

# Bega Valley Shire Council News

Issue 14 - Tuesday 27 November 2018

connecting council and the community

## Take the plunge this summer

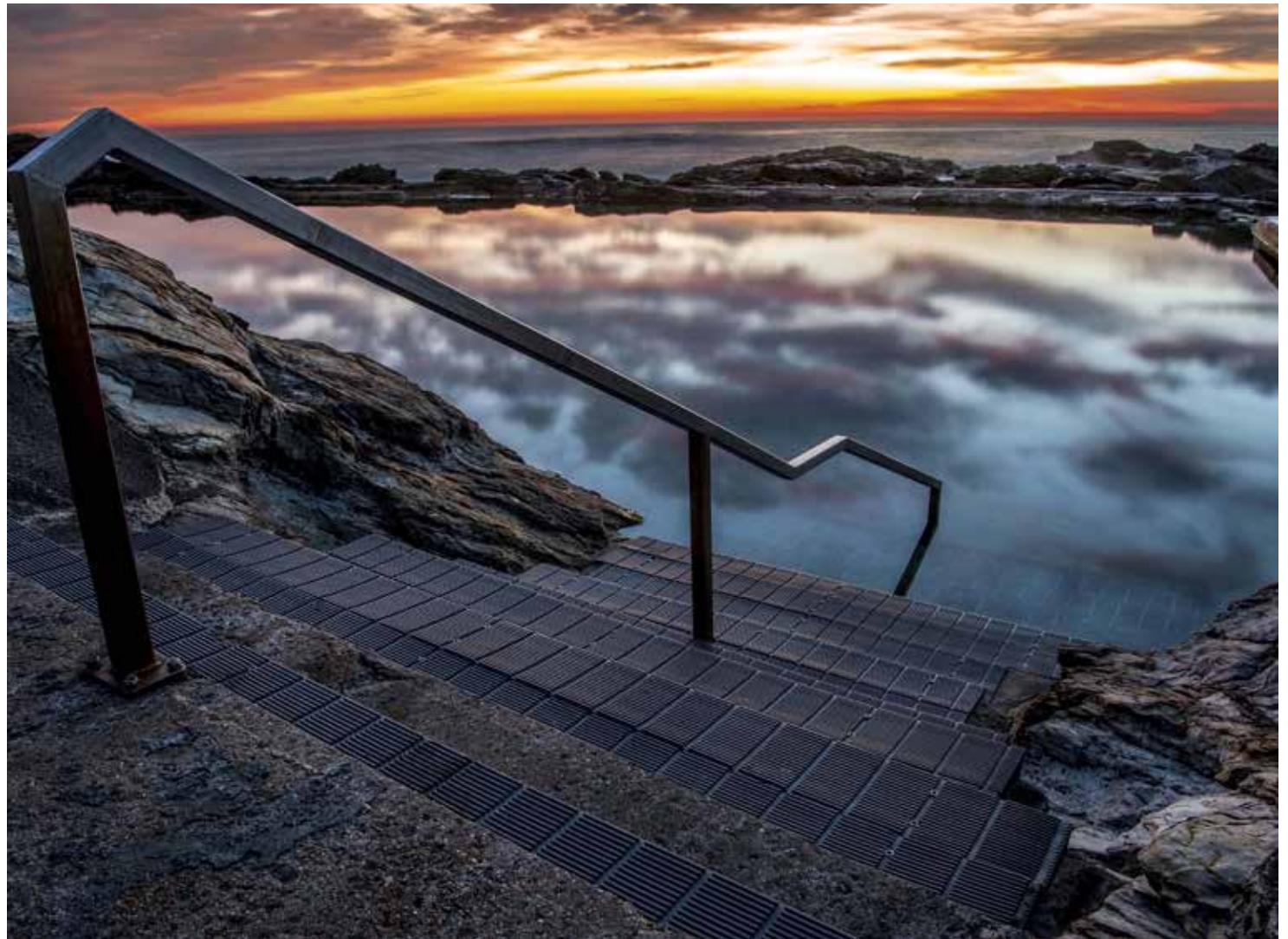
Our sparkling and unspoilt beaches are a huge attraction for tourists, sea-changers and locals. For many of us, it's why we live here!

