

Bega Valley Shire Council village newsletter

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Cooler water at SAC

Swimmers at the Sapphire Aquatic Centre will notice that the water is a little cooler than normal as outside air temperatures get colder over winter because the effectiveness of the pool heating system is dependent on environmental factors. When the outside air temperature falls below six degrees the pool water temperature at the Aquatic Centre begins to drop. On average this means the water during cold spells will be about one to two degrees below the normal temperature.

We are doing all we can to reduce the impact on pool users, but on occasions the drop in temperature may result in a disruption to programs, particularly small children's swimming lessons. Regular updates during cold snaps are posted on the Aquatic Centre's Facebook page - to get regular updates on pool temperatures go to <https://www.facebook.com/sapphireaquaticcentreBVSC> or call 6494 3100.

Lake and lagoon review

While it's common for the entrances of local lakes and lagoons to open and close with storms and strong tides, it may come as a surprise that such events are fairly rare in Australia. According to our Coastal Management Officer, Kyran Crane, the Bega Valley Shire has 24 of the 70 Intermittently Closed and Open Lakes and Lagoons (ICOLLs) in NSW. He says water levels in open and closed lakes and lagoons have a large impact on estuarine ecosystems, recreational activities and some of the Shire's

most successful industries so with the management of these valuable natural assets in mind Council has begun reviewing the approval and operational processes relating to ICOLL entrance management. We have engaged the University of NSW Research Laboratory to further develop the policies and procedures around managing some key sites. A part of research will be to seek community input where local knowledge and personal experience will be used to guide the end result.

There will be a number of drop-in sessions for people to learn more about the project and to share their knowledge of local lakes and lagoons. These are scheduled for later in the year and details will be widely promoted following finalisation of dates and locations. Along with the NSW Government we currently manage entrances at Wallaga Lake, Bega River, Merimbula Back Lake, and Lake Curalo, and we have previously been involved in managing Wonboyn Lake, Wallagoot Lake and Cuttagee Lake entrances. Each one of the ICOLL entrances requires different management procedures so we are looking forward to hearing from people who live and work around these lakes and lagoons.

Kyran says it's an interesting project to work on considering that, world-wide, ICOLLs are quite rare. The NSW south coast is home to most of Australia's ICOLLs and probably most of the world's, and 24 of the 29 lakes and lagoons in the Bega Valley Shire have entrances that intermittently open and close. For more information on the review, phone Council's Environmental Services section on 6499 2222.

Jobs with council

Coastal management officer.

Council is seeking a highly motivated person with a passion for the environment to join our Environmental Services Section. The successful applicant will develop and implement coastal management strategies and projects across coastal environmental and management issues, legislation, policy and guidelines having regard to community expectations and changing physical, social and economic demands. Applications close at 5pm on 3 July.

Economic Development Manager.

Here's an opportunity to manage, improve and assist with Council's economic development function. The successful applicant will have an advanced knowledge and a high level of experience providing strategic economic development for a regional community, with an in-depth understanding of commercial operations. Applications close at 5pm on 17 July.

Position descriptions are available from our website or by phoning Council. When applying address the selection criteria in your application and send to:

Email: recruitment@begavalley.nsw.gov.au

Post: The General Manager,
Bega Valley Shire Council, PO
Box 492, Bega NSW 2550.

Fax: 6499 2200.

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
PO Box 492, BEGA NSW 2550.

To view exhibition documents visit us at our Bega office in Zingel Place or one of our libraries: Bermagui - Bunga Street, Eden - Cnr Mitchell & Imlay Streets, Merimbula - 103 Main Street.



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Mobile black spots

Member for Bega Andrew Constance has today announced the NSW Government will fix 795 mobile phone black spots in regional communities to make it easier for residents to stay connected. Communities in the Bega Valley Shires, including Towamba and Nethercote, will benefit from new mobile network towers, to eliminate some of our worst local black spots.

According to the Minister for Regional Development, John Barilaro, the combined Commonwealth and NSW Government investment is the greatest increase in mobile network coverage to metropolitan, regional and remote communities delivered by a single public funding program in the history of Australian mobile communications.

The investment will improve coverage along major transport routes, in small communities and locations prone to experiencing natural disasters, with funding to be rolled out over a three year period.

Strong links with Timor Leste

Bega Valley Shire Councillors were addressed by the vice president of the BV Advocates for Timor Leste, Dave Gallan, about activities in Natarbora, the community with which our Council has a friendship relationship going back 10 years.

Mr Gallan said the Advocates' focus had changed over the last decade as Natarbora developed.

The community is now on the electricity grid with constant power in local homes and the Timor Leste

Government now provides free education for secondary school students.

When the Advocates first visited Natarbora the people in remote areas were nearly starving; children were gaunt and it was difficult to tell their ages by looking at them.

Now the children are well nourished, the schools are far better resourced, the women in the villages have an opportunity to get the economy growing and the bicycles provided by the Shire's Rotary Clubs enable children to ride to and from remote schools.

The Government now provides school lunches to all children and water is available in all school kitchens. On his most recent visit to Timor Leste Mr Gallan was accompanied by Dr Marie Nelson and sewing teacher Sue Pauline who taught young women how to make feminine hygiene products on a treadle sewing machine.

Dr Nelson also spoke to the girls about menstruation and how to ensure they don't have to miss any more days at school because they are menstruating.



Doing business with Council

- Construction tender for Bega Civic Centre, Council Chamber Fitout. Tenders close at noon on 8 July.
- Bega and Brogo Rivers Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan. Tenders close at noon on 8 July.

All Council tendering information and tenders are received through the e-tendering portal at www.tenderlink.com.au/begavalley

Heart doorknock

The annual Heart Foundation Big Heart Doorknock Appeal will held between 1 and 30 September and will involve 37,000 volunteer collectors knocking on doors to collect vital funds for the Heart Foundation's lifesaving research and health programs.

Collectors will go door-knocking between 9am and 6pm in Bega, Bega South, Bermagui, Bermagui South, Cobargo, Eden, Kalaru, Merimbula, Berrambol, Buckajo and Tathra. Volunteer collectors will be provided with a Heart Foundation official identification badge and a doorknock receipt book.

Photograph: Dr Marie Nelson (right) presents a gift to General Manager Leanne Barnes from the young women of Mane Hat in appreciation for Council's support over the years.

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

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