

Bega Valley Shire Council News

Issue 02 - Tuesday 27 February 2018

connecting council and the community

Putting the heat into the kitchen

The Bemboka Memorial Hall kitchen is set for a major refurbishment following a successful \$32,250 funding application.

Member for Bega, Andrew Constance, was joined by Bega Valley Shire Council Mayor, Kristy McBain on a recent visit to the hall where they shared the exciting news with members of the Bemboka community.

The funding, that came through the NSW Infrastructure Grant program, will enable the installation of new stainless steel benches, new flooring, an extraction fan and flyscreens, along with the purchase of new cooking and kitchen equipment. A number of plumbing, painting and carpentry jobs will complete the exciting renovation.

In making the announcement, Mr Constance acknowledged that the hall is not only a meeting place for the community; it also plays the vital role of acting as an evacuation centre at times of emergencies.

"After visiting the hall and seeing firsthand the current facilities, this funding will make a massive difference to the many users of the community hall and those needing

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Member for Bega Andrew Constance and Mayor Kristy McBain joined members of the Bemboka community in celebrating the announcement of \$32,250 in funding for the refurbishment of the Bemboka Hall kitchen.

Commercial Centres review adopted

Council's Draft Commercial Centres Strategy – Review of the Merimbula, Pambula, Tura Beach Catchment 2017 will be forwarded to the Department of Planning for approval after its adoption at last Wednesday's Council meeting.

The draft plan was prepared following consultation with the NSW Department of Planning and a resolution of the Joint Regional Planning Panel (JRPP) in response to a proposal from Bunnings for land on the corner of Sapphire Coast Drive and Tura Beach Drive, Tura Beach.

Exhibited for 30 days in October and November 2017, the review of the Merimbula/Pambula/Tura Beach catchment identified the current

functions and future directions of each of these localities in the context of the commercial centres hierarchy within the Shire.

Eight submissions were received during the exhibition period, with all concerns raised addressed by officers in the report to Council.

If approved by the Department, the review will replace the Merimbula/Pambula/Tura Beach Local Centre chapter in the 2006 Commercial Centres Strategy.

It is anticipated that a further review of the Commercial Centres Strategy will commence in late 2018.



The review of Council's Draft Commercial Centres Strategy for Pambula (pictured), Merimbula and Tura Beach was adopted at last week's meeting.

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

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Stage 1 of sewer project completed

Stage 1 of the North Bega sewer network upgrade is now complete.

The work included a new pump station at Lagoon Street, a rising main from North Bega to the Bega Sewerage Treatment Plant via Tarraganda Lane, and a transfer main along Ridge Street and under the Princes Highway.

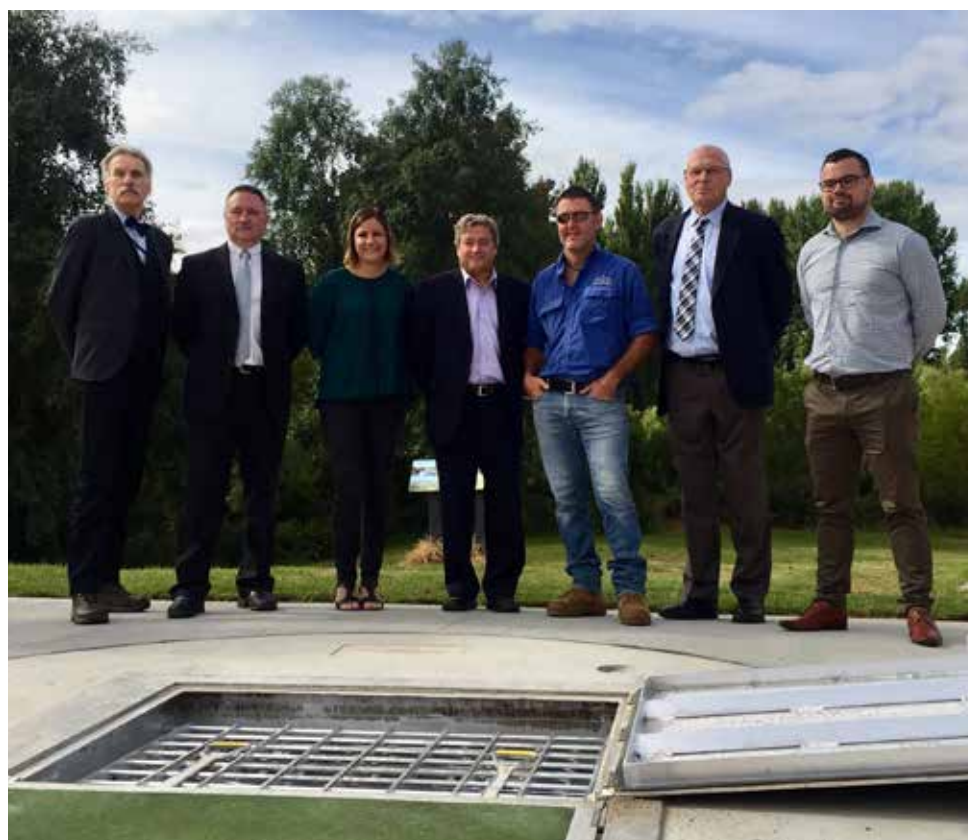
Bega Valley Mayor, Kristy McBain said that Council's long term plan for North Bega is to construct a reticulated sewer system to service the entire area.

