

Bega Valley Shire Council village newsletter

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Funds for tourism infrastructure

It's unlikely that anyone in the Shire missed news of the visit, with fat wallets, of the Prime Minister and the Premier on Monday. Most money was pledged by Premier Baird with \$29 million to extend the Eden breakwater wharf even further to accommodate cruise ships in excess of 300 metres. This means the total project cost of the wharf extension, at \$44 million, is now fully funded.

The Merimbula Regional Airport will benefit to the tune of \$4.4m of State funding to allow Council to extend the runway north, seal the runway end safety area and undertake other aircraft service areas which will assist air freight services. A further \$1.2 million was pledged by the Prime Minister to improve passenger and baggage security and freight handling at the airport and contribute to sealing the car park on the east side of Arthur Kaine Drive.

Council's General Manager, Leanne Barnes, says the combined funding packages are excellent news for every town and village in the Shire as developing tourism gateways to grow with increasing demand from different domestic and overseas markets will result in the benefits filtering through to the whole community.



Photograph: General Manager Leanne Barnes, Cr Russell Fitzpatrick and Chief Financial Officer, Lucas Scarpin, at the funding announcement by Prime Minister Malcolm Turnbull and NSW Premier Mike Baird.

Strategic plan for Regional Gallery

Council has adopted a strategic plan for the Bega Valley Regional Gallery until 2020.

The Gallery is one of the primary ways cultural services are provided by Council, contributing to the achievement of Council's cultural vision, mission and guiding principles and the Strategic Plan is important because it provides a broad framework, long-term goals and sets priority areas for the Gallery over the next four years.

Budget documents on exhibition

There are two important documents available now on public exhibition on Council's website. They are the Draft Operational Plan including Revenue Policy and Operational Budget 2016-17 and the Draft Fees and Charges 2016-17. The documents are also available to view at Council's main office and libraries on our website.

To have your say, write your submission and send it to us via post, fax or email before close of business on 14 June.

Jobs with Council

- Learn to swim instructors.
We are seeking people with strong communication skills and the ability to relate positively with children, parents and staff and a demonstrated ability to adapt to program changes including class times, type and group size. These are casual positions.
Applications close on Tuesday 7 June at 5pm.
- Civil assets manager.
This position will work closely with operational teams to develop, plan and monitor strategic outcomes through the management of Council's infrastructure transport assets related to roads, bridges, drainage, airports and marine structures.
Applications close on Thursday 9 June at 5pm.

Full position descriptions and selection criteria on Council's website.

Address the selection criteria and send by email to recruitment@begavalley.nsw.gov.au or post to address below.

Tenders

- Tenders are invited for abutment remediation works on Government Road Bridge over Palestine Creek, Eden.
Tenders close on 8 June.
- Tenders are invited for water mains renewal/upgrade program for 2016/17 - 2017/18.
Tenders close on 8 June.
- Tenders are invited for gateway signage to the Bega Valley Shire.
Tenders close on 8 June.

Visit our e-Tendering Portal at www.tenderlink.com/begavalley

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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St John's Wort research

Are you a local landowner with St John's Wort on your property?

If so, you are invited to be part in innovative weeds research that could help track and treat the noxious weed in the long run.

Matthew Collins is completing a Surveying degree through the University of Southern Queensland and as part of his studies he has taken on a project to track and map St John's Wort in the Bega Valley Shire.

The weed with its yellow flowers is well known across the Shire. It competes with useful plants in pastures and causes skin problems in livestock, leading to death in some cases.

Matthew will be using satellite technology and remote sensing techniques to identify the weed's spectral signature with a view to using this as a way of remotely identifying new occurrences to assist with early targeted treatment.

With the support of Council's Vegetation Management Team, he hopes to hear from landholders who have identified St John's Wort on their properties.

The information will not be used as any sort of policing mechanism. Instead it is a way to help coordinate control programs working side by side with private and public land managers in the Shire.

To take part and help in the fight against St John's Wort call Matthew Collins on 0422 164 938 or email mattcollins2548@gmail.com

Authors visit Shire libraries

Readers and writers in the south east will be spoilt for choice when two authors visit Bega Valley Shire libraries next month.

Surf photographer and author of 'Capital Surfers - Surfing Australia's East Coast in the 60s', Ian Ingram, will share his photographs and stories of being a surfer in the 1960s.

Ian will be at the Bermagui Library on Monday, June 6, at 10.30am. The other guest is Stafford Ray who will teach the art of creating limericks.

A successful novelist, he will present a two-part session, starting with how to write a limerick and ending with a talk about his books and the process of novel writing. Stafford will be at the Bermagui Library on Wednesday, 15 June at 10.30am and at Eden Library on Thursday, 16 June at 10.30am.

To book for either event, go to <http://begavalleyshirelibrary.eventbrite.com.au/> or phone the Libraries on 6499 2411.

Next stage of major consultation

The first phase of Bega Valley Shire Council's biggest consultation is coming to an end early next week with the next phase starting later in the year.

Thank you to those of you who were among the more than 1400 people taking the Understanding Our Place survey in towns and villages throughout the Shire.

The current survey is available on the Have Your Say page on Council's website and closes on Tuesday 31 May, so don't miss out on telling us about your community.

The next phase will be the 'targeted' consultation which focus groups to discuss and develop community ambitions on key issues and themes within our community.

These will discuss issues such as health, education, agriculture, accessibility and more.

Photograph: Council staff, Scott McNeil and Erin Kluit volunteer at the Pambula markets listening post.



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