

Bega Valley Shire Council village newsletter

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Snake Track Culvert Replacement

Work continues on the scheduled replacement of culverts on The Snake Track near Towamba.

Weather permitting, works will wrap up on 22 September. Until then The Snake Track will be closed to all traffic approximately 13km in from the intersection with Towamba Road and 8km in from the Princes Highway near Eden.

Emergency services have been notified, for further details, contact Terry Maher 0447 293 114 or the contractor South East Civil & Crane 0404 932 117.



Access Improvement Grants - NOW OPEN

Council's Access and Inclusion Advisory Committee, is pleased to announce the inaugural Access Improvement Grants Program.

In this inaugural year \$40,000 is available to support community groups, individuals and businesses to undertake projects that improve access and inclusion. Please note that businesses are required to provide matching funds.

Applications open 11 September and close at 4pm on Friday, 6 October. Grants from \$500 up to \$5,000 will be considered.

All interested applicants are urged to read the grant information carefully. This information can be found at www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/grants For further information contact Katrina Berenguer on 6499 2358.

Bega Valley Shire Council
Access Improvement Grants

NOW OPEN

APPLY ONLINE

www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/grants

Careers at Council

Apply online:

For current vacancies please check Council's website.

Sign up to receive job alerts for new listings.

www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/careersatcouncil

Council News

Don't have social media?

Want to see what they are seeing?

Then jump online and visit our news page.

www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/news

Tenders

If you are a supplier of goods and services and wish to access the tender notices register online.

www.tenderlink.com/begavalley

Festivals and Events

Are you thinking of running an event and don't know where to start? Then jump online and download our guidelines and tools.

www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/festivalevents

Call: 02 6499 2222 Fax: 02 6499 2200 Email: council@begavalley.nsw.gov.au Web: www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au

Internet access is available at all of our libraries in Bega, Bermagui, Eden and Merimbula.

Please send all correspondence to
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New local art prize set to launch

An exciting new art prize specifically for artists living and working in the Bega Valley has been launched.

The Bega Valley Mural Prize represents the evolution of the Bega Art Prize that has run in differing forms since 1992, with the support of the Bega Valley Shire Council.

The prize is open to artists working across all mediums, including 2D, 3D and photographic, and will result in two successful artists receiving cash prizes of \$500 and having their works reproduced on a large scale and presented as public murals on Bega Valley Shire Council water tanks in Bermagui and Bemboka before Christmas.

This will add to the two murals already in situ at Eden and Merimbula.

The Director of the Bega Valley Regional Gallery, Iain Dawson said, "The Bega Valley Mural Prize is a new and exciting way to support and promote local artists."

"Public art has been growing in popularity and the response we've had to the existing murals in Eden and Merimbula has been fantastic," Mr Dawson said.

Entries open on September 11 and closes on October 30, for more information contact Iain Dawson on 6499 2202 or visit gallery.begavalley.nsw.gov.au.



Mumbulla Foundation Grant - NOW OPEN

You are invited to attend an informatin session to learn more about the Mubmulla community Grants Program. The aim of these sessions is to support community groups to develop quality funding applications.

Session times:

- 4pm Tuesday 12 September @ Bega Library
- 4pm Wednesday 13 September @ Tura Library
- 4pm Thursday 14 September @ Bermagui Library
- 4pm Thurday 14 September @ Eden Library

Contact: Toby Schaefer-Darling on 6499 2199.
Grant information visit www.mumbulla.org.au

RSVP
[begavalleyshirelibrary.
eventbrite.com.au](http://begavalleyshirelibrary.eventbrite.com.au)

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Council responds to Bermagui tree concerns

Bega Valley Shire Council has been working with members of the Bermagui community around addressing safety concerns with a number of aging trees in the vicinity of the town's surf club and outdoor gym.

Five trees in that popular area were assessed in June by a qualified arborist:

- It was recommended that two of these trees should be removed due to extensive decay within the major limbs and previous failures.
- It was decided that another three trees should be pruned to reduce weight and remove deadwood
- The community were notified on August 28, which immediately prompted a need to review plans and consideration of new ideas.

As members of this community, Council appreciates and understands the value of trees, and the connection many people have with particular trees. Staff look to balance that with our requirement to manage safety in public places.

In this case, Council will slow our progress in order to meet with members of the community and further develop alternative ideas on how to manage the recreational needs of this area and, specifically, how to manage these trees.

Creating garden space under the trees in order to limit public access, moving furniture and infrastructure where we can, and adjustments to car parking arrangements are all being considered.

It may be possible to retain these two trees, but at the same time we need to accept that trees have a lifespan and our challenge is to manage their natural decline in public parkland.



Bega Valley Shire Council
Festivals and Events Grants

NOW OPEN

APPLY ONLINE

www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/grants

applications close **October 6**

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DA top marks for Bega Valley

An independent review of the Shire's Development Assessment Service has found that Council is providing service levels well above the average of its peer councils.

Of particular note was the professionalism and helpfulness of staff, which was described as particularly high.

A number of recommendations in the review will drive further improvement in Council's service, some of which have already been actioned.

The work ahead includes the creation of a specialised customer focussed Development Hub, improvements to the information available on Council's website, and fine tuning electronic document management.

Attracting and supporting high quality development is critical for the Shire, and continuing to improve our application process is an important part of that.

A copy of the review can be found on Council's website under [Planning & Development > Enquire > Strategic reports and plans](#)

Bermi's new bike path

A positive result for members of the Bermagui community, with a new bike path constructed opposite Bermagui Primary School.

Improved safety and access for children and families who walk and ride to school is a key outcome.

To improve safety further, Council commenced work this week on a refuge island on Lamont Street (near Wattle Street), providing a safer location to cross.

Bega Valley water remains safe

Council is concerned and frustrated at media reports insinuating the community is being exposed to "deadly bugs" in the Shire's drinking water.

Residents can remain confident that our drinking water is of high quality, consistently complies with the

Australian Drinking Water Quality Guidelines (2016) and remains absolutely safe to drink.

The ABC report falsely cited four boil water alerts on the Bemboka River Catchment in ten years as evidence of "repeated contamination incidents" triggering "potential health risks".

The facts are that a boil water notice was issued for the Bemboka and Bega-Tathra Water Supplies (March 2010) following flooding rains as a precautionary measure due to highly turbid water; while three precautionary boil water notices (January 2016, June 2016 and March 2017) for the Brogo-Bermagui Water Supply were issued on the advice of NSW Health in response to elevated turbidity in the Brogo River following catchment rainfall.

Council's Water & Sewer Manager, Jim Collins, said "There have been no water-borne disease outbreaks attributed to BVSC drinking water supplies at any time during their long-term operation over many decades."

"Water quality monitoring evidence shows that drinking water quality in the Bega Valley Shire is of a high standard due to the high quality of local source waters and catchment health, well operated disinfection systems and sound management, maintenance and monitoring of drinking water supplies."

Mr Collins said water filtration plants would strengthen the Shire's systems and that Council is hoping to work with the NSW Government to achieve that.

Anyone with concerns is urged to contact Council on 6499 2222.



Council's Environmental Science Coordinator, Ken McLeod, testing water turbidity on the Brogo River.

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