"The residents and businesses of North Bega now have options other than just septic systems, this upgrade will encourage social and economic growth close to town," Cr McBain said.

"And I am delighted that a local contractor has been involved in undertaking the Stage 1 works."

Council was assisted with the project via the Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure & Regional Development's *Building our Future* program.

"Council is also proud to have partnered with Bega Cheese to get this job done; the outcome advances the needs of both organisations," Cr McBain said.



Andrew Stewart (BVSC - Project Manager), Jim Collins (BVSC - Water & Sewer Manager), Mayor Kristy McBain, Colin Griffin (Bega Cheese), Tim Harrison (RD Miller), Senator Jim Molan and Chris Best (BVSC - Water & Sewer Assets Coordinator) were all on hand for the opening of Stage 1 of the North Bega sewer upgrade.

An integral part of the project was a 'trenchless' approach for much of the pipe laying construction work.

'Under boring' is a technique that minimises disruption to the

public and is more cost effective compared to more traditional open trenching methods. It also lessens environmental impacts, and reduces Work Health and Safety risks.

"This sort of project is core to Council's business in terms of managing and improving our assets, while looking to build prosperity, opportunity and sustainably," Cr McBain said.

"Council is also proud to have partnered with Bega Cheese to get this job done; the outcome advances the needs of both organisations."

- Cr Kristy McBain

The timing of the later stages is yet to be determined and will be a decision made in association with work now being undertaken by Council in regards to Asset Management and Strategic Business Plans," Cr McBain said.

A brief completion of works ceremony, marking the success of the project, took place last Wednesday at the Lagoon Street site. Official guests included Senator Jim Molan, Mayor Kristy McBain and Colin Griffin, Bega Cheese Chief Financial Officer.

Education scholarships

Bega Valley Shire Council is throwing its weight behind the region's young people and calling for nominations for this year's round of Further Education Scholarships.

The annual scholarships program (formally Tertiary Scholarships) supports young people seeking professional qualifications and careers while living in the Bega Valley.

A total of \$5000 will be awarded to local students, allowing for five grants valued at \$1000 to be awarded.

The scholarships are targeted at those studying full or part time (including online) with a University, TAFE or Registered Training Organisation.

Applicants need to be living in the Shire, aged between 17 and 26, not in receipt of another grant or scholarship and experiencing financial barriers.

Mayor Kristy McBain said she is committed to seeing our young people reach their potential and



sometimes it's that helping hand along the way that keeps people going and headed in the right direction.

"In the past we have awarded scholarships to young people completing such diverse courses as early childhood education, engineering and trailer making, pathology, and business administration – such a dynamic mix," Cr McBain said.

"I'd encourage anyone to make an application for one of these scholarships and see where it can take you."

**Apply online at www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/grants
applications close 9 March 2018**

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**grabbing back:
women in the age
of trump**

fran lebowitz,
sophia nelson &
francesca donner

**#metoo: the making
of a movement**

tarana burke
& tracey spicer

women in the arts

local panelists tell
their stories, presented
by south east arts

**young women's
awards announcement**

bega valley shire council
international women's
day young women's
awards announcement

Sunday 4 March
Bega Valley Commemorative Civic Centre
1.00pm to 4.30pm

free event: register at www.southeastarts.org.au

#allaboutwomen

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Ten years for coastal weeds project

“The beaches of the Bega Valley are clean and weed free for a reason. It doesn’t just happen”, says Far South Coast Land Care Coordinator, Chris Post.

