

## Huge boost to FOGO funding

Bega Valley Shire Council's plans to introduce a new household Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) collection service have received a huge boost, with the announcement of a successful \$641,400 funding application.

The grant came via the NSW Environment Protection Authority's 'Waste Less Recycle More' program that aims to encourage local communities to think differently about waste avoidance, recycling, littering and illegal dumping; deliver conveniently located, value-for-money waste infrastructure to make it easier for households and business to do the right thing; and drive innovative regulatory approaches to protect the environment and support investment in new waste programs.

Council's Waste Management Coordinator, Joley Vidau, said that almost half of household waste destined for NSW landfills consists of food and garden waste and the introduction of FOGO will divert around 1,000 tonnes of household food waste away from landfill each year in our Shire alone.

"We made two applications - the first was for the general roll out

of FOGO across the Shire and the second was to investigate and trial pre-processing technology in Multi Unit Dwellings (MUD's)," Ms Vidau said.

**"The introduction of FOGO will divert around 1,000 tonnes of household food waste away from landfill each year in our Shire alone."**  
- Joley Vidau

"Excitingly the funding will in part cover the purchase of 13,000 kitchen caddies and the establishment of a 'Waste Hotline', along with a community information and education program.

"The pre-processing technology would allow MUD's to omit some or all of their green bins in exchange for technology that would process organic waste. It could then be collected in a liquid form and incorporated in Council's

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*Green Bin Replacement Info Page 5*



Council's Waste Management Coordinator, Joley Vidau, is celebrating the funding boost for the roll out of the FOGO service.

## Council News to underpin communication focus

Bega Valley Shire Council is launching a brand new publication to help keep residents in the community up-to-date and informed about all the latest Council news and information.

General Manager Leanne Barnes said *Council News* replaces eNews and Village News by combining the two previous publications into what is intended to provide a snapshot of Council's activities.

"Having recently refocused resources, we are resolute in our commitment to provide better communication and community engagement processes and view the introduction of the *Council News* publication as a vital step towards

reaching our goals and most importantly meeting community expectations," Ms Barnes said.

"It is clear that the community would prefer more regular updates on the work Council is undertaking on their behalf and by packaging it together in one publication, we believe accessibility to the information will be maximised.

"Snapshots of key infrastructure projects, an overview of what's been going on in and around the villages and general news about what the Council team has been working on will all be included, along with an events calendar and

positions vacant, amongst many other features.

"With the publication of each edition to occur in the week immediately following the Council meetings (generally every three weeks), *Council News* will provide all the latest from the Chamber as well.

"Council is focusing on both traditional and social media methods of communication to engage with community members and while social media is obviously a quick and effective way of getting information to the community, there are still some residents that aren't particularly active online.

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Bega Valley

# Commemorative Civic Centre

Zingel Place, Bega  
[www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/Civiccetre](http://www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/Civiccetre)

Visit our website to book a space or see what's on!

[f begavalleyciviccetre](https://www.facebook.com/begavalleyciviccetre)





# Funding boost for FOGO



Organics processing at Merimbula.

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organics processing facility at the Merimbula Waste and Recycling Depot.

“Council are keen to hear from any strata managers or body corporates that are interested in assisting with this trial - an application process will be made available to interested persons.

“We acknowledge that the changes to collections related to FOGO will be challenging, but we ask that our community understands we must make this change to protect our environment and ensure our landfill lasts as long as possible,” Ms Vidau said.

For further information visit [begavalley.nsw.gov.au/waste](http://begavalley.nsw.gov.au/waste) or call 6499 2222.

# Funding for Merimbula flood study

Bega Valley Shire Council is about to embark on a new discussion with the Merimbula community on how to manage the risk of flooding in the area, after Council resolved last week to accept a substantial grant towards the project.

The grant of \$169,866.67 from the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage, under its Floodplain Risk Management Grants Scheme, will help facilitate the completion of the Merimbula Lake and Back Lake Floodplain Risk Management Study and Plan. Council will contribute \$85,000 towards the project.

