Council's Environmental Services Coordinator, Michael Fiedler, said plant giveaways have been held in previous years; however in 2018 BVSC is trialling giving the plants to the Landcare groups.

"The idea behind the plant donation is to replace trees removed for safety and development reasons with new trees and, while the plant giveaways have been popular, there was a far greater demand for smaller shrubs appropriate for backyards," Mr Fiedler said.

"We hope that by supporting the various Landcare groups in this way the replacement of more trees in the landscape will be achieved."

Far South Coast Landcare Coordinator, Chris Post, welcomed the announcement.

"It is great to see this sort of support, as it recognises the important role that Landcare groups provide in terms of delivering positive community and environmental outcomes," Mr Post said.

The trees will be planted in spring when they will have the best chance of establishing.

If you would like more information on joining a local Landcare group please contact Chris Post at chris@fscsla.org.au.



National Tree Day was held on 29 July.



Planning Panels

Notice of Public Meeting Southern Regional Planning Panel

The Panel will meet to hear submissions from the community on the following:

- 2017STH027 - Bega Valley - DA2017.445: 1070 Princes Highway, Frogs Hollow, Recreation Flight School - Stage construction of a flying school that would provide packages to students including: accommodation, meals, tuition and flight training.

When: Wednesday, 29 August 2018 at 12pm

Where: Bega Valley Commemorative Civic Centre - Auditorium, Zingel Place, Bega

To register to speak at the meeting, please contact the Planning Panels Secretariat before 4pm on Monday, 27 August 2018 (02) 8217 2060 or email enquiry@planningpanels.nsw.gov.au.

A further public meeting will be held at a later date for the Panel to determine this application/s.

Any person may attend the meeting to observe.

The Panel is required to make an audio record of the meeting and make the recording publicly available on the Planning Panels website. You should be aware that this may include your personal information if you are presenting to the Panel.

For more information: (02) 8217 2060 or visit planningpanels.nsw.gov.au

Heritage Assistance Fund

Assistance to conserve and promote the Shire's heritage places is currently available through Bega Valley Shire Council's Local Heritage Assistance Fund.

Money from the fund is available to individuals, organisations and community groups to help conserve heritage items in small grants of up to \$5,000 (excluding GST) on a dollar-for-dollar basis.

Eligible projects may involve the repair, maintenance or reinstatement of missing items on heritage buildings, and can range from structural work through to painting.

Owners of heritage items in the Shire are encouraged to apply, with applications closing on Sunday 16 September 2018. After this time, applications will not be received until the next financial year.

All applications will be assessed on merit and the funding allocated at the discretion of Council.

For more information and to apply online visit www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/grants.

Council's Heritage Advisor, Trevor King, is available for free consultation and advice on heritage places.

Council picks up Dougherty Award

From Page 1

"The fantastic contribution made by the community through the Bega Valley Shire Community Strategic Plan 2040 development provided the direction and the basis for the priority list.

"We believe the prospectus is an innovative way to showcase the projects that Council is looking to complete to address the expressed desires of the community and to receive this level of recognition is very encouraging.

"Overcoming the challenge of attracting public and private investment and grasping opportunities to fund infrastructure and development projects are

real priorities and would boost our regional strategic advantage, stimulate the local economy and in turn enrich our local communities."

The document, which has been distributed widely throughout the Federal and State levels of Government, has now been paired with a video to better promote our priority projects and the area more broadly as a great place to invest and do business.

For more information on the Bega Valley Shire Council Infrastructure Prospectus and to view the document and video visit www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/infrastructure-prospectus.

Village playground renewals underway

Works commenced recently at Wyndham's Memorial Park, one of four rural village playgrounds set to see a significant upgrade under the Stronger Country Communities Fund (Round 1).

Bemboka's Bicentennial Park, Mogareeka's Ray Whyman Reserve and Cobargo's Apex Park will also share in the approximately \$350,000 investment (funded by the NSW Department of Industry with a co-contribution from Council).