Ten years ago our beaches were a different sight to what you see now.

They were infested with weeds like Sea Spurge and African Daisy, but thanks to the success of the Coastal Weeds Project beaches like Merimbula and Pambula are now almost weed free.

The situation a decade ago on beaches and dunes between Bermagui and Eden led botanist, Stuart Cameron, to take action. A partnership with Aboriginal Lands Councils, Local Land Services, Far South Coast Landcare, National Parks and Wildlife Services and Bega Valley Shire Council was born. A collaboration that now celebrates 10 years of work.

Under Mr Cameron’s leadership, the ‘Protecting the Wilderness Coast’ project drew on the people power and environmental passion of Landcare Groups and the three Aboriginal Land Councils – Merriman’s, Bega and Eden.

Each spring and autumn a ‘sweep’ for weeds and litter along local beaches and estuaries has taken place, funded by the NSW Environmental Trust, and matched by contributions from Bega Valley Shire Council, Local Lands Services, and National Parks and Wildlife Service.

“The pressure from weeds is relentless,” Mr Cameron said.

“They swiftly take advantage of any lapse in attention and effort, as any gardener well knows!”

Volunteer groups that once expended most of their energy pulling out and battling weeds are now able to turn their attention to more rewarding tasks, such as Bermagui Dunecare’s extensive planting program at Cuttagee.

“A large number of Aboriginal workers have gone on to full time work in natural resource management with skills in plant identification and weed control techniques,” Mr Cameron said.

“Another great benefit has been the removal of almost 70 cubic metres of litter from our beaches,” Mr Cameron said.

“A huge collection of plastic and glass bottles, plastic bags, balloons, polystyrene, footwear, fishing line and debris, all of which have the potential to harm marine life and seriously injure beach goers.

“Fortunately the trend in litter volume is downwards,” Mr Cameron said.

Council’s Biosecurity Coordinator, Jamie Dixon-Keay,



*A sweep in progress at Wonboyn.
Photograph credit: Chris Post – FSC Landcare.*

said that Council has been proud to support the project to date.

“This project has been so successful that it has been extended to the Eurobodalla Shire,” Mr Dixon-Keay said.

“It serves as a blueprint on how successful partnerships can overcome what appear to be insurmountable problems such as coastal weed infestations.

Funding from the NSW Environmental Trust will cease shortly and alternate funding sources are being explored.

“Bega Valley Shire Council’s Environmental Program has made annual contributions to the project and I am hoping our partners are keen to keep going,” Mr Dixon-Keay said.

“This project strongly demonstrates the power of community. We have achieved something remarkable together over the last 10 years, unique in New South Wales,” Mr Cameron concluded.

To celebrate the project’s success the Far South Coast Landcare Association have released a video that provides an overview of the project and features some of the key project participants.

The video can be viewed on the Far South Coast Landcare Associations website - <http://www.fscl.org.au/2018/02/20/the-coastal-weeds-video/>

FLUORIDE QUESTION RESOLVED

Bega Valley Shire Council will seek approval from the Secretary of NSW Health to extend the state funded, fluoridation program to all public water supplies within the Shire, after last Wednesday’s Council meeting provided a resolution to this long-running issue.

With the resolution in the affirmative, Council will now proceed in accordance with Section 6 of the Fluoridation of Public Water Supplies Act 1957 and work closely with the NSW Department of Health towards implementation.

In practice, the implementation process will require extensive capital asset construction (fully funded by the NSW State Government); human resource considerations and staff training; and policy and procedures reviews.

It is expected to be a number of years before the Tantawanglo-Kiah and Brogo-Bermagui water supplies come in line with their sister Bega-Tathra supply, that has been fluoridated since 1963.

The decision of Council comes on the back of a detailed community information process and a recent community survey that was undertaken to determine a statistically valid community view on the subject.

Conducted by the Social Research Centre (SRC), a business unit of the Australian National University, the survey asked “Do you agree with adding fluoride to the public drinking supply to try to prevent tooth decay?”

