

End of beach-face outfall

Upgrades to the Merimbula Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) and a new ocean outfall will mean the end to an unsustainable beach-face outfall at Merimbula Main Beach.

In addition, Council will be able to rehabilitate the disposal ponds in the dunes nearby, an area of Aboriginal and environmental significance.

Currently, excess recycled water flows through a pipe onto Merimbula Main Beach or into an area of the nearby dunes.

This situation is not okay, Council wants to fix it and has been instructed to do so by the NSW Environment Protection Authority.

Council has been working with the community and environmental specialists to find a sustainable and realistic solution.

On average, we beneficially reuse about a quarter of our recycled water from the Merimbula STP by sending it to Pambula Merimbula Golf Club and to Oaklands Farm for irrigation.



Continued page 7

Upgrades to the Merimbula Sewage Treatment Plant and a new ocean outfall will mean the end of the unsustainable beach-face outfall at Merimbula Main Beach. Photo: Brent Occleshaw

Political advertising is in the spotlight

With the NSW State Election being held this Saturday (23 March), Bega Valley Shire Council is reminding the candidates and parties to ensure they adhere to the Electoral Act in regards to advertising.

The Act clearly states that advertising material, including signs and posters, cannot be displayed on or within land or buildings occupied, used by, or under the control or management of the Crown, NSW Government agencies, or a Council.

Additionally, advertising on private land or buildings can only be undertaken with the written consent of the owner.

Bega Valley Shire Council is committed to abiding by and upholding the requirements of the Act and will be taking action to address any identified contraventions.

Pre-polling is available at the following locations within the Bega Valley Shire Council area:

- Bega – Bega Election Manager's Office at 3 Hill Street.
- Merimbula – Twyford Hall at 16 Market Street.

To find your nearest polling place for election day head to www.elections.nsw.gov.au and to view the NSW Electoral Act head to <https://www.legislation.nsw.gov.au/#/view/act/2017/66>



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Food donations to reduce landfill

The Bega Valley Shire Council’s focus on reducing food to landfill has had another boost with funding for a new project that will change the way big businesses manage their excess food supplies.

The NSW Environment Protection Authority has announced a \$177,070 grant for Council’s Waste and Recycling team to support the Sapphire Community Pantry in Bega, also known as The Pantry.

The project will increase the amount of food donations to The Pantry and further reduce the amount of food going to landfill. It builds on the success of the FOGO (Food Organics Garden Organics) household bin collection service that Council introduced last October.

The new project will help The Pantry build connections with potential food donors such as large clubs, supermarkets and food producers. It will also target transport companies.

The Bega Valley Waste App will play a key role in the project as a quick and simple communication link between project partners.

Waste Management Coordinator Joley Vidau said Council applied for the funding on behalf of The Pantry which had demonstrated a strong commitment to taking action on food waste. She said their work linked closely with Council’s 10-year Waste Management and Resource Recovery Strategy (2018-2028) ‘Recycling the Future’.

“Council is committed to achieving NSW EPA targets of avoiding and reducing waste and diverting more waste from landfill, and this



Mayor Cr Kristy McBain and Waste Management Coordinator Joley Vidau with The Pantry Volunteers, (from left) Christine Welsh, Janet Kieltyka, Angela Fulton, Yvonne Burman, Sue Rootsey and Peter Buggy.

project is a fantastic initiative that works towards that goal,” Ms Vidau said.

The Pantry sources most of its food from the national charity Foodbank, as well as Woolworths, OzHarvest, Coles Second Bite, and donations from local businesses such as Millingandi Greens, F&J Orchards, community gardens and local people with an excess of fruit and vegetables.

The Pantry, run entirely by volunteers is open to everyone, particularly to people who are having trouble stretching their budget to include food for their families.

** The Sapphire Community Pantry project is supported by NSW EPA as part of the Waste Less, Recycle More initiative, funded from the waste levy.*

Thank you Aunty Colleen

Thanks to Djiringanj elder, Aunty Colleen Dixon and her helpers, the Aboriginal totem poles in Bega’s Littleton Gardens are standing proud and bright with a fresh coat of paint.

People passing through the park would have noticed Aunty Colleen set up under a marquee for most of the week, and many couldn’t help but stop to have a yarn and find out more about the meaning behind the carvings.



Aunty Colleen Dixon has been busy painting the totem poles in Bega’s Littleton Gardens.

“I’ve had lots of positive feedback and people like what they see in the park.

“The totem poles are important because they depict our clans.