The playground renewals will provide our local children with access to functional, safe and



A new barbecue shelter at Wyndham's Memorial Park marked the commencement of an upgrade to four of the Shire's village playgrounds.

imaginative play spaces and will provide areas for families and

community groups to gather in a social setting.

Depending on the location, the work will also include fencing, picnic tables and shelters.

Council is currently sourcing expressions of interest from playground equipment suppliers and once a preferred supplier is selected, equipment options will be made available for public comment.

For more information of the projects, contact Council's Recreation Projects Supervisor, Matthew Collins, on (02) 6499 2222.

Bega Valley Shire
library
Bega, Beramgui, Eden & Tura Marrang

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ClubGRANTS supporting the community

Inspiring work being carried out by organisations across the Shire to improve community wellbeing and address social issues was highlighted at the recent Bega Valley ClubGRANTS presentation.

The announcement of \$65,460 to assist with the implementation of 34 community projects follows on from an earlier \$31,000 allocation to support the Tathra and District Bushfire Recovery efforts under this year’s Category 1 pool.

Bega Valley ClubGRANTS have now contributed close to \$1.4 million to the local community across the last 15 years.

The ClubGRANTS scheme is managed by Bega Valley Shire Council, but it is a shared State Government and club industry program, funded by a gaming machine tax on registered clubs with gaming machine profits in excess of \$1 million.

Six local clubs and the Bega Valley Shire Council were represented on the local ClubGRANTS committee this year - Bermagui Country Club, Club Bega, Club Sapphire, Eden Fishermen’s Recreation Club, Merimbula RSL, and Tathra Beach Bowling Club.

The chairperson of the Bega Valley ClubGRANTS committee, Robert Beuzeville, said the funding of the 34 projects would benefit a range of local community activities and consolidate the program’s exceptional history.

Some of the organisations and projects funded in 2018 include:



Happy faces representing a number of community organisations at the Bega Valley ClubGRANTS presentation.

- Bega Valley Community Forum - supporting and advocating for people who live with chronic pain.
- Rotary Beekeeping For Life Youth Program - working with Bega High School’s special education students to develop skills in beekeeping husbandry.
- A new music streaming platform developed for musicians with disabilities in the South East region.
- Youth workshops held at the Eden Community Access Centre that use technology such as virtual reality hardware and video game software to teach young people the skills required to make video games.
- Little Wings Bega Flight Program - a transport service for seriously ill children and their families requiring treatment at the Children’s Hospital in Sydney.

Merimbula water supply interruption

Residents and businesses in the Merimbula CBD and Fishpen areas will be without water overnight on Tuesday, 21 August to enable the construction of a new water pipe to the new supermarket development.

The water will be switched off at 11:00pm on the Tuesday night and is expected to be turned back on by 4:00am Wednesday morning (22 August).

Council’s Water and Sewer Assets Coordinator, Chris Best, said the new pipe will lead to improved flow

and fire safety for the Merimbula CBD.

“The work that the local contractor and developer are doing will make Merimbula CBD safer by supplying larger volumes of water when a structure fire or bush fire threatens our community,” Mr Best said.

“The timing of the work is aimed at reducing disruption as much as possible, however if you are situated in the impacted area it is vital that you have enough water stored in containers for your needs.”

Letters are being distributed and reminders and updates will be provided on Council’s Facebook page and website www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au.

For more information, contact Peter James from Guideline South Coast on 0408 488 464.



Right: The areas of Merimbula that will be impacted by the supply interruption are marked in blue.



Community Recycling Centres

Waste matters

Drop off your household problem waste for recycling

Bega Valley Community Recycling Centre is located at:

Merimbula Waste & Recycling Depot

Red Hill Road off Sapphire Coast Drive

FREE SERVICE



www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/waste

These items are accepted:

 Paint	 Gas bottles and fire extinguishers	 Fluoro globes and tubes
 Household and car batteries	 Smoke detectors	 Motor oils and other oils

Council Meeting wrap up

Alcohol Free Zones

On the back of an application from Bega Police and the Bega Valley Shire Liquor Accord and a recent public consultation period, Council has resolved to establish a new alcohol free zone in the Bega CBD and re-establish the Merimbula CBD zone.