The idea is to work with the people from the Merimbula and Back Lake catchment areas to assist in the development of a Floodplain Risk Management Plan, following a previous study of the area.

Council’s Asset Management Coordinator, Gary Louie, said the Merimbula and Back Lake communities had made a significant contribution to the study, and is hoping to continue the discussion in drafting a Floodplain Risk Management Plan.

“Our aim is to inform the community about the study, identify concerns, gather information and opinions on



Merimbula and Back Lake will the subject of a Floodplain Risk Management Plan.

possible risk management options and maintain community confidence in the study results,” Mr Louie said.

“As part of the Merimbula Lake and Back Lake study, a substantial community consultation process was undertaken to collect information on the local community’s flood experience and concerns.

“In preparing for the Floodplain Risk Management Plan we are

now seeking to engage with the community again to understand which locations are of greatest concern, and to gather ideas on how the community would like to see flooding managed,” Mr Louie said.

There will be number of ways people can be involved in the project, with further information on surveys, community sessions and working groups to be forthcoming in the near future.

# Root of the problem

The Bega Urban Maintenance Team and Town Team staff recently completed concrete repairs to two sections of the Bega Cycleway (behind the Bega Valley Public School).

The two sections were damaged due to tree roots lifting concrete and vehicles driving over the pathway.

Reinforced concrete (2.5m wide) was re-laid to improve walking and cycling along our paths.

Three further sections of footpath have also been repaired in front of the school and in Upper Street, below the fire station.

More damaged areas will be attended to later this financial year.



Tree roots had impacted significantly on the cycleway behind the Bega Valley Public School (above left) and the repaired section following work undertaken by the urban maintenance and town teams (above right).

# What the 2016 Census told us about Bega Valley Shire

Join our free briefing about your changing community

## The past five years has seen significant social and economic change in Australia.

With the recent release of the 2016 Census data, we can now see how these changes have impacted your community.

- 1

Are more people renting, and fewer people buying?
- 2

Is your population ageing?
- 3

How has migration affected your area?
- 4

Who is moving in, and who is moving out?

## This story is for everyone!

This briefing is for interested community members. Presented by .id – the population experts, the session will leave you with a great story to tell, and the skills to use .id’s powerful online tools in your daily work.

## Registrations now open

This free briefing session will be held at 6.00-7.30pm on 28 February 2018

Location: Bega Valley Commemorative Civic Centre Please register your interest in attending with Sophie Thomson

Email: [sthomson@begavalley.nsw.gov.au](mailto:sthomson@begavalley.nsw.gov.au) Phone: 6499 2246



# Council releases fluoride survey results

Council last week released the results of a community survey into whether the addition of fluoride to the drinking water supply was supported by the public.

The telephone survey, funded by NSW Health, was conducted by the Social Research Centre (SRC), a business unit of the Australian National University, and centred on a single question aimed at deriving a measure of community sentiment into the matter.



Other demographic information, including primary sources of drinking water, was also collected during the survey.

The survey followed a Council resolution of 1 November 2017 stating in part that "Council staff approach NSW Health to fund the engagement of a suitably qualified research and survey company to undertake a statistically representative community survey to determine a valid community view on whether or not fluoride is supported for the Bega Valley."

The primary question was: "Do you agree with adding fluoride to the public drinking supply to try to prevent tooth decay?"

Some of the key survey results are:

- More than half of the residents surveyed rely on the public water supply as their normal source of drinking water (57.5%). The second most common source was rainwater (24.6%).

- 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%).

To read the full SRC report go to [www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/news](http://www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/news)

The results of the survey will be the subject of a report to the 21 February 2018 Council meeting.

For more information contact Council on (02) 6499 2222.

# Artist in residence exhibition to open

The work of the Bega Valley Regional Gallery's first artist in residence will take centre stage when Julian Meagher's *Inlet Outlet* exhibition opens on 23 February.

Mr Meagher has been a finalist in the most prestigious awards in Australia, as well as being represented in major galleries in Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Hong Kong.

He has built a strong studio practice in Sydney and exhibits through a number of commercial galleries in Australia and internationally, as well as being a director for the emerging artist generator gallery, Chalk Horse in inner East Sydney.

