

Partnership driving recovery

A thriving partnership between Bega Valley Shire Council and South East Local Land Services is supercharging the *Green Shoots* bushfire recovery program in the Tathra area.

With the bushfire recovery phase now in full swing, the management and immediate stabilisation of natural areas that were impacted during the disaster has been identified as a clear priority.

The implementation of a remediation program is now well advanced, with the assistance of Local Land Services and the mobilisation of the local Koori work crew proving extremely valuable.

Bega Valley Shire Council's Acting Environmental Services Coordinator, Michael Fiedler, said the initial actions, that have included the installation of sediment traps and flow control devices, are focussed on preventing adverse and potentially significant impacts on the environment and community in the event of a moderate or significant rainfall event.



Continued Page 3

The local Koori Work Crew are playing a vital role in the stabilisation of natural areas around Tathra.

Council to sell Hotel Australasia

Eden's historic Hotel Australasia is very close to returning to private hands after Council last week voted to enter into a Contract for Sale and Side Deed with Irisha Pty Ltd and Rubycove Pty Ltd.

The agreed sale price has been incorporated into the contract, with the purchaser agreeing to carry out the restoration of the Hotel, use the restored Hotel, develop the laneway in accordance with the side deed, and register the title on settlement.

A Restoration Work Bank Guarantee to secure

the carrying out of the restoration work has been agreed with the purchaser.

The resolution follows ongoing negotiations between Bega Valley Shire Council General Manager, Leanne Barnes, and the developer.

"Throughout our negotiations it has been clear that Irisha Pty Ltd and Rubycove Pty Ltd are committed to and focussed on reinvigorating the site," Ms Barnes said.

"Council has also taken a number of performance bond actions to provide surety for the community through the restoration phase.

"Now 112 years old and listed as a heritage item under the Bega Valley Local Environment Plan 2013 (LEP) this building is an Eden icon, with the ongoing community interest confirming this.

"It will be just wonderful to see it return to



Eden's historic Hotel Australasia.

its former glory in the near future – the Eden community certainly deserves that," Ms Barnes said.

Bega Valley Commemorative Civic Centre
 Zingel Place, Bega
www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/civicculture [begavalleycivicculture](https://www.facebook.com/begavalleycivicculture)

WHAT'S ON

TEDx Sydney Satellites 2018

HumanKind

Tickets available at: www.trybooking.com/381425



Friday
15 June
starts 9am

TEDxSydney is a unique and vital day of talks, films, music and debate

Community Directory launched

Over 70 people attended the official launch of the Bega Valley Community Directory on Thursday 24 May.

The launch was part of National Volunteers Week celebrations in the Shire and doubled as an opportunity to thank some of the wonderful volunteers we have in the community for their selfless contributions to the area.

The new Bega Valley Community Directory will be the 'go to' place for information on local community groups and non-profit organisations who deliver a multitude of services and activities to Bega Valley residents.

Bega Valley Shire Council Mayor, Cr Kristy McBain, said with so many active community groups and organisations operating across the Shire, the Directory will support the tremendous work they collectively do.

"This new online Community Directory will be an easy way for people to find out more about how to get involved and how to get support," Cr McBain said.

"We encourage community groups and organisations to get on board and use this free resource so



Over 70 people attended the launch of the Bega Valley Community Directory at the Bega Commemorative Civic Centre last Thursday. The launch was part of National Volunteers Week celebrations.

that people stay informed about their services, and to highlight the amazing contributions that volunteers are making in our community."

The benefits of the new directory far outweigh any previous paper or database type directory, with community groups and organisations able to provide and update their own information for their page.

The directory will also enable them to let people know if they need

"This new online Community Directory will be an easy way for people to find out more about how to get involved and how to get support."

- Cr Kristy McBain

volunteers. People interested in volunteering can then contact these groups via a direct email link.

To access the directory visit www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/community-directory.

For further information contact Council's Community Development Officer, Peter Cross, on (02) 6499 2201 or email pcross@begavalley.nsw.gov.au

Councillors in the Community

Candelo held 18 April

Pambula held 9 May

TATHRA @ SURF CLUB Wednesday 30 May 6pm

Eden @ Log Cabin 6 June 6pm

Cobargo held 16 May

What's important to you?

This is your chance to chat with Councillors and senior staff in your own town, on matters that are important to you.