The results of the survey were made publicly available on 29 January, with the key results being:

- In response to the survey question, 66.2% responded ‘yes’, 28.4% responded ‘no’, 5.2% were unsure and only 0.2% preferred not to respond.
- Respondents who reported their main source of normal drinking water to be the public supply were significantly more likely to be in agreement with the suggestion of adding fluoride to the public drinking water supply (77.1%), in comparison with respondents who have another normal source of drinking water - such as bottled water, a combination of different sources or something else (51.5%).

Bemboka Hall kitchen upgrade

From page 1

refuge in times of emergencies,” Mr Constance said.

Council’s Cemetery and Hall Officer, Karen Terwin, said the funding application had been crafted through a partnership between Council, the hall committee and members of the community.

“The volunteers on the Bemboka Hall committee and so many others like them across the Shire play such a key role in the operations and management of our community

halls and it is just great to see their efforts being supported through grants such as this,” Ms Terwin said.

“Our community halls have such a rich collective history and in many cases remain the lifeblood of our smaller towns and villages in particular.

“We hope that when the upgrade it completed, it will entice a whole new range of potential hirers to the hall, including small batch producers and importantly the ability to cater on-site for large events will be

greatly enhanced.”

Planning is well advanced and the refurbishment work is expected to commence in the near future.

All hirers will be kept updated on the project to ensure disruptions are kept to a minimum.

New members are always welcome to join the various community hall committees across the Shire.

For more information on Council’s community halls, contact Karen Terwin on 6499 2222.

Site plan for Tura reserves released

The ongoing management and maintenance of the Tura Head Coastal Reserve (The Point) and Dolphin Cove Reserve are the subject of a site management plan set to be released this week by Bega Valley Shire Council.

The development of this site management plan represents the culmination of ongoing conversations between Bega Valley Shire Council and the broader community regarding appropriate management of both sites and follows a workshop held in June 2017, along with follow up meetings and community contributions since this workshop.

The management of the Tura Beach and Dolphin Cove Coastal Reserves was also the subject of a report to the 11 October 2017 Council meeting, where Council provided direction to officers on how it wanted to proceed.

Council's Director of Community Relations and Leisure, Anthony Basford, said the plan sets out the capital, operational and maintenance requirements required to manage the area adjacent to The Point and Dolphin Cove, Tura Beach, in accordance



A site management plan for the Tura Head Coastal Reserve (The Point) and Dolphin Cove Reserve is being released this week.

with legislative requirements.

"We are committed to moving forward with a plan that strikes the best possible balance."

- Anthony Basford

"The nature of the Tura Head and Dolphin Cove Reserves is such that there are potentially conflicting issues that the plan seeks to

address, however with the longest coastline of any Council in NSW these are consistent with many other sites across the Shire," Mr Basford said.

"In preparing the document we have considered the recreational use of the site, including the number of access tracks within the area; the existing natural assets located on site, including threatened species management and the management of weeds and feral animals; bushfire

management; emergency access to both The Point and Dolphin Cove; and the restriction of private vehicles to the site.

"We (Council) have already received a significant amount of valuable information from the community and we are committed to moving forward with a plan that strikes the best possible balance.

"Now is the time to get on with it," Mr Basford said.

In releasing this plan, Council is seeking interested parties to be part of a volunteer group to assist with the maintenance of the two reserves. If you are interested in being part of this volunteer group, we encourage you to contact council's Recreation and Natural Assets Coordinator, John Turville, at council@begavalley.nsw.gov.au or by phone on (02) 6499 2222.

The plan will be published to Council's website www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au, while hard copies of the plan will be available to view at the Tura Marrang Library and Community Centre, Tura Beach.

For more information contact John Turville on (02) 6499 2222.

Theatre Twyford momentum building

The momentum behind the redevelopment of Merimbula's Twyford Hall site continues to build, with the Mayor and senior Council staff meeting with representatives of Twyford Hall Incorporated on Thursday to chart a united way forward.

Dubbed *Theatre Twyford*, the multi-million dollar project proposes to transform the precinct by adding a 200-seat professional raked theatre and is the subject of a \$7.4 million application to the NSW Regional Cultural Fund, which will

be considered in round two of the program later this year. The proposal is to build *Theatre Twyford* next to the heritage-listed Twyford Hall.