Bega Valley Regional Gallery Director, Iain Dawson, said the exhibition represents the culmination of the Copyright Agency Cultural Fund Residency.

"The residency represents another key step in the development of the arts in the region and provides the opportunity for visual artists to draw from the unique natural environment of the local region, connect with regional



Julian Meagher in his studio.  
Photo Credit : Nick Walker

communities and expand their practice outside of metropolitan studios," Mr Dawson said.

"The pilot project has also initiated a strong partnership between the National Parks and Wildlife Service and the BVRG.

"Julian spent time at the beautiful Sir Roy

Grounds designed Myer House set on Bithry Inlet in the pristine Mimosa Rocks National Park and *Inlet Outlet* will showcase the artistic fruits of that stay.

"While the exhibition promises to be a boon for the gallery, excitingly the residency also provided a number of public program opportunities with BVRG partners Tulgeen Disability Services and the Landcare indigenous rangers taking part.

"An exclusive master class for practicing artists was also available, where participants were exposed to new methods and had the opportunity to draw on Meagher's extensive knowledge and expertise," Mr Dawson said.

*Inlet Outlet* will run from 23 February – 10 March at the Bega Valley Regional Gallery and is supported by National Parks and Wildlife Service, Museums and Galleries NSW and Bega Valley Shire Council.

For more information contact the Bega Valley Regional Gallery on 6499 2187 or visit the website [gallery.begavalley.nsw.gov.au](http://gallery.begavalley.nsw.gov.au)

## Council News is launched

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"We've also found that even among those who are social media savvy, many people still prefer to read a more traditional-style newsletter, which is why we've created Council News," Ms Barnes said.

The eNews and Village News subscriber lists will be amalgamated and provide the initial base for *Council News*, while the publication will also be available from the Shire's libraries, pools, childcare centres, the Bega Valley Commemorative Civic Centre, Bega Valley Learning Centre and the various information centres.

Sign up for *Council News* at [www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/subscribe](http://www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/subscribe) or visit [www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/councilnews](http://www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/councilnews) for the latest edition.

We welcome your feedback on this new publication.

To offer your thoughts, email [communications@begavalley.nsw.gov.au](mailto:communications@begavalley.nsw.gov.au)

## What matters to you? COTA

By 2030 one in three people in NSW will be over 50. This should make issues for older people mainstream.

COTA NSW wants to hear about the issues that matter to you most in your own community so we can ensure that the voices of older people are valued and heard.

Members of our policy team will be visiting your community on 22 February 2018, and we invite you to join us for an informal discussion.

**WHERE:** Bega Valley Commemorative Civic Centre, Zingel Place, Bega

**WHEN:** Thursday, 22 February 2018

**TIME:** 10am – noon (light refreshments available from 9:45am)

**RSVP:** Please RSVP by 15 February 2018

**Email:** [info@cotansw.com.au](mailto:info@cotansw.com.au)

**Phone:** 9286 3860 or 1800 449 102



# Christmas Day for our local boaties

Bega Valley Shire Council has successfully advocated for improvements to local boating infrastructure, working with the Member for Bega and the NSW Government to secure \$1.22 million in funding.

Round two of the Boating Now program has been announced by Andrew Constance MP, allowing for projects that will deliver new boat ramps, pontoons and jetties, and improve parking facilities.

Bega Valley Shire Council Mayor, Kristy McBain, said boating and fishing is what brings many people here to holiday and live and these projects will add to people's enjoyment and our region's appeal.

"Thank you to the Council staff who have advocated for these projects and have designs and plans on the drawing board, the support of Minister Constance turns our planning into a reality," Cr McBain said.

"This is a great example of Local and State Governments working together with the best interests of the community in mind.

"State Government investment, with hands on, Local Government know how and experience, is a smart way to spend public funds."