For more information: phone (02) 6499 2222 or visit www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/news



Plans on public exhibition

Bega Valley Shire Council announces that, in accordance with the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework, a revised Delivery Program 2017 – 2021 and a Draft Operational Plan 2018 – 2019 are now on public exhibition.

The Delivery Plan, that was originally adopted in June 2017, has been revised to take into account two major additional factors:

- The Tathra and District Fire response and recovery is expected to impact Council programs and resourcing for up to 18 months.
- The unprecedented level of funding being delivered by the NSW State Government through the Regional Growth Funds, which provides us the opportunity to deliver additional and upgraded infrastructure.

However, it also impacts staffing resources to deliver these projects and potentially impacts on forward planning for operations and maintenance.

These documents are on public exhibition for 28 days from 25 May 2018 until 22 June 2018.

Links to the documents are on Council's website at www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/haveyoursay

and hardcopies can be viewed at the Bega administration building and at Council libraries in Bermagui, Bega, Tura Beach and Eden.

The revised Delivery Program 2017 – 2021 sets out Council's primary actions for this four year period.

The draft Operational Plan 2018 – 2019 contains programs and activities that Council will deliver in the next financial year, in addition to the draft budget, fees and charges, and revenue policy.

Submissions to either draft document are invited and all submissions received during the exhibition period will be considered by Council before the respective document is adopted.

Written submissions to the General Manager can be posted to: Bega Valley Shire Council, PO Box 492, Bega, NSW 2550.

Submissions may also be faxed to (02) 6499 2200 or emailed to council@begavalley.nsw.gov.au.

Submissions must be received by 5.00pm on Friday 22 June 2018.

If you have any questions please contact Sophie Thomson on (02) 6499 2246 or email sthomson@begavalley.nsw.gov.au

GM's contract renewed

Bega Valley Shire Council's General Manager, Leanne Barnes, will continue to lead the organisation through until at least the end of 2021, after Councillors voted to renew her contract and reappoint her for a further three years at last Wednesday's meeting.

The matter came before Council after Ms Barnes activated a Request for Renewal of Appointment, as outlined in her current Contract for Employment, and in accordance with the Guidelines for the Appointment and Oversight of the General Managers 2011.

Speaking after the announcement, Ms Barnes said she was proud of what had been achieved over the previous five years and very determined to ensure Council continues to deliver for the community into the future.

"The focus of the past five years has centred on delivering long-promised projects such as the Merimbula Bypass, Bega Valley Commemorative Civic Centre and Littleton Gardens, Tura Murrang Library and the sale of the Main Street site in Merimbula," Ms Barnes said.

"The completion of these 'headline' projects has been complimented by upgrades to recreation, park and garden facilities, such as the all abilities playground at Ford Park; responding to community priorities and working to improve Council communications; reviewing the management of the sewer treatment works; delivering energy efficiency projects for our community facilities; as well as delivering a wide range of smaller



Bega Valley Shire Council's General Manager, Leanne Barnes, will remain in the role until at least the end of 2021 after having her contract renewed last week.

projects and essential community services across a wide range of areas.

"Asset management has also been a priority - ensuring we know as much as we can about all our assets and their condition has allowed us to better plan and manage within tight financial constraints.

"Having worked through three restructures, we are now in a strong position to deliver relevant, effective and priority services; continue to improve our asset management; and respond to an increasing frequency of natural disasters such

as floods, east coast lows and fire.

"From where I sit, it is clear we have an amazing workforce, a wonderful community and a special place to care for.

"As custodians of the community's assets, we need to look at how we can continue to manage our core business, while also being responsive to community expectations - regional cooperation and shared services; innovation, new technologies and new ways of working will be integral to this.

"Our Council is playing a leadership role in the newly proclaimed joint organisation and in delivering outcomes from high level State strategies in transport, freight, economic development, waste, skills development, water and sewer and smart cities, as well as new ways to improve business.

"We need to continue to be strategic, lift our vision and to think outside our current paradigms. The Councillors have commenced sessions of blue sky thinking as they undertake a full high level strategic review - this is exciting and they are passionate about getting draft positions out to the community for discussion.

"There are considerable projects to deliver in this exciting period of unprecedented funding and we are fully committed to doing so.

"It is also absolutely vital we continue to support and walk with the communities of Tathra, Reedy Swamp and Vimy Ridge as they rebuild and develop their new future," Ms Barnes said.