Bega Valley Shire Council Mayor, Cr Kristy McBain, said that Twyford Hall Incorporated has invested significant funds and time to have the project shovel ready and Thursday's meeting centred on Council playing a greater role in advancing the project.

"Council has previously supported

Twyford Hall Incorporated's pursuit of funds through providing certainty of tenure through a 15-year management agreement; contributing to past kitchen upgrades; including the *Theatre Twyford* project in the Plan of Management for the site; and via Council resolutions supporting the project," Cr McBain said.

"Securing funding from the State and Federal Governments is critical to the success of the *Theatre Twyford* project, and the extremely competitive nature of the Regional

Cultural Fund program means strong and coordinated support from the entire community is critical."

Twyford Hall Incorporated's project spokesperson, John Beever, described the meeting as a very positive step forward.

"It is very encouraging for our group to see Council committed to working closely with us to ensure the *Theatre Twyford* vision is realised and the Shire can experience the clear benefits the project will bring," Mr Beever said.



Is coming to town

Bega Valley Shire Council is excited to be introducing the Food Organics Garden Organics bin collection service in the second half of 2018.

FOGO is for residents who currently have an organics (green) bin collection service. You will know **FOGO** is starting when we deliver your free kitchen caddy.

Find out more and stay up-to-date

Look out for the new FOGO info bins at libraries, tips and Council's Bega office

Download the FREE Bega Valley Waste APP

Call us on 6499 2222

Visit www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/waste

Follow our Facebook page @BegaValleyWasteandRecycling

Waste... The Facts

WTF

Big growth at Civic Centre



Christie Snell and Georgina Pearce from the Bega Valley Commemorative Civic Centre.

Since Bega Valley Shire Council has taken over the management of the Bega Valley Commemorative Civic Centre the venue has become a major focal point for residents of all ages.

Venue Coordinator Georgina Pearce is excited about the success of the venue and the variety of ways the Centre's various spaces are being used.

"The Civic Centre is truly becoming a destination to experience a range of events and dining experiences," Ms Pearce said.

Offering the largest and most versatile spaces in the Bega Valley Shire, the BVCCC staged more than 260 functions and events in 2017, a significant increase on 177 in 2016, and a terrific contribution to the local economy and the shire's tourism appeal.

"Many events have sold out, it's been really satisfying seeing locals and visitors enjoy themselves and in many cases experiencing something new," Ms Pearce said.

"There is a real audience building around the Civic Centre, people are keeping an eye on our Facebook page to see what's coming up next."

Much of the success is due to the partnerships formed between various local community organisations and

touring agencies.

"The Hillgrove House Ball, the Jellat Rural Fire Service's 75th Birthday, and Splendour in the Brass with the Bega Band, have been terrific community events and we were also excited to host a number of school presentations and graduations," Ms Pearce said.

"And we've been able to mix that with some impressive touring shows like Anh Do, Jimeoin, and Arj Barker."

The growth and pull of the centre continues in 2018 with events and acts as diverse as Puppetry of the Penis, Sydney Writers Festival Live and Local, Play School, and Afternoon Tonight with James Valentine already locked in.

Georgina and new staff member Christie Snell welcome any enquires regarding the use of the Civic Centre.

This multi-functional facility can host a wide range of events, including performances, presentations, graduations, conferences, meetings, workshops, public speakers, banquet dinners, cocktail parties and touring productions.

Check Council's website www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/civicculture, phone 6499 2462 or email civicculture@begavalley.nsw.gov.au for further information.

Adventurer to visit our Shire libraries

Adventurer, Jeremy Scott has an incredible story, from the challenge of open-heart surgery when he was a child to his inspiring solo bicycle ride from London to New Zealand.

Bega Valley Shire Library invites you to join Jeremy at Bermagui and Bega libraries on Thursday, 8 March to listen to him talk about his adventures, including fearful encounters with Iranian and Filipino Mafia as well as heart-warming moments.

His talk will also include stunning photos from his epic cycling journey that took him through 29 countries over a period of two and a half years.

His recently published book, *The Long Road From A Broken Heart* details his ride which began on 5 October 2011 and saw him cycle a distance of nearly 52,000 kilometres, more than enough distance to circumnavigate Earth.

Jeremy was inspired to undertake such a massive challenge through his love of the great outdoors and his spirit for travel, but his epic ride was just the beginning of a new journey of raising money for the New Zealand, Australian and British Heart Foundations. So far he has raised over \$50,000 and he continues to support these charities through speaking engagements and book sales.