The local projects include:

- \$485,000 at the Bermagui River Boat Ramp to replace the current single lane with a reinforced double lane ramp, install a pontoon and formalise current car parking facilities.
- \$390,000 to the Blackfellows Lake Boat Ramp at Kalaru to upgrade the current informal ramp to a concrete ramp, a pontoon, lighting and formalised



The pontoon at the Quarantine Bay Boat Ramp in Eden will be upgraded to improve capacity and usability.

- car parking and access road.
  - \$198,500 for Top Lake Boat Hire at Merimbula to install a new pontoon, gangway, piles and crane to enable wheelchair access to the Lake.
  - \$155,000 for upgrades to the pontoon at Quarantine Bay Boat Ramp in Eden to improve capacity and usability, reducing congestion.
- Budgeted renewal costs within Council for these facilities will be combined with funds from the Boating Now program to make the sites better for everyone to enjoy.
- Planning, design and construction will take place over the next 18 to 24 months, with input from key stakeholders.



## GREY MEDALLION

WATER SAFETY REFRESHER FOR GRANDPARENTS

**Do you look after grandkids?**

**Do you take them to the pool, beach, swimming lessons or look after them at home?**

**Would you be able to save your grandchild's life in an emergency?**

Grandparents are often best placed to prevent drowning in children and may be first on the scene in an emergency.

The Grey Medallion Program provides participants with an opportunity to refresh their water safety knowledge and learn lifesaving skills.

**The Grey Medallion has 4 components:**

- Water Safety Knowledge
- Resuscitation & Emergency Care
- Aquatic Exercise
- Personal Survival and Life Saving Skills

All participants receive a certificate.

Royal Life Saving believes that everyone can be a Lifesaver no matter how old or young you are.

**ENROL IN A GREY MEDALLION PROGRAM TODAY!**

**VENUE:** SAPPHIRE AQUATIC CENTRE PAMBULA  
Beach Road Pambula NSW 2549

**DATE/TIME:** Commencing on 13th February the program will run every Tuesday for 6 weeks 11:30am - 1pm

**REQUIREMENTS:** Participants must be 60 years of age or older

**TO REGISTER CALL:** Sapphire Aquatic Centre Pambula on **02 6494 3100**

Royal Life Saving Society NSW acknowledges the financial and other support from COORDINARE - South Eastern NSW PHN under the Primary Health Networks Programme - an Australian Government initiative.

**EVERYONE CAN BE A LIFESAVER**

**Royal Life Saving**

ROYAL LIFE SAVING SOCIETY - AUSTRALIA

## Power up with FREE computer training

Free computer and technology training at all of the Shire's Libraries will help Bega Valley residents become familiar with a wide range of technologies.

Programs and Partnerships Officer, Scott Baker, said that the sessions are easy-paced and fun with the emphasis on group learning.

"So often people are worried that they will break a computer or device if they press the wrong button - we want to help people learn more about technology so they can do what they need to do online with confidence," Mr Baker said.

The training covers technology topics including introduction to computers, basic Internet, internet tools and tips, email, privacy and cyber safety, social media, online shopping and banking, introduction to iPads and an introduction to android tablets.

People can select a combination of sessions to suit their needs or attend the classes sequentially. Sessions

run for two hours from 10.30am - 12.30pm.

"Our training staff are friendly and experienced in different technologies and they are also great at explaining away the mysteries of technology," Mr Baker said.

All classes have limited places. To see all the available classes or to book your spot go to [begavalleyshirelibrary.eventbrite.com.au](http://begavalleyshirelibrary.eventbrite.com.au) or telephone Bega library on 6499 2127, Bermagui Library on 6499 2411, Eden Library on 6499 2451, or Tura Marrang library on 6499 2340.

The Bega Valley Shire Library is also a network partner of the new Be Connected Program designed to get all Australians online. Drop into any Library to sign up and receive your free Get Online guidebook.

Bega library also offers a one-on-one technology help for specific issues on a drop-in basis. Tech Tuesday runs at Bega library from 10am - noon every Tuesday and is free.

## Grey Medallion at Sapphire Aquatic Centre

The Sapphire Aquatic Centre will host a Grey Medallion course over the next six weeks.

A Royal Life Saving Society of Australia initiative, the program is a water safety and lifesaving skills initiative for older adults.