“Jason Campbell from Bermagui

designed the crayfish pole, my brother, David (Dixon) created the burroo (kangaroo) pole and I did the snakes and lizards, that was 20 years ago,” explained Aunty Colleen.

Council commissioned the facelift through the Bega Local Aboriginal Land Council and supplied the paint and tools for the project.

The finishing touch to the poles will involve the next generation when Aunty Colleen brings her preschool grandchildren to add their handprints to the top of her totem pole.

A final coat of lacquer will protect the poles and keep them looking bright.

What's ON!

LOCAL EVENTS

www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/events

- **March 29**
- Mitre 10 Trades Race Day @ Sapphire Coast Turf Club
- **March 31**
 - Nuno Felting for Beginners with Christine Walters @ Cobargo School of Arts
 - Resin Rescue with Maz Raynsford @ Cobargo School of Arts

Listed your event on Council's Local Events Calendar

Young women with great ambitions

Five women have received a boost towards their goals through the Bega Valley Shire Council's Young Women's Scholarship Program.

Now in its 11th year, the program aims to reward the hard work and motivation of the recipients and recognise their valuable contribution to our communities.

This year's awardees Georgia Caldwell, Jessica Pearce, Zoey Salucci, Heidi Sharples and Summa Vandam-Aldridge clearly have great ambition and motivation to achieve their goals.

They have a diverse range of passions that include the visual arts; music; sport; community services; and improving the wellbeing of their peers and our older and more isolated community members.

The \$500 scholarships were presented recently by Bega Valley Shire Council Mayor, Cr Kristy McBain, as part of International Women's Day celebrations.

International Women's Day is a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women.



Bega Valley Shire Council's Community Development Officer Ange McKechnie (left) and Mayor Cr Kristy McBain (centre) congratulate this year's Young Women's Scholarship recipients Heidi Sharples, Georgia Caldwell, Summa Vandam-Aldridge, Zoey Salucci and Jessica Pearce. The \$500 scholarships were presented as part of International Women's Day celebrations.

Supporting Youth Week events

Youth Week 2019 will be celebrated between the 10th and 18th of April and provides an opportunity for young people to share ideas, attend live events, have their voices heard, showcase their talents, celebrate their contribution to the community and have fun.

Bega Valley Shire Council is proud to support Youth Week and is once again providing grants to community groups and organisations to contribute towards the costs of holding events and activities during Youth Week.

This year, applications for Grants were received from a large number of organisations with the amount of funds requested far exceeding the available grants.

It was very encouraging to see such a high level of interest in hosting a diverse range of Youth Week events across the Shire.

Council would like to thank those organisations who took the time to submit grant applications and for the tremendous work they do in supporting young people within our community.

This year, Council is pleased to announce the following events will be funded:



The Bermagui Skate Workshop was a great success during last year's Youth Week festivities.

- Eden - Opportunity Youth Festival (Campbell Page)
 - Wallaga Lake - Youth Workshops (Merrimans LALC)
 - Cobargo Scouts Fun Day (Cobargo Scout Group)
 - Young Women Creating Art Workshops (Women's Resource Centre)
 - Archery Is Not A Computer Sport (Bega Valley Archers)
 - Eco-Motion at Ephemeral (Pambula Wetlands and Heritage Project)
 - Dungeons and Dragons All-Abilities Gaming Event (Disability Trust)
- Congratulations to all the grant recipients.

First welcome sign in place



The first of the Bega Valley 'Welcome to Country' signs has been installed at the Timbillica turnoff at the southern entrance to the Shire.

The first Bega Valley 'Welcome to Country' sign has been installed.

The wrought iron sign depicting a whale's tail is now in place at the southern entrance to the Shire adjacent to the Timbillica turnoff.

Long-awaited and thoughtful symbols recognising the traditional custodians and welcoming people to our Shire, the signs have been the subject of a lengthy consultation

process between Council and traditional owners.

Council is extremely grateful for the valuable information provided by the community members during the process.

A wallaby at the top of Brown Mountain and a cow scene north of Cobargo will be placed over the coming months.

Bega Valley Commemorative
Civic Centre

Zingel Place, Bega

www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/Civiccetre



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Kids lend a hand with headland planting

A group of kids from the Pambula area recently travelled to Tathra to spend their Saturday afternoon planting native shrubs and grasses on Tathra Headland.

The kids belong to a group called Environment and Animal Savers (EAS) and have recently joined the Wildlife Warriors Program.

Taylah Klemm approached Council on behalf of the group and asked could they help the Tathra community through environmental restoration.

Council's Environment and Sustainability Coordinator, Derek Van Bracht, said about 15 kids and some of their parents planted and guarded approximately 250 plants.