The good news with summer approaching is that the water quality of our beaches is up to great standard and very safe to swim in.

Since 2004, Council's Environmental Health Officers have been carrying out the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage's Beachwatch Partnership monitoring program, which runs from December until the middle of March each year.

This is an important public safety measure, which gives the community accurate information on water cleanliness and enables people to be confident in choosing where to swim in the warmer months.

Each week, Council staff monitor 14 swimming sites throughout the Bega Valley - Camel Rock, Bruce Steer Pool, Horseshoe Bay, Beares Beach, Blue Pool, Mogareeka Inlet, Tathra Beach, Short Point, Bar Beach, Merimbula's Main Beach, Pambula Beach, Pambula River Mouth, Aslings Beach and Cocora Beach.



*Bermagui's Blue Pool is one of 14 swimming sites that are monitored weekly as part of Bega Valley Shire Council's commitment to the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage's Beachwatch Partnership Program.*

*All of the local sites received the highest possible rating for the 2017-18 monitoring period.*

*Continued Page 3*

## Annual Report endorsed by Council

The 2017-18 Annual Report has been published to Council's website after being formally endorsed at last week's Council meeting.

The report has been prepared to comply with all legislative requirements and guidelines and to review achievements against the 2017-18 Operational Plan.

In accordance with Section 428 of the Local Government Act 1993, each year Council is required to produce an Annual Report that provides details of the organisation's activities and finances over the period of the previous

financial year. The NSW Office of Local Government also provides guidelines for the development of the document and requires a copy of the report for its records.

As one of the key points of accountability between Council and our community and in keeping with the Integrated Planning and Reporting framework, the report captures the achievements towards the 2017-2021 Delivery Program and includes information prescribed by Clause 217 of the Local Government (General) Regulation 2005 and other statutory information.

Attached to the Annual Report is an itemised update against the adopted 2017-2018 Operational Plan by Community Strategic Plan theme area.

Due to exceptional circumstances, including the

impacts of the bushfires in the Shire, Council has been granted an extension in time to have the annual financial statements audited.

Consequently, this initial report does not include the Audited Financial Statements, Notes and Information, and financial information included in the body of the document is labelled as unaudited and subject to change.

The published document will be updated as soon as the audited financial statements, notes and associated information are available. This approach is in line with advice from the Office of Local Government.

To view the Annual Report visit [https://www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/cp\\_themes/default/page.asp?p=DOC-UMJ-26-01-72](https://www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/cp_themes/default/page.asp?p=DOC-UMJ-26-01-72) or one of the Shire libraries where hard copies are available.

Bega Valley

## Commemorative Civic Centre

Zingel Place, Bega

[www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/Civiccetre](http://www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/Civiccetre)



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# Locals clean up at Coastal Conference

Bega Valley Shire residents and industry groups received recognition for excellence in coastal management and protections at the recent New South Wales Coastal Conference.

Tathra Landcare and the South Durras Landcare group were announced as joint winners of the 'Community Involvement' award; recognising Tathra Landcare's 25-year commitment to protecting and improving the Tathra environment, its successful fight against Bitou Bush and its recent contribution to the Tathra bushfire recovery.

Cuttagee's Stuart Cameron was awarded the 'Local Hero' award for his dedication to the local coastal environment and in particular his work on the highly acclaimed Coastal Weeds Project.

Mr Cameron has been the driving force behind the success of this program over the last ten years, that sees two annual sweeps undertaken of all the Shire's beaches, cliff tops and coastal reserves to remove invasive weeds and litter.

The Shire's oyster farmers were recognised for their ongoing commitment to the health of our local estuaries, innovative practices and participation in cutting edge research, winning the 'Public Good' award.

Council's Environmental Services Coordinator, Derek van Bracht, said that the awards were a very well-deserved recognition for the many years of commitment that all the winners have made to our Shire's coastline.