Signage will be put in place to identify these areas.

Hotel Australasia

This longstanding matter was back before Council after legal representatives of developers

Irisha Pty Ltd and Rubycove Pty Ltd informed Council recently that they no longer wished to purchase the heritage listed building.

After formally accepting this correspondence, Councillors resolved to put the sale out to the market, with the three Eden based real estate agents to be given the opportunity to provide a detailed marketing plan to Council - including costings related to commissions and expected expenses.

Council officers are then in turn to provide a further report to Council, with a view to moving the process forward in a timely manner.

Weed Management Plan

Council has adopted the principles and priorities identified within the South East Strategic Weed Management Plan and further prioritised actions through eight local management programs within the Bega Valley Shire Local Weed Management Program.

The plan was the subject of a recent public consultation period.

Native Title Claim

Council will request to become party to the application lodged by the South Coast People in the Federal Court for determination of Native Title.

This in relation to land south of Sydney including the Bega Valley Shire Local Government area.

Merimbula Aldi

There will be no reduction in Section 94 contributions payable

by the developers of the Aldi Supermarket in Merimbula.

The decision comes following an application by the developers to have the fees waived on a number of public benefit grounds.

Next Meeting Wednesday 29 August @ 2pm

Council Chambers,
Biamanga Room, Bega Valley
Commemorative Civic Centre,
Bega

Watch the meeting live

Each Council meeting is live streamed for you to watch on your desktop, tablet or mobile.

www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/councilmeetings

Flood damage work continues

Works to repair roads infrastructure damaged during the 2016 East Coast Low flood event continue across the Shire.

The Upper Brogo area, Summerhill Road at Yowaka and Kameruka Street in Bemboka are the latest to come in for attention from our local contractors John Michelin and Son Pty Ltd and RD Miller Pty Ltd.

Tasks undertaken have included gravel re-sheeting, road shoulder scour repairs, pipe replacements, unblocking culverts and drainage devices, repairing landslips,

repairing damaged culverts and removing trees and debris from watercourses.

Funding for these projects was obtained from the Public Works Authority Natural Disaster Relief Arrangements Program that is administered through the Roads and Maritime Service.

It is expected that all of the 480 damaged areas will be repaired by Christmas, only 15 months after the schedule of works was received from the RMS.



Kameruka Street in Bemboka has been greatly improved by recent flood repair work as these before (above left) and after (above right) photos illustrate.

What's on... LOCAL EVENTS

www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/events

Have your event listed on Council's Local Events Calendar

- **Cobargo Market Day**
Every Saturday starting at 8am, Cobargo Village.
- **Bega Valley Shire Council Meeting**
Wednesday 29 August 2018, 2pm
Bega Valley Commemorative Civic Centre



Scan the QR code with your smartphone to go directly to the Local Events Calendar
Don't have a reader? Visit your app store to download one

Planning proposal for Wolumla

A draft planning proposal that amends the Bega Valley Local Environmental Plan 2013 (LEP) to allow for an additional supply of residential land in Wolumla is currently on exhibition for public comment.

This planning proposal outlines the zoning and minimum lot sizes for four 'deferred sites' under Council's previous Bega Valley Local Environmental Plan 2002.

Town Planner, Rob Quick, said that the majority of the land had been identified for future growth as part of previous planning schemes, pending further investigation.

"The proposal provides for the supply of additional residential land in Wolumla and will be supported by a more detailed place-based review of the village that focuses on the needs of the community over the next 20 years," Mr Quick said.

To view the draft proposal and



The exhibited draft proposal will set the direction for the future growth and development of Wolumla.

supporting documentation and to provide your feedback, visit www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/haveyoursay.

Hardcopies are available at Council's Bega office and Shire libraries.

The exhibition period will run through to Friday, 7 September 2018.

For further information, contact Rob Quick on 6499 2117.