"It was just great to see how motivated and passionate the kids were and how genuine their desire was to help the Tathra community," Mr Van Bracht said.

The plants were provided by Council and the planting was undertaken under the guidance of local bushland regenerator, Paddy Farrell, who provided background to the restoration of the headland and guidance on revegetation techniques.

Mayor Cr Kristy McBain said it is fantastic to see young members of our community so keen to help out and enhance our local environment.

"This is a great example of how partnerships between Council and local people is improving the quality and appearance of our communities across the Shire," Cr McBain said.

Right: The Environment and Animal Savers recently spent a Saturday afternoon planting native shrubs and grasses on Tathra Headland.



Scrap metal recycling is important

Scrap metal recycling is an important service to our community because recycling reduces the depletion of natural resources, saves money, and reduces both energy consumption and greenhouse gas generation.

Importantly, recycling also reduces the rate of landfilling which has a direct benefit to our community.

Scrap metal is generally divided into ferrous metals such as steel, which contains iron, and non-ferrous metal, which commonly includes alloys, copper, nickel, zinc, aluminium and lead.

Steel is the most recycled building material in the world with an 86% recycling rate. Steel can be recycled over and over again with no reduction in material performance.

All of Council's Waste and Recycling Transfer Stations accept all scrap metal including whitegoods free of charge (except for fridges and air conditioners).

Refrigerant gases are potentially harmful to the environment and these gases must only be removed by a licenced contractor. Council charges a fee to recover the cost of degassing

refrigerators and AC units.

The scrap steel recycling process involves retrieval, sorting, baling and transportation, followed by off-site shearing, smelting and brokerage. Over the last calendar year Council has recovered approximately 2500t tonnes of scrap steel for recycling.

It is important to remember when disposing of scrap metal at the transfer station that customers:

- Follow the direction provided by waste staff at all times;
- Observe and follow direction of site signage;
- Ensure all drums (including oil) and paint tins are empty;
- Do not scavenge in the steel pile as this can be very dangerous;
- Do not dispose of batteries within the steel pile as this can cause fires; and
- Do not dispose of gas bottles within the steel pile as this can cause explosions when the material is baled for transport.

While recycling is great, reuse is even better.



Scrap metal recycling provides many benefits for the Bega Valley community.

One person's trash is another person's treasure and there are often opportunities for waste to be reused.

Council's tip shops will accept many scrap metal items for reuse provided they are in reasonable condition, including corrugated iron, guttering, bicycles, barbecues, mowers, pipe, bathtubs and steel sections.

Council's transfer station staff are there to help customers get the best value out of their waste facilities, and the success of scrap metal recycling is a credit to our team and our community.

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

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

www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/waste

Draft Tura planning proposal

A draft planning proposal to amend the Bega Valley Local Environmental Plan 2013 (LEP) is currently on exhibition for public comment.

This planning proposal involves the rezoning of land on the corner of Sapphire Coast Drive and Tura Beach Drive in Tura Beach (Lots 33 and 34 DP 243029) to R5 Large Lot Residential with the inclusion of “hardware and building supplies and garden centres” as additional permitted uses under Schedule 1 of the BVLEP 2013.

The zoning of the land is currently deferred under the BVLEP 2002.

Bunnings will host an information booth at the Tura Beach Shopping Centre (in front of the Woolworths Supermarket) on Saturday (23 March) from 10.00am – 2.00pm.

Bunnings team members will be in attendance to answer questions from the community and provide information about Bunnings and the proposed development.

To view the draft proposal and supporting documentation and provide your feedback, visit www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/haveyoursay.