Mayor Kristy McBain said there is no doubt that the amazing condition of the Bega Valley Shire's coastal environments are a direct result



*Stuart Cameron (right) is congratulated by Mayor Cr Kristy McBain on his NSW Coastal Conference 'Local Hero' award for the highly acclaimed Coastal Weeds Project.*

of the actions of people and groups like Tathra Landcare, Stuart and his project teams from the Local Lands Councils, and our local oyster farmers.

"The combined passion they have for our coast is

second to none," Cr McBain said.

The Coastal Conference awards were a fabulous part of the three-day conference that attracted 250 delegates from across Australia, to Merimbula from November 7-9.

## Young Women's Scholarships

Bega Valley Shire Council is calling on young local women to apply for one of five Young Women's Scholarships worth \$500 each, in acknowledgement of International Women's Day (IWD) 2019.

IWD is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women. The theme for 2019 is Balance for Better (#BalanceForBetter), highlighting the importance of collaboration towards gender equality.

Council will award the five scholarships to women who are living in the Bega Valley, aged between 12 and 25 with a dream or idea they want to pursue.

Bega Valley Shire Council's Community Development Officer, Ange McKechnie, is keen to hear from young women with ideas for a community initiative or who are striving to reach a personal goal.

"Whether your interest is in learning, community, sport, business, music, arts or another arena, please get in touch with me.

"We're aiming to help young women follow their aspirations and reward their hard work, motivation and community contribution; any young woman living in the Shire can apply for these scholarships.

***"We're aiming to help young women follow their aspirations and reward their hard work, motivation and community contribution."***

***- Ange McKechnie***

"In 2018, the scholarships were used towards buying resources to help tutor primary and secondary school students, performing art workshops in Eden, a photo shoot to promote body diversity, sharing innovation in Australian agriculture and training for paramedical qualifications," Ms McKechnie said.

Applications for the Young Women's Scholarship close at midnight on Monday 7 January 2019 and will be awarded as part of the International Women's Day celebrations in March 2019.

For more information about the Young Women's Scholarship, visit the Council's website [www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/grants](http://www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/grants) or contact Ange McKechnie on (02) 6499 2222.



***Everyone is welcome!***

***Celebrate International Day of People with Disability and enjoy inclusive, fun activities!***

***This year's theme is "empowering persons with disabilities and ensuring inclusiveness and equality".***

***For more information please contact Ability Links on Mob: 0466665344 or [lslipper@uniting.org](mailto:lslipper@uniting.org)***

**FREE EVENT**

- Face Painting
- BBQ Lunch / Food Vans
- Fun Games & Novelty Events
- Wheelchair Basketball
- Fling (Dance)
- Craft Activities for Young Children
- Taiko Drumming Workshops
- Sensory Soccer & Sensory Tents
- NRL Clinic & Boot Camp
- Live Music - Andy O'Donnell, & The Wobbles
- Inspirational Speakers
- Information Stalls and more...

**LOCATION: BEGA INDOOR SPORTS STADIUM**

**DATE: MONDAY 3RD DECEMBER 2018**

**TIME: 10:00AM TO 2:00PM**



# Next phase for Merimbula flood study

With the Merimbula Lake and Back Lake Flood Study report finalised, Council is now undertaking a Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan to look at various options to reduce the risks and damages caused by flooding as identified by the Flood Study.

The Flood Study was based on a mix of first-hand accounts from residents, historic flood marks, tidal data, rainfall records and modern modelling techniques.

Asset Management Coordinator, Gary Louie, said that his team and consultants, Rhelm, are now asking for input from the community on how to manage the flooding problems connected with both lakes.

"We're going back to the community; people provided us with valuable information during the initial data collection phase in May 2015 and again in September 2016 when we met with the community to discuss the draft findings of the study.

"This time, we're looking for information on flooding problems that people are aware of and suggestions on how they would like to see these problems addressed.



*Council is seeking community input into the Merimbula Lake and Back Lake Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan.*

"People can give us their input through a survey or we'll be holding community information sessions on Thursday 6 December and Friday 7 December 2018.