A very Bandara farewell



The children at Bandara gave Amanda Bradfield a lovely farewell recently.

On Monday, 30 July staff and children at Bandara Children's Services sadly farewelled their much loved Supervisor Amanda Bradfield who, after almost five years with Bega Valley Shire Council's Children's Services, is moving on to pursue an opportunity in the Community Services sector.

Amanda initially commenced with Children's Services as an Early Childhood Teacher, however for the last three years has also been the Nominated Supervisor of both

Bandara and the Sapphire Mobile Preschool.

Amanda's strong, personable and hands-on leadership throughout the many changes within the Children's Services team during this time provided not only a sense of stability for staff and families but the promise of a successful future for the services.

Staff, children and families thank Amanda for her commitment and support over the last five years and wish her all the best in the future.

Outdoor teams on the job

Bermagui

The footpath leading to the Bridge Motors Reserve toilets has been replaced and the toilet block is set for a paint job.

An old damaged fence adjacent to Dervillaea Lane has been removed and replaced with new bollards.

The doors, hinges and latches on the toilets adjacent to the Surf Club have been replaced resulting in improved access and privacy.

The Payne's Island toilet block has also come in for some attention, with roof repairs increasing natural light and preventing leaks.



New gardens have greatly improved the Merimbula Boat Ramp area.

Bega

Damaged and sunken pavers in Carp Street and Ayres Walkway have been replaced, while a street furniture program is underway, with timber being cleaned, planed and re-stained and bolts being replaced.

Merimbula

New gardens have been installed around the boat ramp in Merimbula. They feature all native planting with Grevilleas, Flowering Gums, Blue Lomandras, Westringias, Happy Wonderers and other grasses being established.

Eden

The bus shelters at Eden Cove and Endeavour Park have been stained and painted to improve the life of the new timber structures, while the picnic tables around town have also come in for attention.

Road Signs

The Urban Maintenance team have been busy renewing unsealed road signs across the Shire, including road names, 'Give Way', 'Stop' and guide signs.

Spraying

Glyphosphate spraying will be undertaken by all the teams through until April 2019 to suppress the encroachment of grass onto a variety of assets.

Portrait Award judge announced

Dr Andrew Frost has been announced as the guest judge for this year's Shirley Hannan National Portrait Award.

Dr Frost is a researcher in cinema and contemporary art and the art critic for The Guardian Australia.

He has also written and presented several ABC documentaries on Australian contemporary art, along with writing and directing My Space Program: The Art of Peter Hennessey.

Now one of the nation's richest, the \$50,000 non-acquisitive prize for realistic portraiture has run biennially at the Bega Valley Regional Gallery (BVRG) since 2002.

BVRG Director, Iain Dawson, said a prerequisite for the award is that those works selected to hang depict their subjects accurately and demonstrate a sound skill and knowledge of drawing and painting technique.

"We are very excited about the calibre of entries we have already received this year and there is no doubt that the 2018 winner will be an outstanding example of contemporary portraiture," Mr Dawson said.

"I am so looking forward to Andrew visiting the region to judge this year's award, he brings such a



Dr Andrew Frost has been announced as the guest judge for this year's Shirley Hannan National Portrait Award.

wealth of Australian Art knowledge – he is certainly going to have his work cut out for him."

Entries for the Shirley Hannan National Portrait Award are now open via digital channels only at <http://gallery.begavalley.nsw.gov.au> and close at midnight on Friday, 28 September. The finalists will be notified on Monday, 8 October.

The finalist selection panel is currently being confirmed and will be announced soon.

The Shirley Hannan National Portrait Award exhibition will run from 26 October – 8 December 2018.

SHIRLEY HANNAN NATIONAL PORTRAIT AWARD 2018

ENTRIES NOW OPEN
\$50,000 non-acquisitive award for realistic portraiture

info & entry forms
<http://gallery.begavalley.nsw.gov.au>

2016 highly commended MICHAEL ZAVROS Madonna and Child, oil on linen 40 x 26.6cm

Tathra & District Recovery

Revegetation planning

Council's Environment and Recreation sections have been developing a restoration plan for the reserves that border Tathra Headland which were severely impacted by the bushfire.