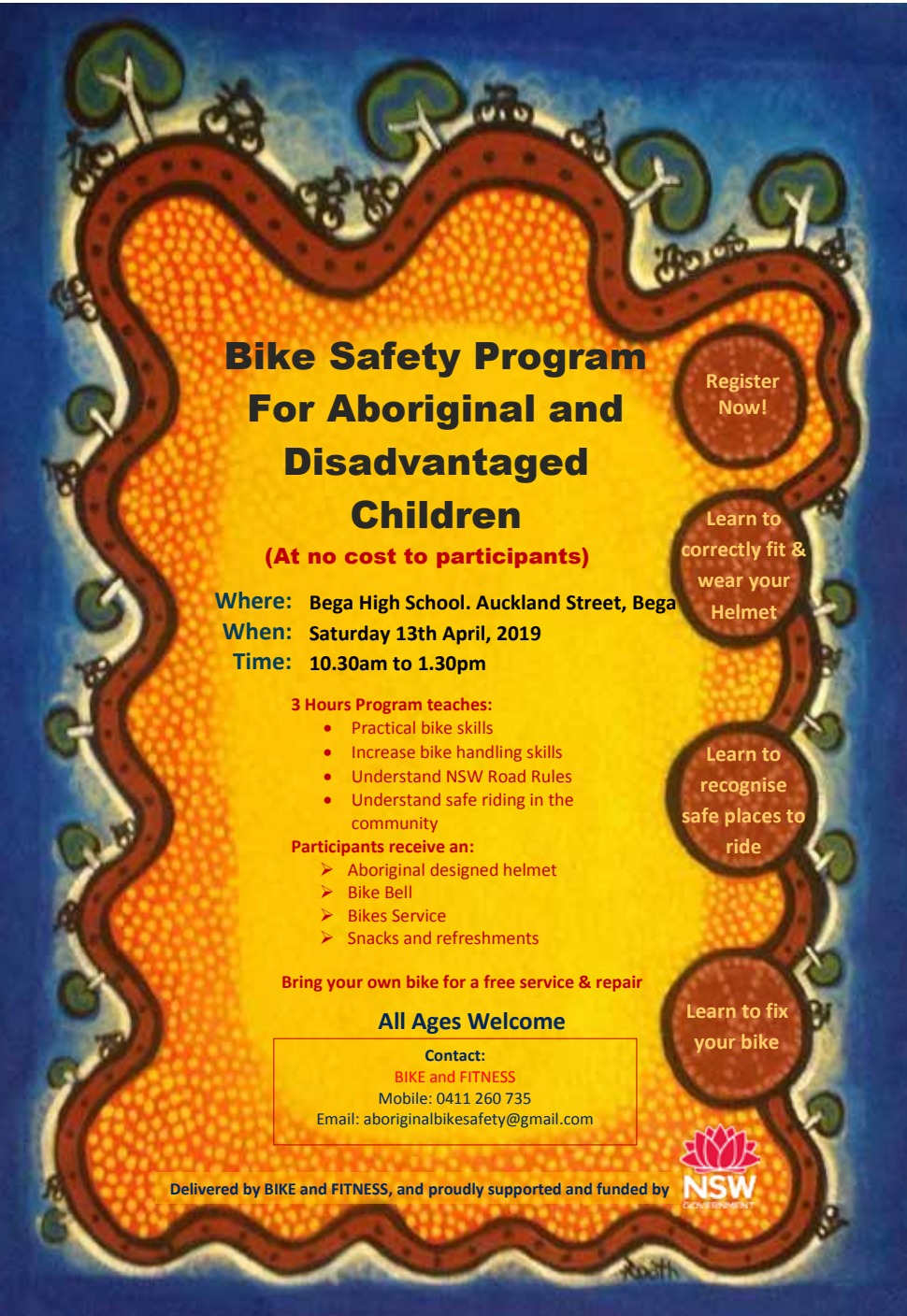
Hardcopies are available at Council’s Bega office and the Tura Marrang Library at Tura Beach.

The planning proposal will be on public exhibition through until the 5 April 2019.

For further information, please contact Rob Quick from Council’s Planning Services section on 6499 2117.



Above and left:
Proposed rezoning for future development - the exhibited draft planning proposal will establish a residential zoning with the inclusion of “hardware and building supplies and garden centres” as additional permitted uses.



Bike Safety Program For Aboriginal and Disadvantaged Children

(At no cost to participants)

Where: Bega High School, Auckland Street, Bega
When: Saturday 13th April, 2019
Time: 10.30am to 1.30pm

3 Hours Program teaches:

- Practical bike skills
- Increase bike handling skills
- Understand NSW Road Rules
- Understand safe riding in the community


Participants receive an:

- Aboriginal designed helmet
- Bike Bell
- Bikes Service
- Snacks and refreshments

Bring your own bike for a free service & repair

All Ages Welcome

Contact:
BIKE and FITNESS
Mobile: 0411 260 735
Email: aboriginalbikesafety@gmail.com

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Learn to correctly fit & wear your Helmet

Learn to recognise safe places to ride

Learn to fix your bike




A great day out on the Sapphire Coast

FOUR WINDS
2019 Easter Festival

BEETHOVEN IN THE BUSH

An afternoon of fabulous classical, jazz and world music
Easter Sunday 21 April 2019 | Barragga Bay Far South Coast NSW



Stefan Vlado
Conductor/Pianist



Coco's Lunch
Jazz inspired vocal group



Enigma Quartet



Riley Lee, Bamboo Flute

A journey through the elements

Bus service available:
Sound Shell Saturday - From the North (starting in Batemans Bay) and South (starting in Pambula)
Beethoven in the Bush Sunday - From Canberra
For the bus timetable go to:
fourwinds.com.au/easter-festival/bus-schedule

New procurement platform



Council's Procurement and Contracts Officer, Chloe Garrs, and Procurement and Contracts Coordinator, Aaron Johnston, are encouraging businesses large and small to register their details on VendorPanel Marketplace.