Environmental stabilisation around Tathra

From Page 1

"The work completed so far has involved relatively cheap yet proven measures such as the placement of straw bales and coir logs in gullies, and the installation of sediment fences in vulnerable areas - fallen logs and dead trees have also been placed across slopes in heavily impacted areas," Mr Fiedler said.

"The mitigation measures will lessen the risk of gully and sheet erosion as well as landslip and will slow the movement of soil, sediment and ash from fire impacted lands into waterways or public and community assets.

"So far over 600 straw bales have been deployed and 270 hectares of severely affected land treated, but there is so much more work to do.

"The urgency, necessity and value of the work being undertaken is highlighted by the fact that 120,000 cubic metres of soil was estimated as potentially being lost from the catchments immediately behind Tathra if nothing was done.

"It is also recognised that fire can have significant impacts on water and habitat quality by increasing nutrient loads from ash and sediment, resulting in potential fish kills as well as smothering and disrupting ecosystem processes, especially in the Bega River and its wetlands.

"There is also a risk soil and sediment loss could severely affect Tathra's stormwater infrastructure and roads as well as increase the flood risk.

"With Tathra's economy heavily reliant on tourism, the quality of the surrounding environments, including bushland reserves, the Bega River Estuary (a declared Recreational Fishing Haven), Tathra Beach and the scenic clifftop reserves areas have a vital role to play in attracting visitors to town.

"The works being undertaken will help ensure these important assets are protected and will assist their recovery in the future," Mr Fiedler said.

Further events and opportunities for the public to be involved in the Green Shoots program will evolve as the damage to natural areas are fully assessed and they are opened up to the public.

For more information, contact Michael Fiedler on (02) 6499 2222.



Bushfire clean up progress

Very encouraging progress is being made with the clean up of properties affected by the Tathra and District Bushfire.

Following the completion of the assessment process, 66 properties were confirmed as needing to be entirely cleared.

Excitingly, we are set to see some construction work commence soon, following the approval of the first rebuilding DA.

The status (as of 29 May) is:

✓ **54 properties have been cleared (31 containing asbestos).**

✓ **A further 9 have been approved to be cleared, but are yet to be completed.**

✓ **First rebuilding DA approved.**

✓ **Two retaining wall DA's approved.**

✓ **The removal of dangerous trees is well underway.**

✓ **Independent air monitoring is ongoing throughout the impacted area.**

✓ **All results from the asbestos air monitoring program continue to be negative and indicate no health risk for airborne asbestos.**

Storytime proves very popular

More than 40 local Pre-School children converged at the Bega Library to take part in National Simultaneous Storytime on Wednesday 23 May.

At 11am children all over Australia listened to this years' book 'Hickory Dickory Dash', a fun tale based on the original nursery rhyme, Hickory Dickory Dock.

Afterwards children shared their favourite parts of the story and enjoyed making their own hickory dickory clocks.

National Simultaneous Storytime is an annual event organised by the Australian Library and Information Association and is in its 18th successful year.

More about National Simultaneous Storytime is available at www.alia.org.au/nss#AboutNSS



The Bermagui, Bega, Tura Marrang and Eden Libraries all took part in the National Simultaneous Storytime event on Wednesday 23 May. Council's Anne Moore had the attention of around 40 pre-school children, their families and carers, as she read Tony Wilson's Hickory Dickory Dash in Bega.

Anthony Osborne awarded tourism marketing contract

Anthony Osborne will deliver tourism marketing services for the Bega Valley Shire over the next four years (from 1 July 2018 – 30 June 2022).

The announcement comes after Council last week endorsed the contracting of the current General Manager of Sapphire Coast Tourism to the important post, following a recent tender process.

Mr Osborne beat out Chatterbox Marketing and Goto Plus to the \$327,800pa fixed-price contract.

Mr Osborne's intimate knowledge of the current destination marketing approach of the Sapphire Coast and the needs of local industry stakeholders, along with an ability to identify clear opportunities were cited among his competitive advantages.

Bega Valley Shire Council Mayor, Cr Kristy McBain, said that the local government statistics from Destination NSW show a very healthy growth in the value of tourism to the Shire, with a particularly encouraging increase in visitation to the region in the crucial off peak season in recent years.

"As the Manager of Sapphire Coast Tourism, Anthony has been instrumental in achieving

excellent outcomes for the local tourism industry and for the Shire more broadly," Cr McBain said.

"The work that has been done in the decade since Council established the tourism board has resulted in the area becoming a prominent destination in the highly competitive nature tourism marketplace and Anthony is perfectly placed to deliver these services moving forward and build on the strategic positioning established.

