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## CHRISTMAS OPERATING HOURS

We will be closing our offices, libraries and some other services during the Christmas and New Year period.

- All SVC Offices will close at midday (12pm) on Friday 23 December and re-open at 8.30am on Monday 9 January 2023.
- Libraries will close at midday (12pm) on Friday 23 December and re-open from Monday 9 January 2023 regular hours.
- Pools will be closed on Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day otherwise will open as per normal school holiday hours – check your local pool for details.
- Waste & Recycling Centres will be closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day and all public holidays, otherwise open as per normal hours.
- Kerbside bin pickups will be as normal schedule

To connect with our on-call Duty Officer for out-of-hours urgent council assistance call 1300 275 782 (1300 ASK SVC)

## CHRISTMAS OPERATING HOURS

Council Offices and Libraries will close at 12pm on Friday 23 December and re-open on Monday 9 January 2023.

**To request urgent council assistance call 1300 275 782**

Resource Recovery Centres will be closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year's Day and all Public Holidays.

Kerbside Bin collections will continue as per normal schedule.

Swimming Pools will be closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Year's Day.

We wish you a safe and happy Festive Season



## SNOW VIEW ESTATE STAGE 3

Subdivision construction works at the Tumbarumba site are underway. Works include roads, drainage, sewerage and water reticulation, and electrical.

A total of 18 residential lots will be established in the Stage 3 development. Construction and sale completion will occur around February 2023.



## COUNCILLOR COLUMN – MAYOR IAN CHAFFEY



This being the last newsletter of 2022 let me, on behalf of staff and councillors wish all residents and ratepayers of Snowy Valleys Council all the very best for the Christmas period and the New Year.

The past year has been challenging for us all in different ways. For your council one of those issues has been the need to apply for a special rate variation (SRV) of 36% over the next two years. This was not an option that council wanted to take but the present underlying costs of the merged SVC and the ongoing financial deficit left us with no alternative.

Finding a location for the evacuation/basketball stadium posed another problem but with the help of members of the community we are underway. The flash flooding in Adelong in November caused a significant amount of damage exacerbated by the bushfire in 19/20.

Some of the highlights have been the opening of the Snowy Valleys Sculpture Trail, the success of the Tumbarumba to Rosewood rail trail, Batlow Ciderfest, upgrades to the Batlow caravan park, open-day at Snowy Hydro T3 Talbingo, pool upgrades and the reconstruction of the Ournie hall, to name just some.

The new year will require continuing effort as we, in conjunction with the community come to grips with a sustainable long term financial position as well as the preparation of a business case for a demerger.

Council has a number of projects on the program, the RFS relocation, park upgrades in Tumut and Tumbarumba as well as a need to look at the drainage of the Adelong main street, and the list goes on.

I have recently toured around our townships and noted that everything is looking good for the Christmas period. I would like to thank Council staff for making this happen.

Once again best wishes for Christmas and the New Year,

*Ian Chaffey*

## NEW OURNIE HALL OPENING

Community members and dignitaries celebrated the opening of the new Ournie Community Hall on Saturday 10 December. Mayor Ian Chaffey joined Justin Clancy MP to officially open the hall with a ribbon cutting and cake.

The new Community Hall replaces the old 100-year-old school building destroyed in the 2019/20 Bushfires.

Attendees enjoyed a morning tea provided by the Ournie Hall Committee members and were able to wander about at leisure admiring the state-of-the-art community hall which features an open community space, storage room, kitchen, amenities, and a wood fireplace.

The hall was built with funding of \$740,000 from the Bushfire Local Economic Recovery Fund, co-funded by the Australian and NSW governments. The Ournie Rural Fire Brigade received \$200,000 from Club Grants Category 3 Infrastructure, funded by the NSW Government, and SVC contributed \$120,000 from insurance allocations.



## POOL OPENINGS DELAYED

Despite a commendable effort from our contractors and staff, upgrades at the Batlow and Khancoban pools will unfortunately not be completed prior to the Christmas break.

Both pools are now slated to open in mid-January 2023.

The substantial wet weather we have experienced over the past six months has caused delays to the project's delivery timelines.

We apologise for any inconvenience, and we look forward to opening the new updated facilities in the new year for locals and visitors to enjoy.

The Khancoban Pool upgrade will see the 1950's toilet block replaced with modern amenities, including toilets, shower, disabled access, canteen, entry area and office.

Improvements at the Batlow pool include a new learn-to-swim pool and splash play area, shade structures and a new amenities block.

Council received funding of \$600,00 for Khancoban and \$1,750,000 for Batlow from the Bushfire Economic Recovery Funding Round 2 which is jointly funded by the Australian and New South Wales governments.

## THE YEAR IN REVIEW

After dealing with the fires and pandemic, 2022 brought flooding and increased rain that had new challenges on Council's infrastructure and our wider community.

### Highlights Include:

Council supported a range of events and activities that attracted thousands of people to the region including Tumbatrek, Tumbafest, Batlow Ciderfest, the Winter Bites concerts in Adelong and Batlow, the Hello Snowy Valleys stage show, and the Khancoban Long Lunch.

The Snowy Valleys Sculpture Trail, funded by Bushfire funding, was officially opened.

The Snowy Valleys Regional Tracks and Trails Masterplan was endorsed and is currently out for public exhibition.

New and upgraded amenities were opened at the Tumut Bull Paddock and the Khancoban Shopping Centre.

More than 200 truckloads of fire damaged trees were collected from the Talbingo area as part of the NSW Government's EPA Bushfire generated green waste clean-up.

Our Libraries launched the innovative children's book gifting program, the 'Dolly Parton Imagination Library'.

Tumut Pool Stage 2 Upgrades were completed – the pool complex now hosts a new learn to swim pool and splash play area.

The Dungowan Bridge on Tintaldra Road at Welaregang was replaced with a modern structure.

26 new School Bus Road Safety Signs were installed across the region to improve child and driver safety.

A new pedestrian bridge was installed at Reedy Creek Park Batlow – replacing the original bridge damaged in the bush fires.

## PROJECTS FOR 2023 INCLUDE:

- Major Indoor Stadium in Tumut
- Upgrade to the Tumut Aerodrome - as a result of \$12.5M in funding to increase bushfire fighting capacity for the region.
- Batlow Caravan Park Itinerant Worker Accommodation – provide an additional 60 beds to accommodate seasonal workers as well as cater to tourists.
- Goldfields Park Tumbaramba Upgrade – improve the home of Tumbafest with new amenities and landscaping.
- Major upgrades at the Batlow Pool – including new amenities block, learn-to-swim pool and splash play area, shade structures and pool blankets.
- Tumut's Rotary Pioneer Park Upgrade - improve the park with new amenities and landscaping.
- FOGO Composting Facility in Tumut – for the local processing of food and green organic waste collected kerbside and delivered to Council's transfer stations.