It aims to encourage a healthy, independent and active lifestyle through the development of essential skills in order to participate in aquatic recreation activities safely.

The program will be free for participants and will commence on Tuesday, 13 February.

Registrations or enquiries can be made at Sapphire Aquatic Centre on 6494 3100 or email [info@sapphireaquatic.com.au](mailto:info@sapphireaquatic.com.au).



# On the road to recovery after weather event

Bega's Boundary Road was one of many assets left significantly damaged in the June 2016 East Coast Low weather event in the Bega Valley Shire.

Following receipt of funding under the Government's Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA), Council is now in the process of restoring all assets to their pre-event condition.

NDRRA funding is conditional on the damages being repaired by contractors and we are very fortunate to have many local businesses who carry out these works to a high standard.

**Right: Boundary Road was left severely damaged following the June 2016 East Coast Low weather event.**

**Far Right: Council's Civil Works Delivery Officer (NDRRA), Terry Maher, congratulates John Michelin & Son Pty Ltd's, Bill Michelin and grader operator Joe McKean on the outstanding work completed recently on Boundary Road.**



## Australasia negotiations to commence



**Eden's Hotel Australasia**

Council last week resolved to enter into negotiations with Irisha Pty Ltd and Rubycove Pty Ltd, with a view to entering into a contract and side deed for the sale of 142-144 Imlay Street, Eden (the former Hotel Australasia).

The resolution comes after Council formally declined to accept all current tenders on the basis that there are reasonable prospects to negotiate a contract with the highest ranked tenderer.

Council also declined to invite further tenders or applications.

The negotiations will be undertaken by General Manager, Leanne Barnes and will cover a number of elements.

These include the price for the building, the retention and restoration of the heritage facade, side laneway access to the public car park at the rear of the building and time limitations.

## Bridge maintenance

Upper Brogo Road will be closed to all traffic at the Katchencarry Creek bridge between 9am and 3pm through to Friday, 2 March (excluding weekends).

Bega Valley Shire Council's bridge team will carry out necessary maintenance works on the bridge during this time.

Signage has been erected, notifying road users of the closure and local emergency services have been notified.

For more information contact Council's Projects Coordinator, James Downes on 6499 2222.

**Right: Maintenance work is being undertaken on Katchencarry Creek bridge on Upper Brogo Road.**



## Careers at Council

### Current Vacancies

- Director Assets and Operations - closes 25 February
- Supply Services Officer - closes 14 February

[begavalley.mercury.com.au](http://begavalley.mercury.com.au)

*Sign up to receive job alerts for new listings*

[begavalley.nsw.gov.au/careersatcouncil](http://begavalley.nsw.gov.au/careersatcouncil)

## IMPORTANT!

## GREEN BIN EXCHANGE

- If you live in Bermagui, Cobargo, Quaama and Wallaga Lake the current organics (green bin) exchange DOES NOT affect you – proceed as normal.
- Residents living in the remainder of the Shire (who have a green bin service), please do the following:
  - ✓ Continue to use your green bin as normal.
  - ✓ Put your green bin out on your next scheduled organics collection date (full or empty).
  - ✓ Leave your bin out until it is collected and/or replaced.
  - ✓ Once you receive your new green bin use that as normal.
- There will be some residents who will receive their new bin prior to their next scheduled organics collection date. Only put your old bin out for collection on that occasion.



For more information visit [www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/waste](http://www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/waste) or call 6499 2222



# Australia Day in the Bega Valley

## *A celebration of community*

Australia Day in the Bega Valley happened under big blue skies, with communities from Cobargo to Eden holding ceremonies to mark the day, reflecting all the different things 26 January means to people.

In Bega, at the Shire's official service in Littleton Gardens, the Citizen of the Year Awards were central to the occasion.

Joint Citizens of the Year, Dane and June Waites, spoke of the value people in the Bega Valley see in people with a disability. "We live in a special place," Mrs Waites said.

Senior of the Year, Ron Finneran, reflected on the team effort involved in any achievement, pointing to the success a community can have when people come together.