"We are all very fortunate to live, work and play in such a brilliant part of the world and it is exactly that story that we need to keep telling," Cr McBain said.

The budget for tourism marketing services is solely funded by business ratepayers through a special rate variation.

Cr Robyn Bain knows a thing or two about gardening.
"It won't grow if you don't feed it."



What's her secret?

Compost from Merimbula tip made from Bega Valley garden waste!

Check the free Bega Valley Waste APP for when our high quality compost is available.

Fill your trailer, and your garden will live happily ever after.

Want to know more? Follow our new Facebook page @BegaValleyWasteandRecycling
Visit www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/waste Phone 6499 2222



WTF

A touch of Arnhem Land in Bega

In a remote corner of Arnhem Land sits Yirrkala Print Space, where, for over twenty years, the ancient craft of printmaking has not only survived, but prospered.

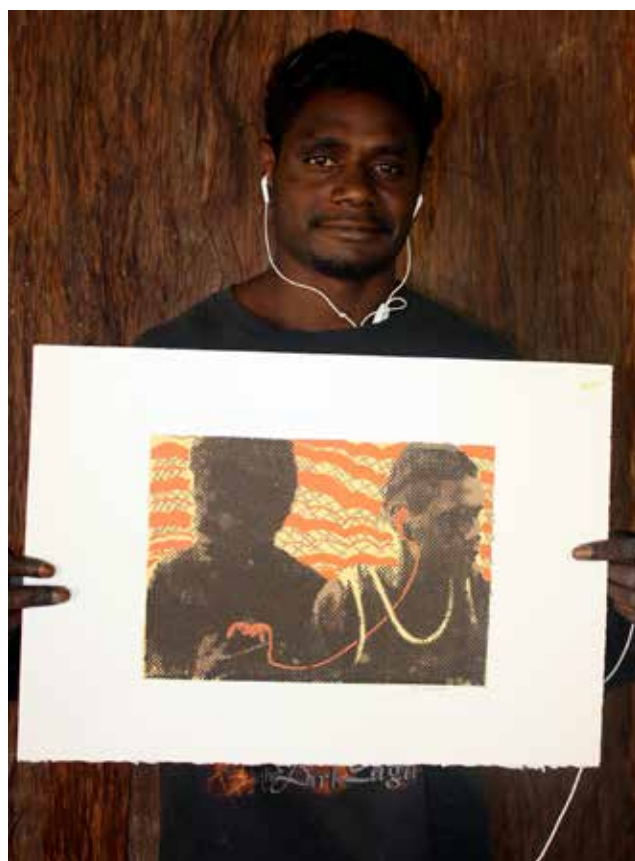
A celebratory exhibition of this print space, Balnhdhurr – A Lasting Impression is set to open at the Bega Valley Regional Gallery (BVRG) on 22 June.

BVRG Director, Iain Dawson, said the exhibition is a vibrant acknowledgement of the creative energies, talent and commitment of generations of Yolngu artists who have utilised and pushed the boundaries of such a medium to share significant cultural and historical stories.

“There are very few professional printmakers in the country, so it will no doubt surprise many that a hotspot of this very technical and demanding skill is in remote Yirrkala in Far East Arnhem Land and has been for twenty years,” Mr Dawson said.

“With works from 50 artists, this exhibition includes prints that are historically significant. The Berndt Etchings series talks about the Berndt Crayon Drawings of Yirrkala, produced by the artists’ predecessors in 1947, while String Figure Prints are a response to another archaeological collection from 1948.

“Balnhdhurr is a coming together of cultures and time with pieces also revealing the significant impact the introduction of bright acrylics had on artists, which allowed them to explore a whole new genre of artistic storytelling that became a joyous explosion of colour and expression.



Djuwakan#2 Marika with his print Mari.

“BVRG is so excited to present this exhibition to the south east, the show has toured the country extensively and it’s great to be part of such a spectacular presentation of printmaking.

“I’d encourage all school principals to organise their students to visit this exhibition, as we have extensive education resources available as well as a dedicated smartphone app that allows you

“This is a unique opportunity to get to know an incredible culture, and hear stories we wouldn’t usually have access to.”

- Iain Dawson

to hear directly from the featured artists.

“This is a unique opportunity to get to know an incredible culture, and hear stories we wouldn’t usually have access to,” Mr Dawson said.