"We greatly appreciate the community's interest and support

with this long-term project and in the past local information has helped to round out the picture of flood risks within the catchment area," he said.

Information about the next step of this project will be sent out to

selected residents and property owners within the study area; this same information is available on Council's website where a survey can be completed online at [www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/haveyoursay](http://www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/haveyoursay).

The survey closes on Sunday 16 December 2018.

If you have any questions, please contact Gary Louie on (02) 6499 2222.

The NSW Office of Environment and Heritage and the Minister of Police and Emergency Services are supporting Council by providing technical assistance and grant funding for the project.

*Drop-in information sessions will be held at the Bega Valley Regional Learning Centre (14 Cabarita Place, Merimbula)*

**Thursday 6 December  
3.00pm – 6.00pm**

**Friday 7 December  
11.00am – 2.00pm**

*Council staff and consultants from Rhelm will be available.*

## Sewer Workshop

Council and consultants Cardno Pty Ltd will host an information workshop concerning a potential Phase 2 of the North Bega Sewerage Scheme at the **Bega Valley Commemorative Civic Centre on Monday, December 17 from 3.30pm - 6.30pm.**

The workshop follows on from an initial letter and questionnaire sent to business owners and residents recently.

For more information contact Cardno's project engineer, Matt Theris, on 0438 791 129.

## Beaches gems of the Sapphire Coast

### From Page 1

Pleasingly, all beaches sampled for our Shire received the top rating possible over the 2017/2018 period - 100% Very Good\* or Good ratings\*\*.

Camel Rock, Blue Pool, Beares Beach, Short Point, Tathra, Main Beach and Pambula Beach regularly boast excellent water quality.

Samples are tested at Council's in-house laboratory and comparison samples are sent to a National Accommodation, Recreation and Tourism Accreditation (NARTA) approved laboratory to ensure accuracy of results. All results are published to Council's website.

When the cool waters of our magnificent beaches beckon you on those hot summer days, take the plunge into what you know to be pristine waters!



**Please remember that rainfall is a major driver of pollution to recreational waters, and that swimming should be avoided during and for up to one day following heavy rain at ocean beaches and up to three days at estuarine sites.**

**\* Very Good – excellent microbial water quality, suitable for swimming almost all the time.**

**\*\* Good - good microbial water quality, suitable for swimming most of the time.**

## GREAT NEWS!

Council's high quality compost made from FOGO is now available at Eden, Wallagoot and Bermagui, as well as Merimbula.

Fill your trailer, and your garden will live happily ever after!



**Check the free Bega Valley Waste APP for availability**

### Find out more

**Follow** our Facebook page @BegaValleyWasteandRecycling  
**Phone** 6499 2222 **Visit** [www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/waste](http://www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/waste)





# Lifeguards returning for summer



The Australian Lifeguard Service (ALS) will once again be a fixture on the Shire's beaches this summer.

The Australian Lifeguard Service (ALS) will once again be a fixture on the Shire's beaches this summer.

With the largest stretch of coastline of any NSW local government area, there is no question of the importance of beaches to residents and visitors of the Shire.

This is evident through the visitation of the eight service locations during the summer school holidays, with ALS's 2017-18 report recording 168,760 attendances over the six-week contracted patrol period (up 23,000 on the same time last season).

The value of this long-established program is also very clear through the number of rescues performed by the lifeguards.

Bega Valley Shire Council's Aquatic Facilities Coordinator, Nic Hoynes, said due to the specific surf skills, experience and resources required to provide surf lifeguard services, it remained the best option to contract this work out to professional lifeguards.

"From Council's perspective, we see this service as absolutely vital to ensure our most popular beaches can be safely experienced and enjoyed," Mr Hoynes said.

"It is also extremely important to highlight the wonderful work that the three volunteer surf lifesaving clubs - who provide lifesaving services at Bermagui (Horseshoe Bay), Pambula Beach and Tathra on weekends and public holidays undertake for the community."

The summer beach lifeguard service is funded through a Bega Valley Shire Council Special Rate Variation (SRV). The locations and timing of services is based on a risk

management approach considering advice and reports from professional lifeguards over the past three years.