Bega Valley Shire Council (BVSC) has been using VendorPanel in conjunction with Tenderlink over the previous four years to communicate opportunities to our suppliers.

From 1 April 2019, BVSC will no longer use Tenderlink and all future opportunities will be communicated through VendorPanel only. VendorPanel Marketplace will also be introduced to replace email quotations.

Once you are registered in Marketplace, BVSC staff will be able to invite you as a supplier to quote and tender for goods, works and/or services. VendorPanel is easy to navigate and is free for suppliers, with no fees for signing up, receiving notifications or submitting quotes or tenders.

Council's Procurement and Contracts Coordinator, Aaron

Johnston, is encouraging all businesses large and small to register their business details on Marketplace.

"Consolidating our existing systems means that suppliers will only have to use one platform, this will make it easier for you to be notified of upcoming opportunities and creates a fair and more transparent process for all," Mr Johnston said.

To register go to the VendorPanel Marketplace at www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/cp_themes/default/page.asp?p=DOC-WYO-47-31-03

For further information on VendorPanel Marketplace please view the frequently asked questions listed on Council's website or contact Procurement and Contracts on (02) 6499 2222 or via VendorPanel@begavalley.nsw.gov.au

Illuminating talent



The Trail of Light and Sound was a great addition to Sculpture Bermagui.

An amazing Trail of Light and Sound was a stand-out addition to the Sculpture Bermagui event this year by providing a creative link between the indoor sculptures at the Bermagui Community Centre to the outdoor sculptures at the Dickinson Point headland.

Programs and Partnerships Officer, Scott Baker, said that twelve local people participated in a week-long development workshop with mentors at Bermagui Library, where all the content was created.

"We called out for expressions of interest for local participants with a preference given to people living with a disability.

"For a first-time event, I'm thrilled at how successful it was; in particular it exposed local artists to new forms of media and installation and offered a visually spectacular event for the community," Mr Baker said.

About 400 people, with 30 volunteer Trail Guides, walked the Trail of nine installations after the Sculpture Bermagui night-time opening ceremony on Friday, 8 March.

"The darkness really allowed the creative talent of both the mentors and the workshop participants to shine – it was like a mini-Vivid in Bermagui!" Mr Baker said.

The Trail of Light and Sound brought together a unique combination of sculpture, digital media and performance and complemented Sculpture Bermagui by leading people between the two sculpture locations, using site-specific artworks around the town.

The audience experienced interactive window displays in local business shops, Honourbread and Mr Hope; innovative screen media at Clay's Auto; a Standing Cinema at Dickinson Oval; a Surf Club Wonderland featuring videos shot at Horseshoe Bay; magical Water Words that only appear when water is put on them; a special performance by the Gahdu Dancers; a flash mob dance put on by the Trail Guides and the animated spectacle of five of the iconic Bermagui palm trees being projection mapped. A Virtual Reality sculptor was also there creating VR sculptures.

Many local organisations came on board to collaborate and offer support including Nardy House, Tulgeen, Bermagui Surf Life Saving Club, Bermagui Chamber of Commerce, Sculpture Bermagui, Braveheart HealthCare and the Bega Valley Regional Gallery.

A Trail of Light and Sound resulted from a partnership between Real Art Works from Lismore, a post-disability arts organisation, and the Bega Valley Shire Library and was made possible through a Funding of Community Initiatives grant from Uniting Ability Links and a Regional Arts grant.

The event was a component of a larger project called The (Un) Usual: When the Familiar Becomes Strange, which will culminate in an arts festival in Lismore in November 2019. The whole project has been made possible by the Australian Government's Regional Arts Fund, provided through Regional Arts Australia and Regional Arts NSW.

Track Applications

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Planning & Development



Reuse is a key component



Samples showing the different stages of the treatment process have been on display at the community information sessions held over the past two weekends. PHOTO: Chris Sheedy

From Page 1

Manager Water and Sewer Services, Jim Collins, said that Council greatly appreciates the cooperation of these private landholders who are willing to invest in a long-term reuse scheme.