Accompanying the exhibition is a free smartphone app that provides a deeper engagement with the artists and artworks as well as Yolngu language and culture.

An inclusive and dynamic way to introduce visitors to the exhibition, the app allows for more detailed interaction with the history and context of the Yirrkala Print Space.

The app also includes audio descriptions of selected objects, a video tour of Miwatj country and educational activities.

For the online education kit or phone app, with some sample audios, visit <https://artbacknt.com.au/show/balnhdhurr-a-lasting-impression/>

For more information on the Balnhdhurr – A Lasting Impression exhibition or the Bega Valley Regional Gallery visit <http://gallery.begavalley.nsw.gov.au>

Tathra toilet renewal



The toilet block in Taylor’s Square is currently closed for repairs and renewal work. The project is set for completion on 8 June.

The public toilet block located in Tathra’s Taylor Square on the foreshore reserve will be closed through to Friday 8 June for renewals and repairs.

Works will include the refurbishment of internal cubicles, showerheads, taps and toilet pans. New signage will be installed and the external doors will be repaired and painted.

In addition, a steam clean throughout the block and general plumbing repairs necessary to

prolong the life of the amenity and reduce ongoing maintenance problems will be undertaken

The toilet block will be fenced off for the duration of the project so that the works can be carried out safely and efficiently, however a large portable toilet cubicle will be available on the site for public use during this period.

Please contact Council for any further enquiries on (02) 6499 2222.

Careers at Council

Current Vacancies

- **Manager Certification and Compliance**
PD 140 - closes 31/5/18
- **Technical Officer**
PD 506 - closes 3/6/18
- **Casual Early Childhood Educator (Certificate III)**
PD808 - closes 5/6/18
- **Senior Environmental Health Officer**
PD153 - closes 5/6/18
- **Economic Development Officer**
PD 512 - closes 18/6/18

begavalley.mercury.com.au

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

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Medallions recognise volunteers

The efforts and contribution of 12 Shire residents were recognised with the presentation of the Bega Valley Shire Community Service Medallion this week.

The 2018 Medallions and citations were presented by Mayor Cr Kristy McBain at a ceremony at the Bega Commemorative Civic Centre on Wednesday 23 May.

Cr McBain said the Medallion recognised the outstanding work of the many unsung volunteers across the Shire.

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

“Through the Shire medallion, we have a way to acknowledge this work and to say thank you to those people who give of themselves for the benefit of the community.”



2018 Bega Valley Shire Medallion recipients Ned Roberts, Kristina Walker, Stuart Alcock, Geoffrey Dove, Brigitte Kestermann, Glenn Cotter, Arthur ‘Butch’ Robinson, Lance Hartley, Marianne Kramp and Sandra Symons were congratulated by Bega Valley Medallion Committee members Cheryl McCarthy and Lori Hammerton and Bega Valley Shire Council Mayor, Cr Kristy McBain for their wonderful contributions to the community. Absent: Medallion recipients Lynn Slater and Wendy Ramage.

Affordable housing focus



A Council facilitated affordable housing roundtable attracted a broad spectrum of stakeholders and stimulated good discussion around the challenging issue.

The challenging issue of affordable housing was the topic of a Bega Valley Shire Council facilitated roundtable session at the Bega Valley Commemorative Civic Centre on 15 May.

The event followed a Notice of Motion from Cr Cathy Griff that was endorsed at the 13 December 2017 Council meeting and a further resolution on 1 May 2018 concerning the identification of Council land that could be made available for social housing initiatives.

A broad spectrum of stakeholders who are active in the area of affordable housing; including community members, local community groups, business representatives and a number of Community Service organisations,

were represented on the day.

Council’s Engagement and Libraries Coordinator, Anne Cleverley, said housing affordability is a complex topic requiring multiple solutions that address a range of housing needs, from crisis accommodation, to the supply of housing stock over the long term.

With that in mind, discussions centred on medium to long term actions could help stimulate the supply of affordable housing options in the Shire and also address the identified need for a youth refuge,” Ms Cleveley said.

An article from a recent edition of Local Government Focus gives a good outline of the issues <http://www.lgfocus.com.au/editions/2017-11/better-homes.php>

Recovery support service to be established

Bega Valley Shire Council will establish a Tathra and District Fire Recovery Support Service (RSS), thanks to \$387,723 in funding secured under the NSW and Commonwealth Governments Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA).