This is being done in consultation with key community groups.

Some of the Melaleuca in particular is not showing signs of recovery.

As part of the *Green Shoots* program Council is intending to host community replanting events as part of the restoration of what is one of the most beautiful and scenic locations in Tathra.

Council will promote these events and invite community participation once dates are finalised.

The popular Tathra Forest Wildlife Reserve was severely impacted by the bushfire, including damage to viewing platforms, bridges, walking tracks and interpretive signage.

This area is popular with local residents and visitors alike and Council is working closely with the Community Trust that manages the Wildlife Reserve to see this area open to the public as soon as possible.



The Trust has received funding to carry out repair works to the various 'built' facilities within the reserve and these works have now commenced.

Erosion control works have been carried out and replanting of some of the sensitive sections of the reserve will occur in Spring or when conditions become more favourable.

Majority of dangerous trees removed

The majority of dangerous trees within Tathra have now been removed by contractors being coordinated by NSW Public Works Advisory.

There are still a number of trees to be removed in the Tathra River Estate area.

It is hoped that these works will occur in coming weeks once issues around proximity to powerlines and access are addressed.

Council has received concerns that there have been trees removed that are showing signs of recovery, with epicormic growth starting to appear.

Unfortunately these trees were identified to have severe structural or stability issues that made them unsafe and unsuitable to remain close to homes.

Environmental protection and restoration

Council in partnership with Local Land Services and the Bega Local Aboriginal Lands Council has been carrying out soil stabilisation and erosion control works throughout the forested areas west of Tathra, through to the Bega River, Racecourse Creek Wetlands and Blackfellows Lake.

Erosion control works have also been implemented along the clifftop reserves from Tathra Headland to Kianinny and in some key locations at Vimy Ridge.

The basic measures that were put in place have proved effective in trapping sediment during the small rainfall events that have occurred.

These works have proved particularly important in the heavily disturbed areas immediately adjoining the urban interface of Tathra.

Council has been successful in receiving grant funding from the Department of Primary Industries – Crown Lands, to purchase erosion control products and to fund

environmental restoration.

In coming months erosion control products such as coir logs, jute fabric and sediment control mesh will be put in place now that demolition, tree removal and asset protection zone clearing works have been completed.

Council will also be using hydro mulch and native grass seeds on the large areas of exposed soil in the areas behind Ocean View Terrace, Wildlife Drive and Dilkerra Road.



Hay bales and coir logs trapping stormwater and sediment during a recent rain event.

Safe disposal of treated timber

Council is aware of a number of CCA treated timber retaining walls that suffered varying degrees of damage during the bushfire event.

Council and NSW Public Works have been promoting the need to appropriately dispose of these materials due to the risk of environmental harm.

To date there has been relatively little uptake of the offer of assistance for offsite removal and transport of CCA Treated Timber waste by the NSW Public Works Advisory.

Should residents want further information, there has been a factsheet prepared following the fires.

An electronic copy can viewed at [https://www.](https://www.emergency.nsw.gov.au/Documents/factsheet-cca-timber-tathra.pdf)



NSW Public Works Advisory are still offering to assist with the removal of damaged CCA treated timber retaining walls.

[emergency.nsw.gov.au/Documents/factsheet-cca-timber-tathra.pdf](https://www.emergency.nsw.gov.au/Documents/factsheet-cca-timber-tathra.pdf)

Asbestos in public reserves

Post fire inspections of the public reserve areas identified several loose fragments of asbestos that is believed to have been disposed of during historical building works.

NSW Public Works Advisory have been assisting Council in seeking State Government support to fund the removal of the asbestos.

Public Works engaged a specialist Occupational Hygienist who identified and treated fragments in order to stabilise them prior to their removal.

The required environmental and safety approvals have been received and Public Works will soon be engaging a contractor to remove the asbestos fragments in accordance with EPA guidelines.