Jeremy is a recipient of the Australian Heart Foundation 'Heart Hero Award', an Ambassador for Waterline Challenge and is a Dream Team Leader of the Sir Peter Blake Trust.

Program Librarian, Linda Albertson said that Jeremy's story is one of genuine endeavour and generosity.

"Not only has he actively chased his dream and reaped the rewards of self-belief but now he is giving back to charities close to his heart," Ms Albertson said.

Jeremy's talk at Bermagui library starts at 10.30am on Thursday, 8 March and he will be at Bega library from 6pm on the same day. Copies of his book will be available for purchase.

Book your place by phoning Bermagui Library on 6499 2411, Bega Library on 6499 2127 or visit www.begavalleyshirelibrary.eventbrite.com.au

Short Cut Road closed

John Michelin & Son (in conjunction with Bega Valley Shire Council) will be undertaking repair work on the Nullica Short Cut Road in the coming weeks.

To perform these works safely, a section of the road will be closed from today (27 February) until 9 March inclusive.

Emergency services have been notified and signage will be erected notifying road users of the closure.

For more information contact:

- Bill Michelin on 0409 961 891 or
- Council's Terry Maher on 0447 293 114

Right: Nullica Short Cut Road will be closed for maintenance through until 9 March.



Library calls out for volunteers

Bega Valley Shire Library warmly invites people interested in volunteering with the library service to give it a go and enjoy the rewards that volunteering offers.

Programs and Partnerships Officer, Scott Baker, said that the library is particularly interested in bolstering volunteers for the Home Library Service; without volunteers this service would just not happen.

The Home Library Service provides library materials to residents who are house-bound for medical reasons and who are unable to visit a library for themselves.

"We really need people who live in Bermagui, Bega and Merimbula/Tura to come forward so we can keep this valuable and much appreciated service going," Mr Baker said.

Home Library volunteer, Sheryl Drummond delivers books, DVDs and talking books to residents at a nursing home in Bega.

"The residents like to chat about the books they've read so it's easy to see the service is

very important to them," Sheryl said.

Full training and ongoing support is provided for Home Library volunteers, which involves selecting materials, delivering them to a client and collecting them for return. Normally, three hours once a month is required.

Sheryl also volunteers at Bega Library once a week doing a variety of tasks such as craft preparation, processing new items and shelving.

"Before I started here, I didn't realise the library has so many different activities happening. The library staff check that the jobs I do suit my interests," she said.

If you'd like to find out more, express interest in volunteering or if you would like to use the Home Library Service, please email Scott Baker at sbaker@begavalley.nsw.gov.au or phone 6499 2222.

Right: Sheryl Drummond volunteers with the Home Library Service and in Bega Library.



Bringing the generations together



The Intergenerational Program is having a real impact in Eden.

Something special is happening in Eden!

Eden Child Care Centre operates an ongoing Intergenerational Program that provides unique opportunities for the children to interact with the residents at Roy Wotton Gardens.

Council's Southern Nominated Supervisor (Children's Services), Annette Coleman, said the program helps bring generations together to form fun and meaningful relationships.

"Both groups have so much to learn from each other that the result of this program is magical," Ms Coleman said.

"It brings them together to break down stereotypes and promotes the transmission of traditions, cultural ideas and values, helping to build a sense of personal and social identity

while encouraging tolerance."

"Intergenerational programs are fun for everyone involved, and they also pay positive dividends for society as a whole.

Each week the children from Eden Child Care Centre walk across the road from the service to share morning tea and a variety of activities with the residents of the aged care facility.

They engage in balloon play, arts and crafts, story reading, gardening, games and lots of conversations.

Last year the children were invited to perform in the Roy Wotton Gardens annual festival where they sang and danced for a large audience.

They also engaged in Remembrance Day events and were invited to share in Christmas celebrations.

Discovering at libraries

Bega Valley Shire Library is at the forefront of an exciting Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) initiative to bring a hands-on science discovery program to local preschool children.

The aim of the Little Bang Discovery Club is to develop ideas and skills in children that inspire further scientific exploration, discovery and learning.

Participants attend a weekly session for four weeks with each session incorporating hands-on activities using everyday objects and experiences, a question and answer time and a Discovery Box, which is loaned to each child for the duration of the Club on payment of a \$20 refundable deposit.