In a fantastic gesture of solidarity with the community, ALS recently announced that they will provide the Tathra February patrol extension for 2019 at no charge, in recognition of the previous efforts by the Tathra Chamber of Commerce to provide this service and to assist the Tathra community after the fires this year.

Another notable first will be the introduction of drones by ALS to assist the lifeguards at Tathra and Pambula.

### Council's 2018/19 Lifeguard Program

Beach	Patrol Dates	Days of Service	Patrol Times	Number of Lifeguards at Location
Camel Rock	26/12/2018 to 28/01/2019	7 days	9am - 5pm	2
Bermagui (Horseshoe Bay)	20/12/2018 to 28/01/2019	5 days	9am - 5pm	2
Tathra	20/12/2018 to 22/02/2019	5 days	9am - 5pm	2
Merimbula (Short Point)	26/12/2018 to 28/01/2019	7 days	9am - 5pm	2
Merimbula (Bait Beach)	26/12/2018 to 28/01/2019	7 days	9am - 5pm	2
Merimbula (Main Beach)	26/12/2018 to 28/01/2019	7 days	9am - 5pm	2
Pambula	20/12/2018 to 28/01/2019	5 days	9am - 5pm	2
Eden (Aulings Beach)	20/12/2018 to 28/01/2019	7 days	9am - 5pm	2

\* Local surf clubs run patrols on weekends and public holidays at Pambula Beach, Tathra Beach and Bermagui (Horseshoe Bay)  
# Tathra February service extension will be provided by ALS this season at no cost.

## The latest from Economic Development

### Tourism Future 2030 Forum

The Sapphire Coast Tourism Future 2030 Forum was held in Bega Valley Commemorative Civic Centre on Thursday, 15 November.

Tourism operators and tourism-related providers heard from industry leaders, leaving inspired and motivated about a bright future full of opportunities for our region.

We are looking forward to a Sapphire Coast Great Walk of Australia soon drawing walkers from around the globe, our cruise industry visitors returning to the region to experience more of what makes us incredible, and our operators having their social media content go viral through Tourism Australia's Instagram account.

### Innovation Hub sessions

The University of Wollongong's Bega Valley Innovation Hub is holding information sessions for anyone who has questions about the program and those thinking about applying.

The next session is on Tuesday, 4 December from 10.30am at the University's Bega Campus.

To book your place head to <https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/is-the-innovation-hub-for-you-find-out-moreapplications-open-in-january-tickets-52509943655?aff=erelexpmlt>



288 new ABNs have been registered in the Shire since July 1.

This is an indicator of business activity, with construction businesses a standout.



## Have you moved?

## Do you need to update your address?

use our online form

[www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/update-my-address](http://www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/update-my-address)



# Work placement program at the Civic Centre

Bega Valley Shire Council is delighted to be partnering with the Bega Campus of TAFE in developing an ongoing work placement program at the Bega Valley Commemorative Civic Centre.

The fledgling arrangement means that the students studying Commercial Cookery, Hospitality and Events are being given the opportunity to gain professional experience, while observing and participating in various aspects of the venue's operation.

During their placements, the students gain an insight and hands-on experience in event administration, event delivery and venue operations, catering, décor, and audio visual technical production.

Council's Civic and Learning Centre Coordinator, Georgina Pearce, praised the efforts of Deirdre Jory (TAFE's Head Teacher of Hospitality,



*TAFE students Charlotte Smith-Bull, Lachlan Gordon, Dillon Kennedy, Kye Lygon and Brandon George were on deck at the Bega Valley Commemorative Civic Centre for the recent Future Tourism 2030 Forum and Dinner.*

Commercial Cookery Food and Beverage), Christie Snell (Civic Centre Venue Assistant) and the participating students for what has been achieved.

"This truly is a mutually beneficial

arrangement, with the students bringing their motivation and enthusiasm to the venue, while being able to test their skills and knowledge in real-life situations," Ms Pearce said.

"It is challenging and rewarding experience for the students and we are very determined to ensure the partnership will provide a strong foundation for their future careers."