“Of course, when it rains our reuse sites can’t take all of our recycled water, they simply don’t need it for irrigation so we have to find an effective disposal solution for the future,” Mr Collins said.

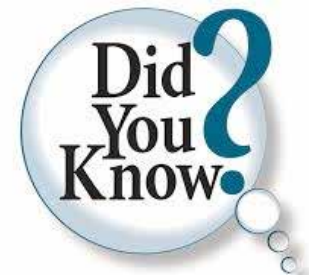
Between 2009 and 2013, a range of disposal options were investigated in detail by AECOM (specialist environmental consultants), Council and a community Focus Group. Considering the options fully has taken time. Nearby locations such as Pambula, South Pambula, Lochiel, Millingandi and Wolumla as well as constructed wetlands were analysed by the Focus Group for their potential as reuse sites but found to be unsuitable or would require a relatively high construction cost and carbon footprint.

“We all know that the Merimbula landscape is unique which means there are constraints on where we can direct recycled water to; we must protect existing wetlands, endangered ecological communities, National Park areas, oyster leases and Aboriginal heritage sites.

“Land for use of recycled water needs to have suitable buffer zones from waterways, a slope of preferably less than 10 degrees and a suitable soil profile.

“It also needs to allow for irrigation infrastructure that can be programmed to apply water when required and operated to avoid overspray, spray drift, runoff, ponding and water-logging of soils,” Mr Collins said.

The NSW Environment Protection Authority (EPA) supports this finding via conditions in Council’s Environment Protection Licence. In 2014, the NSW EPA amended Council’s operating licence for the STP to include a requirement to construct an ocean outfall and upgrades to the STP.



Council partners with community groups to operate ten reuse schemes throughout the Shire. We’ve been distributing recycled water to the Pambula Merimbula Golf Club for over 40 years and irrigation to Oaklands began in 2013.

Council has resolved to investigate extending the use of recycled water to the Pambula Sporting Complex.

While the decision to construct an ocean outfall has been made, a Community Working Group (CWG) and AECOM are now considering the alignment of the ocean outfall and the details of the upgrades to the STP.

An Environmental Impact Statement, which is a requirement by NSW Planning, is underway and will supplement the information we’ve already collected about the waters in Merimbula Bay through dye dispersion tests, a marine hydrographic survey, flora and fauna studies and a marine ecological study.

“Since the decision was made to construct an ocean outfall, we’ve been keeping track of the latest technology available to utilise at the STP.

“We can also use the latest technology to minimise disturbance to the dunes and the ocean seabed,” added Mr Collins.

We’ve just released a short video which explains more about how we beneficially reuse and dispose of recycled water from the Merimbula STP. View the video on the project website at www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/MerimbulaSTPupgrade.

For more information email merimbulaSTPupgrade@begavalley.nsw.gov.au or phone 1800 029 478.

Council Meeting wrap up

Petitions

Two petitions were tabled at the meeting. One from the residents, commuters and visitors of Cobargo requesting assistance in directing the Roads and Maritime Services to implement strategies for the safety and liveability of Cobargo; and another requesting Council not proceed with the deep ocean outfall in Merimbula and look at reuse options.

Eden Community Access Centre

Council approved a further one-year licence with a further one-year option to Eden Community Access Centre Incorporated for

their continued occupation of office space within the Eden Gateway Centre.

Refugee Welcome Signs

The refugee welcome signs will remain in place at the libraries after a notice of motion from Cr Nadin suggesting they be removed following recent vandalism was unsuccessful.

Community Project Proposals

The steps at The Point in Tura Beach will be named in honour of Rob High and the fencing of the Towamba Sportsground perimeter will be considered and prioritised with other asset renewals after two

community project proposals were supported by Council.

Rural Village Playgrounds

Council endorsed the outcomes of the completed community consultation process culminating in the preparation of four final Concept Plans for Rural Village Playground Upgrades at Cobargo Apex Park, Bemboka Bicentennial Park, Wyndham Memorial Park, and Ray Whyman Reserve/Tathra Lions Park at Mogareeka. Work on these upgrades is set to commence in August.

Land Divestment Options

A total of 43 land divestment option reports were considered, with Council resolving to retain ownership of a number of these. Other parcels will be sold by Real Estate Agents following a competitive quotation process.

Charitable Fund

A report will be prepared for Council on the steps required to establish a charitable fund

to be known as the Bega Valley Shire Community Disaster Relief Fund, to operate in perpetuity with the purpose of providing financial assistance to residents and ratepayers whose homes and/or personal effects are destroyed or damaged by natural disasters within the Bega Valley Shire.