Tathra & District Recovery

Construction commences Recovery and resilience grants

The bushfire recovery efforts reached a significant milestone since our last edition of *Council News*, with construction commencing on some homes.

Over 80 people have now visited the Recovery Support Service in Tathra for assistance with matters ranging from Development Applications and insurance through to navigating government departments, employment and wellbeing.

The service is open six days a week (see flyer below right for full details).

A women's morning tea is being organised by the Chaplaincy Network for 1 September.

Clinical Psychologist, Ruth Holt, will be the guest speaker.

The monthly community recovery meetings at Tathra Public School continue to be well attended (see below for all the dates).



- ✓ **First rebuilding has commenced.**
- ✓ **68 applications approved for demolition.**
- ✓ **6 applications approved to rebuild dwellings.**
- ✓ **10 applications approved to rebuild retaining walls.**
- ✓ **The removal of dangerous trees is well advanced.**

The Tathra and District Recovery and Resilience Grants Program is now open.

The grant program will add to the work already undertaken by community members and volunteers across the Shire.

The Tathra and District Recovery and Resilience Activities Program has been developed in response to the March 2018 bushfires.

The program will facilitate social engagement activities to assist members of the Tathra and District communities to link back into their support networks, tell their experiences, address issues arising from the disaster and build a greater sense of future safety.

Individuals and groups are encouraged to consider activities and events that will foster social cohesion, resilience and wellbeing in residents and home owners

and apply for support through the grants program.

Activities must be driven by local people and groups with the purpose of assisting affected communities to heal and grow stronger into the future.

There will be two rounds for grant distribution, with \$25,000 available in each. Non-incorporated groups may apply for up to \$1,000 and incorporated groups may apply for up to \$5,000.

Program timelines are:

Round 1 applications close on August 31, 2018.

Round 2 applications close October 31, 2018.

For more information please contact Anne Leydon (Coordinator – Tathra and District Recovery Support Service) on 6499 2475 or email recovery@begavalley.nsw.gov.au

Tathra & District Recovery

Community Meetings

Bega Valley Shire Council is committed to supporting Tathra, Reedy Swamp and Vimy Ridge residents through the bushfire recovery. Based on your feedback we will continue to hold monthly meetings to keep you up to date, answer your questions and share information.

All impacted residents are invited to attend.

Meetings will be held monthly

6pm - 7pm @ Tathra Public School Hall

✓ 12 July

✓ 9 August

6 September

4 October

1 November

13 December

Tathra and District Recovery Support Service

The Tathra and District Bushfire Recovery Centre and Information Point has transitioned to the Recovery Support Service (RSS).

This service is available to anyone who feels they have been impacted by the Tathra and District fires.

The Recovery Support Service will be open for 12 months at **Unit 6 Tathra Beach House Apartments in Tathra**. The service's Recovery and Resilience Officers, who are qualified caseworkers, can also offer home visits for greater convenience.

Our Recovery and Resilience Officers will offer you one-on-one assistance with your personal and practical needs such as:

- Working out what needs to be done and developing an action plan
- Finding out what financial and non-financial supports are available to you
- Assisting with referral and application processes
- Managing grief and loss
- Navigating insurance and the rebuilding process
- Liaising with Centrelink and other government bodies to complete paperwork
- Developing strategies on how best to support children, families and yourself after disaster

The service is available Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9.00am - 4.30pm; with extended hours from 9.00am - 7.00pm on Thursdays. The service will also operate from 9.30am - 4.30pm on Saturdays.

To access the Recovery Support Service, visit the office at **Unit 6 Tathra Beach House Apartments in Tathra**, call the Recovery Hotline on **6499 2475**, or email recovery@begavalley.nsw.gov.au.

The Recovery Support Service is jointly funded under the Commonwealth-State Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements.

Contact us

p. 02 6499 2222
e. council@begavalley.nsw.gov.au
a. Zingel Place, PO Box 492
Bega NSW 2550

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