Bega Valley Shire Library, with funding support from the Mumbulla Foundation and in partnership with the Sapphire Coast Regional Science Hub, has purchased multiple Discovery Boxes, which contain specially assembled, age-appropriate tools and equipment.

Acting Library Coordinator, Megan Jordan-Jones, said the program incorporates practical sessions on collecting and classifying, measuring and recording as well as using experiments.

"Little Bang is fun and engaging not only for children but also for accompanying adults, and it will give parents and carers ideas about safe experiments to try at home," Ms Jordan-Jones said.



The Little Bang Discovery Club will commence at the Bermagui Library in March.

Ms Jordan-Jones added that the Little Bang Discovery Club will be rolled out to all Shire libraries throughout the year.

The first Little Bang Discovery Club will run at Bermagui library each Wednesday in March starting at 10.30am.

Places are limited and bookings are essential. Book and pay your deposit by phoning Bermagui library on 6499 2411 or visit www.begavalleyshirelibrary.eventbrite.com.au.

The Children's Discovery Museum developed this highly successful program in collaboration with Randwick City Library in 2011 and it is now operating in over 25 libraries throughout New South Wales.

Further dye testing in Merimbula Bay

With the environmental assessment of the Merimbula Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) Upgrade and Ocean Outfall project continuing, further dye dispersion tests will be undertaken in Merimbula Bay in the next fortnight.

Council's Water and Sewerage Services Manager, Jim Collins, said the dispersion tests represent a key element of the hydrodynamic modelling for the project and involved consultant hydrologists releasing a harmless, bright red fluorescent dye called Rhodamine into the water at up to four locations, including Haycock Point and in the middle of the bay.

"A key element of the hydrodynamic modelling for the project."

- Jim Collins

"The information received from these tests will show the dispersion rates and travel times of waterborne materials in the bay, and will help

our designers determine the best location for the placement of the deep water ocean outfall," Mr Collins said.

"Rhodamine, which disperses rapidly, follows the pathways of currents closely and has a low impact on water quality. It is used to measure how long it takes the currents to move water between predetermined sampling sites, with the testing taking a few hours in each location.

"We undertook a similar process in September 2017 and this work will further inform our planning.

"Council is acting on advice from the NSW Environment Protection Authority and also local community concerns, that the existing beach-face outfall at the Merimbula Sewerage Treatment Plant is not sustainable," Mr Collins said.

To follow the progress of the project visit www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/merimbulastpupgrade.

For more information contact Council on 6499 2222.



Further dye testing will be undertaken in Merimbula Bay.

'Out for a Stroll' to Bemboka



A mock-up of how 'Out for a Stroll' might look at the corner of Snowy Mountains Highway and Adams Street, Bemboka.

Bemboka has been chosen as the location for the Shire's newest piece of public art.

Simon Pankhurst's winning sculpture 'Out for a Stroll' will sit nicely in the rolling landscape of the valley that surrounds Bemboka.

This will be the fourth art work Council has acquired on behalf of the community from the annual Sculpture Bermagui exhibition. Grand works are already in position at Short Point, Eden, and Bermagui.

Mayor Kristy McBain said the installations had enhanced the streetscape of our towns and villages.

"We've seen these sculptures become a real talking point in their host towns, and add to the colour and interest of local life," Cr McBain said.

A potential site for the sculpture is on the corner of Snowy Mountains

Highway and Adams Street, because of its maximum exposure and how it sits in relation to the mountains.

The exact location has not yet been determined as Council seeks further feedback from the local community and NSW Roads & Maritime Services.

The proposed location has already received some positive feedback from a number of community members and organisations, including Bemboka Lions Club, with some suggesting that plantings around the base of the sculpture could also be added.

Bega Valley Shire Council welcomes further comments regarding the location from the community.

Please send comments and suggestions to – pcross@begavalley.nsw.gov.au or call 6499 2222, the comment period closes on Friday, 2 March.