Next Meeting

10 April 2019 @ 2pm

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

Watch Live

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

www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/councilmeetings

Everyone Can Play underway

Work is expected to begin next week on the 'Everyone Can Play' inclusive play space at Tathra's Taylors Square with local contractor, Bega Bobcats, the successful tenderer.

The playground will be an example of the 'Everyone Can Play' - Inclusive Play Space Guidelines which were recently developed by the NSW Office of Open Space and Parklands.

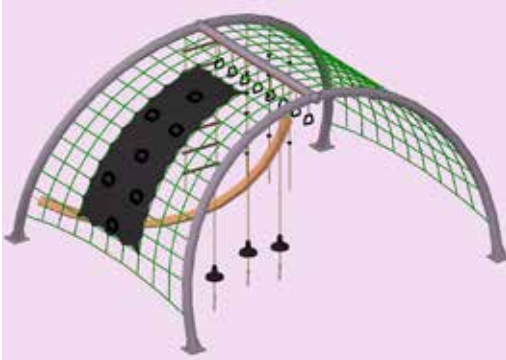
The guidelines reflect that playgrounds are important gathering places for our communities, where children and their families and carers come to relax, play, celebrate and mark important occasions.

The key project and design objectives of the new playground will be to cater for the needs of a wide range of ages and abilities and consider carers as well as kids.

Many thanks to the NSW Department of Planning and Environment for their work in developing the project, engaging with the community and providing \$600,000 in funding.

Council and the project design team are grateful to the people who took the time to be involved in the project consultation, review the concept plan and give their feedback and thoughts.

Manager Parks, Aquatics and Recreation, John Grady, said that people were keen to see more climbing equipment and the fishnet climber has



A custom design arch climber will now be installed as part of the Everyone Can Play inclusive play space at Tathra.

been replaced with a custom designed 'arch' climber.

“This piece will see all sorts of monkeying around and includes elements for climbing, swinging, moving and hanging.

“To keep the project within budget we reduced the amount of structural landscaping in the ‘volcano’ mound which means that one reused slide has been taken out of the design, but the key pieces of play equipment with other landscape elements will ensure everyone has plenty of fun,” he explained.

The playground will be unavailable from Monday 25 March for an expected eight weeks.

Council is aiming to reuse as much of the existing play equipment as possible.

Thanks for the playground input

Council will upgrade four of the Shire's village playgrounds at Cobargo, Wyndham, Bemboka and Mogareeka with work set to start in August this year.

Moduplay will supply and install new play equipment at each of these village playgrounds.

As well as on-site meetings with interested community representatives, and consultations with school children at Cobargo, Bemboka, and Wyndham Public Schools, people were invited to provide input into the designs of the playgrounds through Council's website.

Recreation Projects Officer, Noel Whittem, thanked everyone for their interest and feedback.

"It was useful to talk with people about what they liked and didn't like about the current playgrounds and I appreciate the time and dedication locals put in to seeing their playground and parkland areas improved.

“Given what people told us, we’re aiming to make further improvements, where possible, to the reserves where the playgrounds are situated.

“This may include upgrading park furniture, installing barbeque shelters and general beautification of the spaces.

“Improving accessibility has been an important consideration as well, with improved pathways and items of ‘all abilities’ playground equipment included. Disabled parking bays are also planned to be installed where possible,” Mr Whittem said.

He added that consideration was given to re-installing the Pirate Ship, which was previously at the Ray Whyman Reserve and damaged beyond repair during the 2016 east coast low weather event.

“Given the high probability that similar play equipment would be damaged by adverse weather events in the future, it was decided that the best idea would be to install a pirate ship at the Lions Park at Mogareeka,” he said.

Boat ramp upgrade in action



Work has commenced on the Beauty Point boat ramp upgrade.

Work to upgrade the boat ramp at Beauty Point is on schedule and the boat ramp should be open by Easter, barring unforeseen circumstances.

Currently, workers are getting ready to lay the accessible pathway and the slab for the picnic table.

The upgrade project includes constructing a new reinforced concrete double boat ramp, enlarging and upgrading the access road and boat launching area, providing boat wash-down facilities and improving lighting at the site.

While work is underway, the boat ramp and access road will not be available for use.

In the meantime, people are asked to launch their boats at the following locations:

- Bermagui River boat ramp (Lamont Street, Bermagui);
- Bermagui Harbour boat ramp (Posidonia Esplanade, Bermagui).