Council will engage 2.5 full time equivalent Recovery and Resilience Officers to operate the RSS that will offer free, confidential and personalised case management to households and individuals impacted by the bushfire disaster.

The Recovery and Resilience Officers will be qualified local human services workers, with skills in support and welfare work.

Both roles will be based in Tathra and will have the capacity to perform home outreach, ensuring that the services provided to the district are accessible and responsive to local people’s needs.

Once established, the Recovery and Resilience Officers will work with any Tathra and District residents or visitors needing support following the fire event.

People can access the RSS by contacting the Recovery Hotline or by referral from other support agencies.

Council’s Manager Community Connections, Kristina Brenner, said among the features of the RSS are that the Recovery and Resilience Officers will act as a single point of contact for individuals and households who have been affected by the Tathra and District fires.

“Our Recovery and Resilience Officers will understand the services available to people and the best way to access them; they will listen to people’s recovery needs and be able to assist clients to link in with a wide range of financial, mental health and other services as required.

“For more complex situations our Officers will be able to develop longer term action plans, organise letters of support, facilitate meetings and help with practical matters such as replacing key documents.

“We have designed the RSS to be a flexible service with the focus on empowering people as they continue in their recovery.

“Everybody’s timeframes for recovery are different, and we want people to know that even if they don’t need specialist assistance right now, they are very welcome to make contact with us later down the track if they would like some extra support,” Ms Brenner said

The RSS is funded for 12 months, after which time transition plans will be put in place for people requiring ongoing support.

For more information on the Recovery Support Service, please contact the Bega Valley Shire Council Recovery Hotline on (02) 6499 2475.

Flood study moves into survey phase



The Stockyard Bridge at Rocky Hall was washed away by floodwaters.

The flood study for Eden, Twofold Bay and the Towamba River has moved into the next phase, with survey work around select areas of Eden and the foreshores along Twofold Bay now largely complete.

Featuring both topographic and drone methods, the surveying work is focussed on collecting physical marks identified through a recent community survey and in historical data.

Rhelm (Council’s flood study consultant), has now engaged a local survey firm, Veris, to undertake the survey activities in the upper Towamba River catchment.

Council’s Asset Management Coordinator, Gary Louie, said localities around Wyndham, Towamba, New Buildings and Rocky Hall are being surveyed for not only general terrain to determine the river channel shape, but also to ascertain specific levels from the identified flood marks.

“Importantly the data gathered will allow Rhelm to develop the terrain models in specific areas to in turn model the existing and predicted flood behaviour of the Towamba River,” Mr Louie said.

“The levels taken from flood marks will then be used to calibrate the computer models to ‘real world’ information and validate the results for not only the Towamba River, but also Twofold Bay and Lake Curalo.

“The nature of the work is such that private property access may be required in some locations in order for creeks, river channels and certain

bridge structures to be properly investigated.

“Impacted property owners will be informed in person, through a ‘door knock’, and following the terrific level of information provided by the community in the initial data collection phase we would greatly appreciate if the wonderful assistance continued,” Mr Louie said.

The study seeks to define the current and future flood behaviour of the catchment for communities along the Towamba River and ocean storms impacting Eden, Boydtown and Twofold Bay, with the overall objective to allow Council to make informed decisions on the best way to invest in flood mitigation and better manage the risks posed by floods.

While it is primarily looking to reduce property and public risks, this work will also provide essential information to agencies such as the State Emergency Service and enable effective responses to flood emergencies.

For further information, contact Gary Louie on (02) 6499 2222 or Rhelm’s project manager, Emma Maratea, on 0403 297 298.

Council wishes to acknowledge the financial and technical assistance being provided by the NSW Government Floodplain Management Program through the NSW Office of Environment and Heritage and the Minister for Police and Emergency Services.

Council Meeting wrap up

Hotel Australasia

Eden’s historic Hotel Australasia is a very close to returning to private hands after Council voted to enter into the Contract for Sale and Side Deed with Irisha Pty Ltd and Rubycove Pty Ltd.

(Full story page 1)

Merimbula Aldi

An Aldi supermarket is set to become part of the Merimbula streetscape after Council formally resolved to enter into a Contract for Sale for 103 & 105 – 107 Main Street with the German giant.

Tourism Contract

Anthony Osborne will deliver tourism marketing services for the Bega Valley Shire over the next four years (from 1 July 2018 – 30 June 2022).

The announcement comes after Council endorsed the contracting of the current General Manager of Sapphire Coast Tourism to the important post, following a recent tender process.