What's ON! LOCAL EVENTS

- **Cobargo Market Day:** Saturday 3 & 10 March 2018, 8am Cobargo Village.
- **Bermagui Seaside Fair:** Saturday 10 March, Dickinson Oval/Park,
- **Sapphire Coast Rock 'N' Rodders Dance Festival:** 8 - 12 March 2018, Club Sapphire.
- **Bega Valley Shire Council Meeting:** Wednesday 14 March 2018, 2pm Council Chambers, Bega Valley Commemorative Civic Centre
- **Merimbula Cup Tradies Day:** Friday 9 March, 12-5.30pm, Sapphire Coast Turf Club.
- **Indent All-Ages Tour:** Friday 16 March 2018, 6-10pm, Funhouse Studio, Hill Street Bega

List your event on Council's Local Events calendar
www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/events

Careers at Council

Current Vacancies

- Administrative Assistant – Southern: closes 9/3/2018
- Recreation Assets Officer: closes 8/3/2018
- Casual Pool - Works: closes 5/3/2018
- Senior Environmental Health Officer: closes 5/3/2018
- Waste Transfer Station Coordinator: closes 1/3/2018

begavalley.mercury.com.au

Sign up to receive job alerts
begavalley.nsw.gov.au/careersatcouncil

Eden Wharf extension on course

The eagerly anticipated Eden Breakwater Wharf Extension remains on course, with the installation of scour protection completed and the marine structures contract recently awarded.

Sydney-based specialist marine contractor Waterway Constructions will now extend the existing wharf by 110 metres, along with installing five berthing dolphins and three onshore bollards on the existing wharf.

Upgrades will also be made to existing services, including lighting, power, potable water and emergency fire-fighting water. Navigation aids will also be installed.

On-site work is relatively limited at present, with more than 2000 tonnes of structural steel and over 1000 tonnes of pre-cast concrete structural elements currently being pre-fabricated off site. An additional 2000 tonnes of concrete will be sourced from local suppliers.

The community can expect to see activity ramp up over the next few months with marine plant and equipment, including crane barges, material barges, piling hammers, support vessels, scuba diving crews and drill rigs to all play a role in the construction phase.

Jointly funded by the NSW Government (\$32 million), Australian Government (\$10 million), and the Bega Valley Shire Council (\$2 million), the successful completion of the project is set to bring an estimated 80 new ongoing jobs in the tourism, hospitality and stevedoring sectors.

The NSW Department of Industry is responsible for the delivery of the project, with completion scheduled for 2019.



A section of scour protection being lowered into place in Eden recently.

Promising park partnership



Riverside Park at North Bega is set for makeover in the next few months.

- A partnership between Council and Bega Cheese will result in significant improvements to Riverside Park at North Bega over the coming months.
- The Bega Town and Urban Maintenance teams are set to complete a list of maintenance tasks that includes:
- ✓ The replacement of two bin stands.
 - ✓ The renewal of two existing barbecue plates.
 - ✓ Picnic shelters and tables being painted.
 - ✓ The replacement of all damaged timber.
 - ✓ All broken tiles around the barbecues being replaced.
 - ✓ The renewal of iron sheets over some of the picnic shelters.
 - ✓ Pruning and removing dead wood from the park trees.
 - ✓ Minor repairs to the amenity building.
 - ✓ The replacement of guttering and down pipes on the main barbecue shelter.
- Moving forward Bega Cheese staff will take control of mowing and cleaning duties, while Council will assume responsibility for maintaining the buildings, barbecues, lighting and trees and will complete all necessary spraying.

When someone is missing

Do you have a loved one missing?
Do you need information,
practical assistance or support?

You can contact the Families and Friends
of Missing Persons Unit (FFMPU)

FFMPU provides:

- Free and confidential support, counselling and referrals for families of missing people
- Information on missing persons' issues, agencies and search options (FFMPU is not a search agency)
- Support groups for adults and young people
- Community education about missing persons' issues
- Support and information for service providers
- Research into missing persons' issues

Contact FFMPU

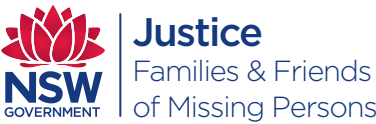
9am to 5pm, Monday to Friday
(excluding public holidays)

Parramatta Justice Precinct
160 Marsden Street, Parramatta

Phone
1800 227 772 / (02) 8688 8173

Email
ffmpu@justice.nsw.gov.au

Facebook
www.facebook.com/missing.persons.501



Contact us

- p. 02 6499 2222
e. council@begavalley.nsw.gov.au
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Bega NSW 2550

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