Young Citizen of the Year, Shaun Fitzpatrick had a similar message, thanking the teachers and Scout leaders that shape opportunities for his group of peers.

***"We live in a special place" -  
June Waites  
(Joint Citizen of the Year)***

Mayor Kristy McBain, officiated over the day's other high point, the citizenship ceremony.

Eleven people from the United Kingdom, United States, India, and Thailand became Australian citizens on the day.

Merimbula nurse, Brittany McConnell, whose background is a jumble of the United States and England, has been in Australia for six and half years with her Australian husband.

"Back home you don't actually have to participate [vote] if you don't want to, so it's quite nice to feel that obligation here and be involved in decisions and feel like you have a voice," she said.

In Cobargo, local sports stars Millie Boyle and Reid Battye were acknowledged for their achievements in 2017. Millie represented Australia in the Women's Rugby Union World Cup in Ireland, while Reid was offered a contract to ride motor bikes full time in the 2018 World Supersport 300 Championship for the Italian Kawasaki Racing Team.

Chrstine Welsh received Rotary's award for outstanding community service at a well attended event in Merimbula.

In Eden, a service was held at the town's iconic flagpole on Imlay Street, before the community gathered for the traditional Owen Allen Cricket Challenge.

At Bermagui people gathered to focus on Aboriginal culture and history, in particular the impact European settlement had on Australia's first people.

Cr McBain touched on the different ways of celebrating in her address.

"I encourage you to mark Australia Day however feels right to you, remembering all that we have to be grateful for, all that we have in common, and the future we all create together," the Mayor said.



**Bega Valley Shire Council Mayor, Kristy McBain (left) and Australia Day Ambassador, Nick Rheinberger (right) congratulate Dane and June Waites (Joint Citizens of the Year), Sean Fitzpatrick (Young Citizen of the Year) and Ron Finneran (Senior Citizen of the Year).**



**Geoffrey Grigg and Marshall Campbell were acknowledged for their outstanding work in Littleton Gardens.**



**Australia Day Ambassador Nick Rheinberger addresses the crowd**



**Above: Our new citizens celebrate officially becoming Aussies following the ceremony.**

**Left: The SES were on hand to speak about some of the great work they do.**

**Right: Fern the Fairy and Girl Guide, Taylor Williamson, were all smiles on the day.**





# Australia Day in the Bega Valley

## *A celebration of community*

### Carolyn is Cobargo's best

The Cobargo Australia Day celebrations, hosted by the Cobargo branch of the CWA of NSW, were held at the historic School of Arts.

Around 200 people attended and saw Carolyn Cole presented with the Cobargo Citizen of the Year award.

Carolyn has dedicated years of service to numerous organisations, including the Anglican Church, Red Cross, Fire Brigade and the Cobargo Show Society.

Nick Rheinberger, the Australia Day Ambassador, gave an account of his links with the district and was told by the MC Brian Ayliffe that he was awarded honorary citizenship of Cobargo.

Earlier the school captains of both the Quaama and Cobargo Public Schools each delivered a speech outlining what Australia meant to them.



*Mary Williams (Cobargo CWA President), Mayor Kristy McBain, David Boyle (representing Millie Boyle - Sporting Achievement Awardee), Reid Battye (Sporting Achievement Awardee), Carolyn Cole (Cobargo Citizen of the Year) and Australia Day Ambassador Nick Rheinberger.*



*Above: Cobargo's Citizen of the Year, Carolyn Cole, is congratulated by Australia Day Ambassador, Nick Rheinberger.*



*Above Right: Anne Moore and Girl Guides Lucy Campbell, Bridie Umbers and Taylor Williamson (front), with Sean Fitzpatrick (Junior Citizen of the Year), Dane and Junee Waites (Joint Citizens of the Year), Leanne Barnes (Bega Valley Shire Council General Manager), Sue Back (Woolworths representative), Mayor Kristy McBain and Australia Day Ambassador Nick Rheinberger.*

*Below: The Bega Lions provided breakfast for those gathered in Bega.*



*The annual "Umbrellas of Bermagui" exhibition launched on Australia Day at the Bermagui Country Club.*

*All 11 umbrellas are available for sale until the Bermagui Seaside Fair on Saturday, 10 March, umbrellas not sold will be auctioned at the Fair.*

*Proceeds will be donated to youth sport in Bermagui.*





# Medallion nominations

Bega Valley Shire Council is determined to acknowledge and honour the huge amount of work done in the Shire by volunteers.