(Full story page 4)

Delivery and Operational Plans

In accordance with the Integrated Planning and Reporting Framework, Council resolved

to place a revised Delivery Program 2017 – 2021 and a Draft Operational Plan 2018 – 2019 on public exhibition.

(Full story page 2)

Waste Transfer Contract

JR Richards & Sons will facilitate the Shire’s Waster Transfer Stations for the next five years after Council resolved to award them the contract for this service.

Next Meeting
Wednesday 13
June @ 2pm

Council Chambers,
Biamanga Room, Bega Valley
Commemorative Civic Centre,
Bega

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Town teams remain busy

Tree planting has been a priority for the Bega Town Team in recent weeks as a part of a program aimed at replacing the dead, damaged and failed trees that have been removed.

Claret Ash and Water Gums were the chosen species for areas in Auckland and Bridge Streets and the reserve behind the netball courts.

The embankment below the Bega Showground on East Street has also come in for some serious attention.

The project to transform what has traditionally been a challenging green area to maintain by planting it out is now well advanced.

The bank has been reshaped and recycled weed mat has been laid to stabilise, retain moisture and reduce weeds.

The team have also sourced native, low maintenance groundcover plants, which will cover the whole area and will only need a prune every few months once they are established.

A great example of beautifying the entrances to town at no net cost!

The Merimbula Team have replaced old and problematic toilet cisterns in the Palmer Lane toilet block. Completing these repairs will reduce ongoing maintenance.



Tree planting has been a priority.

Stormwater inspection program

A CCTV inspection program, targeting sections of Bega Valley Shire Council's stormwater network has commenced.

Council has engaged Environmental Services Group to undertake the program, with the overarching aim of improving the asset management of the stormwater network by focussing effort and funds in the correct areas for either maintenance activities, the renewal and/or replacement of pipes, or through identifying issues for further investigation.

The work has started in Bega, before it progresses through to Pambula, South Pambula and Pambula Beach.

While the entirety of the work in Bega is located in the road reserves, there is potential that access to a small number of stormwater pits on

private properties may be required in the other locations.

The contractors will gain access via the tractor mounted CCTV unit from access chambers in the road reserve wherever possible, however where level changes occur between pipes this is not always possible.

Due the nature of the work, it can't be determined in advance where this situation will arise, however the contractor will undertake door knocks of impacted residents in order to gain access consent.

The program is expected to be finalised by 30 June 2018.

For more information, contact Council's Asset Management Coordinator, Gary Louie, on (02) 6499 2222.



Environmental Services Group has commenced a CCTV inspection program of Council's stormwater network.

Nesting box for Bandara's chicks



Bandara's Preschool children, along with their teachers, built a special nesting box for the chicks that hatched a few weeks ago.

Gregg and Shelley have grown so much they are able to live outside in their new home. Problem solving, co-operation, measuring and hand eye co-ordination are just a few of the skills the children used to complete the nesting box.

Projects are a great way to promote social learning and allows children to contribute their ideas and skills.

What's on... LOCAL EVENTS

www.begavalley.nsw.gov.au/events

Have your event listed on Council's Local Events Calendar

- **Councillors in the Community - Tathra**
30 May, 6pm @ the Surf Club. *What's important to you?*
Drop in for a chat with Councillors and senior staff.
- **Cobargo Market Day**
Every Saturday starting at 8am, Cobargo Village.
- **Book Signing 'Charley Goes Out, Jan Gordon'**
2 June, 2.30 - 4.30pm, the Wharf Local, Tathra
- **Brogo RFS Tathra Fundraiser**
3 June, 10.30am - 3.00pm, Brogo Dam
- **Councillors in the Community - Eden**
6 June, 6pm @ the Log Cabin. *What's important to you?*
Drop in for a chat with Councillors and senior staff.
- **Jazz Festival Race Day**
10 June, noon - 5.30pm, Sapphire Coast Turf Club, Kalaru
- **Bega Valley Shire Council Meeting**
Wednesday 13 June 2018, 2pm
Bega Valley Commemorative Civic Centre
or watch the live stream online
begavalley.nsw.gov.au/councilmeetings
- **TEDx Sydney Live at the Bega Valley Civic Centre** 15 June, 8.45am - 6pm > *HumanKind*



Scan the QR code with your smartphone to go directly to the Local Events Calendar
Don't have a reader? Visit your app store to download one

Contact us

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

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