Most recently, five of TAFE's indigenous students completed their work placement during the Future Tourism 2030 Forum and Dinner.

The Bega Valley Commemorative Civic Centre attracts and provides a variety of events that engage the community across a broad range of demographics and is used for conferences, seminars, workshops, meetings, private social functions, exhibitions, formals, graduations, performing arts and touring productions.

For more information on the venue, including upcoming events, head to [www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/civiccentre](http://www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/civiccentre)

## FOGO compost now available at more tips

In the wake of the positive community response to the new FOGO bin collection service, Bega Valley Shire Council has expanded distribution of its high quality compost from two tips to four.

The compost that Council produces from green bins, which now includes food waste, is now available at Wallagoot, Bermagui, Eden and Merimbula for \$31 per cubic metre.

Waste Services Coordinator and FOGO project manager Joley Vidau, says the expanded distribution is made possible by the increased availability of the compost since people started adding food organics to their green bins last month.

"We are rapt to have this compost available at the four tips and to also have more of this valuable resource for our community," she said.

Council introduced FOGO to more

than 12,000 households on October 29. More than 40 Councils in NSW are using FOGO to keep food out of landfill and produce high quality compost for sporting fields, parks, public spaces and people's gardens.

The biggest risk to FOGO is contamination but in the first week the green bins had a one percent contamination rate. This dropped to 0.8 percent in the second week and 0.6 percent in week three.

"Some councils have up to 80 per cent contamination rates when they first introduce FOGO so we are over the moon that our community has embraced the new service so well," Joley said.

FOGO is part of Council's 10-year Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy 'Recycling the future' which aims to reduce valuable resources going into landfill.



*Mayor Cr Kristy McBain purchasing a load of compost for her garden. Following the recent introduction of FOGO, Council has increased the distribution of its high quality compost from two tips to four.*



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# Community thanked for flood model help

Historical rainfall information contributed by local communities has proved invaluable to developing flood models for Eden, Twofold Bay and the Towamba River with this information feeding into an important flood study currently being prepared by Council.

The aim of the flood study is to define the current and future flood behaviour of the catchment for communities along the Towamba River and to determine the impact of ocean storms on Eden, Boydtown and Twofold Bay.

Asset Management Coordinator, Gary Louie, said that the main study objective is to allow Council to make informed decisions on the best way to invest in flood mitigation and better manage the risks to the community posed by floods.

“This work will also provide essential information to agencies such as the State Emergency Service and enable effective responses to flood emergencies,” he said.

The historical data was gathered at a series of community drop-in sessions in Eden and Towamba throughout December 2017 and allowed surveyors to confirm the location and level of rainfall observations in the field.

“I’d like to thank those people who came along to the sessions and shared their knowledge and data with us.

“Contributions from local people helped to make sure that the flood models accurately represented what really happened during past floods,” Mr Louie said.

Project staff developed the flood models based



Historical data provided by the community has proven invaluable in the development of flood models for the Towamba River (pictured), Eden and Twofold Bay.

on data from a topographic survey of the study area, an aerial laser survey by Council in 2008, flow and rainfall gauge data as well as a survey of flood marks observed by the community.

The flood models have been used to assess the Towamba River floods of 1978 and 2011, and March 2012 and June 2016 Lake Curalo floods using rainfall, flow and ocean data.

“The flood model results matched well with observations and recorded data,” added Mr Louie.

Flood data was collected across a range of other

**“Contributions from local people helped to make sure that the flood models accurately represented what really happened during past floods.”**

**- Gary Louie**

flood events but rainfall and flow data were not available for these events so it hasn’t been possible to do detailed flood modelling for these events.

However, the observations were still useful for comparison against estimated modelling for these events.

“There are a lot of steps along the way to developing an accurate Flood Study and now we’re working towards having a draft document on public exhibition and comment in mid-2019,” explained Mr Louie.

For further information, contact Gary Louie on (02) 6499 2222 or visit Council’s website at [www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au](http://www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au) and click on Environment and Health.

Council acknowledges the financial and technical assistance being provided by the NSW Government Floodplain Management Program through the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage and the Minister for Police and Emergency Services.

