

Bega Valley Shire Council village newsletter

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Library changes

The Shire's libraries are settling down after a recent review of services in response to changing demands, expectations and opportunities for libraries. As part of the review, a library staffing structure change was recommended in order to meet these changes.

One change is that we have increased staffing levels at Eden Library which means that it will no longer be closed during lunchtime. We have also introduced a dedicated Programs and Partnerships Officer who will work with the community to deliver a schedule of programs across the library network.

Free hearing checks

There will be free hearing checks by National Hearing Care in the Bega Library during November. Hearing loss can be gradual and a hearing test is the only way to find out about yours. The confidential check takes 10 minutes and you will receive a comprehensive report on your hearing. Appointments are available at Bega library on Monday 9 November between 10am and 1pm. To book your hearing check phone Bega library on 6499 2127.

Have your say

We are always happy to hear what our ratepayers and residents have to say about our services and policies and offer that opportunity with our Have Your Say section on our website. Three issues we are pursuing at the moment are the Code of Meeting Practice review; Children's Services; and Dog leash-free control areas. There is a lot of interest in the dog control issue.

Removing bamboo

Council is working with Local Land Services and the Bega River and the Wetlands Landcare Group to remove bamboo between the Bega River and Bridge St, Bega, from 2 to 6 November. Bamboo, a rhizome, is an environmental weed, extremely invasive and sends out horizontal roots that choke out natural flora. Bridge St will be closed to all traffic between Auckland Street and East Street from Monday 2 November to Friday 6 November between 7am and 4pm.

Frogs Hollow roadwork

Thanks to Member for Bega Andrew Constance for the good news that work will start early next year to improve a section of the Princes Highway, south of Bega. The NSW Government has allocated \$1.9 million to upgrade an 800 metre section of the highway at Frogs Hollow Lane, widening two bends on the highway. A review of environmental factors is being prepared and Roads and Maritime is also negotiating with property owners as part of this safety upgrade work. For more info go to www.rms.nsw.gov.au

Eden Whale Festival

Give yourself a weekend off and treat yourself at the Eden Whale Festival from 30 October to 1 November with non-stop entertainment, exhibitions, tours, parades, fireworks and lots of food and don't forget to pop in to the Killer Whale Museum to check out Old Tom. A highlight of the festival will be The Phantom Fleet, an app based exhibition sponsored by the Regional Gallery.

Jobs with Council

- Water and sewerage mechanical and electrical engineer.
Applications close at 5pm on 18 November.

Position descriptions are available from our website or by phoning Council.

When applying, address the selection criteria in your application and send by email to recruitment@begavalley.nsw.gov.au or post to the address below.

Doing Business with Council

- Construction of Mogareeka Boat Ramp upgrade project. Tenders close at noon 4 November.
- Sports field assessment consultancy request for quotation. Quotations close at noon on 11 November.

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



A preview of The Phantom Fleet mobile app.

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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Bermagui Transfer Station

Council expects the new Bermagui transfer station will be up and running by the New Year and, as visitors to Merimbula transfer station can attest, the Bermagui station will be a cleaner, greener and more pleasant way for local residents to dispose of their household waste.

While construction continues the site remains open, save for a few short-term limitations. Customers will notice there is currently no resale facility in operation due to space constraints during construction.

Rest assured, resale will return better than ever, once construction is complete. If you have items suitable for resale, hold onto them until resale reopens as we will need to restock resale as swiftly as possible! Customers will also notice a distinct lack of space at the moment. So that we could keep the site open during construction, we have had to temporarily relinquish a large amount of functional space. Sorry for any inconvenience this causes and we ask for your patience during this time.

Council's Customer Service staff can direct you to the temporary locations for each waste type and help you navigate your way around the site during high traffic periods. Phone Council on 6499 2222.

Portrait prize for under-25s

The clock is ticking for young portrait artists throughout Australia as entries for the inaugural Australian youth portrait prize closes at midnight on

Monday 2 November. The Regional Gallery will host the \$10,000 acquisitive prize, The Shirl, from December 18 when celebrated young artist Abdul Abdullah will judge the entries. BVRG curator Iain Dawson said Abdullah, from Perth and now living and working in Sydney, is a major force in Australian art circles, with his work currently featured as part of the Museum of Contemporary Art Australia's Primavera exhibition.

The Shirl is sponsored by Peter Hannan as a tribute to his mother, portraitist and art patron, the late Shirley Hannan. He also sponsors the biennial Shirley Hannan National Portrait Prize, also hosted by the Regional Gallery. International Art Services, which specialises in art transport, art packing and art storage, has also thrown their support behind The Shirl as a major sponsor, in recognition of the tyranny of distance for regional cultural facilities.

The IAS prize will be \$1,000 worth of art transport for use by the winning artist anywhere in Australia.



Our halls *Pambula*

Pambula Town Hall was opened in December 1883 in response to public interest in establishing an educational facility for working class adults. Then, as times changed, the focus shifted from education to social activities. It was Pambula's only public hall and became the social hub for the community with plays, concerts, recitals and dances.

After about 40 years, the hall was dismantled and re-erected as an updated facility. The process took much longer than many would have liked, given that planning for an updated hall began in 1901. It was felt that a new hall was needed to meet the rapidly swelling needs of Pambula. Multiple tenders were sought and new land was bought, but eventually, in 1922 it was decided to tear down the existing hall, recycle as much material as possible, and re-build.

Today, the Pambula Town Hall hosts a monthly market, the Robin Hood Club, a social café, theatre rehearsals and performances as well as classes for drama, ballet, yoga, fitness, Tai Chi and life drawing. The Hall is heated, has a kitchen, capacity and chairs for 200 people, disability access and street parking.

For bookings call the hall booking officer on 6495 7160 or e-mail pambulatownhall@gmail.com. Fees and useful information regarding bookings can be found at Council's website, search for Pambula Hall

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