The project is jointly funded by Roads and Maritime Services through its NSW Boating Now program and the Bega Valley Shire Council.

More information is on our website
at [www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/
majorprojects](http://www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/majorprojects)



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Phil Butler **GAICD**
Sector Leader Not-for-Profit, AICD



Suzanne Schultz **FAICD**
State Manager ACT, AICD

Date:
Friday 10 May 2019

Time:
3.30pm to 5.00pm

Venue:
Bega Valley Commemorative Centre, Zingel Place, Bega

Cost: (Events are GST exempt)
Member: \$45.00
Non-member: \$55.00

RSVP:
Friday 3 May 2019

Contact:
Ana Tomaz
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DIRECTORS' BRIEFING: Friday 10 May 2019, Bega

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Seniors Festival in focus

Bega Valley Shire Council was again able to support a number of organisations to hold Seniors Festival events across the Shire. With a list of events as diverse as the 'Never Too Late To Make It' Expo, river cruises, movie screenings, afternoon teas, an archery day and kokedama workshops, there was something for everyone!



Taking aim at the Bega Valley Archers Seniors Festival event.



Those attending the Panboola Wetlands kokedama workshop left with their own ball.



Above: The screening of "This Eden", at the Eden Killer Whale Museum.
Left: The Never Too Late To Make It' Expo proved popular.

Applications opening soon for ClubGRANTS

Do you have a great community project that needs funding? Registered clubs in the Bega Valley are encouraging local organisations to apply for funding via the ClubGRANTS Program.

Applications under the ClubsGRANTS Category 1 funding scheme open on the 1 April and close on 30 April 2019.

Eligible organisations are invited to apply for grants for projects that improve community wellbeing and address social issues in the Bega Valley Shire.

During the last 15 years Bega Valley ClubGRANTS Category 1 have contributed close to \$1.4 million to the local community.

Eight local clubs are represented on the ClubsGRANT committee - Bermagui Country Club, Club Bega,

Club Sapphire, Eden Fishermen's Recreation Club, Merimbula RSL, Pambula Merimbula Golf Club, Tathra Beach Bowling Club, and Tura Beach Country Club.

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

Application forms can be accessed at Council's website www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au and further information can be obtained by contacting Council's Community Connections Administration Officer, Lorena Ferrier, on 6499 2247.



HAVE YOUR SAY

Help Council make well-informed decisions to produce the best outcomes for our community.

Have Your Say on the following items now open for comment.



Planning Proposal to rezone land at Tura

Closes 5 April



Draft Code of Conduct and Meeting Practice

Closes 15 April

Visit our website
www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/HaveYourSay



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Bega Valley Recovery

Picture perfect planting day

Council staff were again delighted with the work done by volunteers of all ages at Sunday's planting event at Tathra Headland.

The event, which was held in conjunction with Local Land Services and Landcare and as part of the one-year anniversary of the bushfire, is the second *Green Shoots* planting event at the site.

Encouragingly the initial planting day had an estimated 90% survival success rate and with the welcome rain arriving at the right time, it is hoped the natives will thrive on this occasion as well.

The planting day was part of the broader *Green Shoots* campaign that is aimed at restoring all fire affected natural areas in and around Tathra.

Further events and opportunities will evolve as the recovery and restoration process continues.

A big thank you from Council to everyone who took part.



Council is thrilled with the work done at Sunday's planting day at Tathra Headland.

Appeal fund allocation announced

As we pass the first anniversary of the Tathra and District Fire disaster over \$1.5 million has been donated to the Mayoral Appeal Fund.

Approximately 75% of this money was distributed through four allocations in 2018, however the distribution committee has this week announced a fifth round.

Once again it is aimed at those who were most severely impacted by the disaster, specifically owner/occupiers and tenants whose homes were destroyed or declared permanently uninhabitable.

Bega Valley Shire Council Mayor, Cr Kristy McBain, said that those eligible will be contacted directly and invited to take up this offer of further assistance.

"As a committee we fully understand that people are at very different stages in their recovery journey and we hope that this latest allocation will provide a timely boost," Cr McBain said.



Round 5 represents the last of the staged distributions, with a small residual balance being held for those residents who may contact the committee in the future.

More information about the Mayoral Appeal Fund (including the fund rules) is available on Council's website at www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/tathra

Donations to the Mayoral Appeal Fund can still be made via electronic bank transfer (BSB: 012525 Account: 837535154); or in person at the ANZ Bega Branch.

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 bi-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

6pm - 7pm @ Tathra Public School Hall

Thursday 21 March

Thursday 16 May

Contact us

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