## Council Meeting wrap up

### Access Improvement Grants

Four local businesses will share in over \$16,000 in funding from this year’s round of the Access Improvement Grants.

The funded projects include a mental health hub for Eden, seniors bus tours, a composting toilet with disability access and an accessible ramp.

The aim of these grants (that are overseen by the Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee) is to improve the everyday experience for residents and visitors living in the Bega Valley Shire who may have reduced mobility, impairment or a disability.

### Tathra-Kalaru Bike Track

The Tathra-Kalaru Bike Track alignment is now set after Council resolved to pursue Option 2 for the Tathra section.

This option will mean the track will follow the southern side of Bega Street and travel through Lawrence Park, before crossing back over to the northern side of Bega Street to connect into the Tathra Public School.

### Smart Drumline Trial

Council has resolved to advise the DPI (Fisheries) that although it supports the trials, it does not

wish to be involved in any way in the decision making process about whether trials of SMART Drumlines should occur at Tathra and Merimbula.

Council considers it appropriate for the DPI (Fisheries) to undertake a community survey to assist the NSW Government in making a decision as to whether the trials should proceed.

### Annual Report

The 2017-18 Annual Report was endorsed and has subsequently been published on Council’s website.

(see full story Page 1)

### Eden Killer Whale Museum

Council has responded positively to a request from the Eden Killer Whale Museum Management Committee Incorporated to surrender the remaining 4 year term on their current lease and for

Council as Crown Land Manager, to grant a further 20 year lease to provide security of tenure.

Due to the committee being a not-for-profit community organisation a rebated annual rental fee of \$3,640.00 per annum (increased annually by CPI) will apply.

## Next Meeting

**Wednesday 12  
December @ 2pm**

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

## Watch Live

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streamed for you to watch on  
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# Place plan highlights community strength

The Eden Place Plan (EPP) is drawing to a close in what has been a collaborative journey involving community organisations, Elders, school children, youth, residents and many dedicated volunteers, who have joined together over the last two and a half years with the common aim of creating a difference for Eden residents.

The project has been supported by various Council teams including the Community Development team, Eden Town Team, Recreation and Leisure staff, library staff and the team from Children's Services. Funding came from the NSW Department of Family and Community Services.

Endeavour Park was identified as the focus for the project as a natural meeting place which needed upgrading and could at the same time provide a range of opportunities for education, training and employment and support community interaction.

The latest addition at Endeavour Park is the Bike Pump Track, which was designed and installed by Yully Arnold from Creative Lines, ably assisted by some young helpers. It took a week to install and very eager locals wasted no time in putting it to the test as soon as it was finished.

Eden Marine High School is now using the track regularly as part of their physical education (PE) sessions.

Council will be holding a Project Closing Celebration for the community in December to thank everyone for their input into this multi-faceted project, which is an initiative of the NSW Government's Future Directions for Social Housing in NSW.



*Above: The new Bike Pump Track has proven very popular.*

*Above right: Children loved the idea of using backyard found materials for artwork and rock painting.*

*Far right: Thanks to Paul de Saxe from Eden Marine High School, bike mechanics has been a collective and positive way to embrace the strengths within the community.*

*Right: The Reservoir Street footpath was completed with help from a Social Housing Community Improvement Fund.*



## FUN EXCITING LIFELONG SKILL

### Learn to Swim at your local pool

- **Bega War Memorial Pool** (10 day program)  
26 December to 5 January, 2019  
14 January to 25 January, 2019
- **Cobargo Pool** (10 day program)  
2 January to 15 January, 2019
- **Bemboka Pool** (5 day program)  
14 January to 18 January, 2019
- **Candelo Pool** (split program)  
7 January to 11 January, 2019  
14 January to 18 January, 2019
- **Eden Memorial Pool** (split program)  
7 January to 11 January, 2019  
14 January to 18 January, 2019
- **Sapphire Aquatic Centre** (split program)  
7 January to 11 January, 2019  
15 January to 17 January, 2019  
21 January to 25 January, 2018

HOLIDAY FUN  
JANUARY

Contact your  
local swimming  
pool to register

Program dates, duration and size will vary, so please contact your local swimming pool.