Following on from the recent announcement of the 2018 Citizens of the Year, nominations are now being called for the Bega Valley Shire Community Service Awards (Medallions) as a way of recognising the outstanding work of many of our unsung volunteers across our community.

Mayor Kristy McBain said the community medallions have always been well received, because the recipients tend to be those who never look for rewards for their work.

“One of our great strengths as a community is the effort given in supporting others,” Cr McBain said.

If you know someone who is working tirelessly in their community and deserves recognition, nominate them now.

Council is also interested to hear from people

who would like to serve on the Bega Valley Medallion Committee that assesses the nominations and makes recommendations to Council.

Nominations need to be received by the end of February and will be considered by the Bega Valley Medallion Committee, who will provide their recommendations to Council.

Nomination forms are available on Council’s website. For more information contact Council’s Executive Assistants on 6499 2104 or email [execassist@begavalley.nsw.gov.au](mailto:execassist@begavalley.nsw.gov.au).

# What’s on... LOCAL EVENTS

[www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/events](http://www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/events)

- **7-a-side soccer hosted by Bega Devils Soccer Club**  
Weekly event, Keith Mitchell Fields
- **V & Gs Yam Clinic**  
Drop in Craft Group, the Cobargo Creators Centre
- **Cobargo Market Day**  
Saturday 10 February 2018, 8am Cobargo Village.
- **Bega Valley Shire Council Meeting**  
Wednesday 21 February 2018, 2pm Council Chambers, Bega Valley Commemorative Civic Centre

*Have your event listed on  
Council’s Local Events Calendar*

# West Kameruka Road upgrade

West Kameruka Road is set for a major upgrade following a recent funding announcement from the Member for Bega, Andrew Constance.

Bega Valley Shire Council will receive \$3,542,401 under the NSW Government’s Fixing Country Roads program to finalise the sealing of the road.

Bega Valley Shire Council Mayor, Kristy McBain, said the funding is a great example of Council and the NSW Government partnering to see the local road upgrades our community need delivered.

“This project will improve road safety and transport efficiency for those vehicles using this section of West Kameruka Road every year,” Cr McBain said.

In making the very welcome announcement, Mr Constance said this is great news for our region;

West Kameruka Road is one that has had great community support and I am pleased to announce that the road will now be completely sealed.

“We are always looking at ways to move goods and people more effectively and efficiently across our road networks and this will be a good result for the community,” Mr Constance said.

“Economic growth in rural areas relies on agricultural commodities, industrial products, natural resources and people being able to move to safely and efficiently, this essential road upgrade will facilitate that.”

The NSW Government has set aside more than \$1 billion for regional road and rail projects under its Fixing Country Roads, Fixing Country Rail and Bridges for the Bush programs.

# Bandara back in action

Bandara Children’s Service in Bega is back in action for 2018!

Welcome to families and children new and old - a fun year of learning and discovery is ahead.

Bandara caters for kids from 6 weeks old to 6 years old.

Our team of educators love their work and relish in supporting your child and family.

We are lucky enough to have three university qualified early childhood teachers on board in 2018 as well as an excellent team of experienced

and qualified educators.

Bandara operates Long Day Care programs from 7.45am - 5.45pm; a Preschool Program from 8am - 3.30pm (during school terms); and After School Care from 3.15pm - 5.45pm (during school terms).

For any enquiries, please contact Amanda or Wendy on 6492 4360.

*Right: The children and educators are set for another big year at Bandara Children’s Service.*



## Contact us

p. 02 6499 2222  
e. [council@begavalley.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@begavalley.nsw.gov.au)  
a. Zingel Place, PO Box 492  
Bega NSW 2550

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 [www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au](http://www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au)

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