Swimming Pool contacts available at  
[www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/swimmingpools](http://www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/swimmingpools)

## Work commences on Headland Walk

Work has begun on the community initiated walkway around the Tathra Headland with Geotech investigations carried out through October and November, while the walkway design is almost complete.

Known as the Tathra Headland Wharf Access (THWA) Project, it's a response to the identified local community and tourist need for a safe and accessible pathway around the popular headland.

The walking path will offer a natural environment recreation option for people of all abilities and lead them from the Tathra Wharf to the Memorial Gardens and carpark at the top of the headland.

The Lions lookout, which was destroyed by the bushfire, is being redesigned as part of the project. Landscape architects, Thompson Berrill Landscape Design, have been liaising with Lions Club members and the design will aim to be

sympathetic with the landscape.

Hardwood bridge timbers will be featured throughout the walkway – as structural columns, boardwalk decking and as part of the lookout itself – giving synergy with the wharf structure.

Geotech investigations have involved minor clearing for equipment access to the site and this had the added benefit of making the existing path safer and easier to walk on, although pedestrians should continue to take care in this area.

It is expected that tenders will be called during the first quarter of 2019, once the design process is complete.

Funding to construct the walkway comes from the state government's Regional Growth - Environment and Tourism Fund, \$1.2 million of which was committed in the aftermath of the bushfire emergency.



*Re-purposed hardwood bridge timbers will feature on the Tathra Headland Walkway.*



# Bega Valley Recovery

## Yankees Gap Fire waste management

### Bemboka Tip hours

Following on from the recent bushfire, Council has modified the opening hours of the Bemboka Waste Transfer Station (Yankees Gap Road) through until approximately the end of January.

The site is open on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 7.30am - noon and 1.00pm - 4.30pm.

### Demolition waste

Demolition waste free of asbestos will be accepted at Eden Waste Depot at no charge.

Property owners wishing to get rid of demolition

waste from damaged and destroyed buildings must obtain a complying development certificate and written fee waiver first. Please contact us on (02) 6499 2222 if you have any questions.

### Asbestos removal

Asbestos waste from the Yankees Gap bushfire can be taken to the Central Waste Facility at Wanatta Lane. There will be no charge but current asbestos disposal protocols, including pre-booking will apply.

If you are a property owner and want to dispose of asbestos waste from damaged and destroyed

buildings, you must obtain a complying development certificate and written fee waiver prior to disposing of the waste.

Please contact Council if you require a complying development certificate or fee waiver for the disposal of asbestos demolition waste associated with the bushfire.

Friable asbestos, and all asbestos containing material in excess of 10m2 must only be handled by a contractor holding the appropriate SafeWork NSW Asbestos Removal Licence.

Council will not accept loads of asbestos waste that are not handled by a licensed contractor.

## Christmas Cheer for Tathra



Bags of Christmas decorations packed and ready for distribution.

Thanks to a community craft group initiative, people who lost their Christmas decorations in the Tathra and District Fire will have some beautifully handmade ornaments.

In a letter to recipients, Coordinator, Marie Oakley, said that while the donated decorations cannot replace what has been lost, the craft group hopes that the gifts will help to build

new and happy memories.

Based at the Tathra Beach House conference room, the group have been working since July with three workshops and a packaging working bee.

Christmas Cheer bags can be collected from the Recovery Centre based at Tathra or contact them on (02) 6499 2475 to arrange delivery.

## Tathra & District Recovery

### Community Meetings

Bega Valley Shire Council is committed to supporting all impacted 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 |

### Recovery Support Service

- Monday to Friday: 9.00am - 4.30pm (Thursday till 7.00pm)
- Saturday: 9.30am - 4.30pm

Unit 6 Tathra Beach House Apartments, Tathra  
Recovery Hotline 6499 2475 | [recovery@begavalley.nsw.gov.au](mailto:recovery@begavalley.nsw.gov.au)



### Contact us

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