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TUMBATREK 2023




Last Saturday we were enjoying
Tumbatrek 2023.

A fantastic day spent outside on the
historic Hume & Hovell Track through
Mundaroo State Forest. Kristy McBain
MP led the Trek again this year and was
joined by around 100 keen walkers
including a large contingent of
representatives from Snowy Hydro.

Thanks to Tumbarumba Rotary,
Munday's Catering and to everyone who
came along, we hope you had the best
time.



 Destination Riverina Murray

COUNCIL GROUNDS HOST PRE-SEASON COMP

Our Open Spaces Teams have been extra busy preparing and line-marking council grounds for the Tumut Pub 9's competition. With regular venue Twickenham out of action due to upgrades the competition is on the road. Batlow and Adelong hosted the first two rounds and this Friday night's action will take place at the Tumbarumba Showground before the competition heads to Tumut's Bull Paddock for the final weeks.



COUNCILLOR COLUMN – DEPUTY MAYOR TRINA THOMSON

A new year with many important decisions and discussions ahead for councillors.

The preparation of the business case weighing up options of demerger or remaining merged, managing the existing projects on the books while also understanding the financial impacts of accepted grants and how to work with the wider community to reduce the financial burden to ratepayers are just some of the challenges.

Setting the budget is a crucial role of Council and many councillors are well aware of the financial strain being felt by many in this area. It's a balancing act between needs and wants as each dollar can only be spent once. It's all members of the community who need to be considered when we as a council make our decisions.

I was honoured and privileged on Australia Day to conduct citizenship ceremonies for 34 residents in our council area. The significance of making the decision to become Australian citizens should never be understated and the rich cultural backgrounds of our newest citizens will contribute to the longest continuous living culture in the world.

Our First Nation's people treated the land, water and living things with respect for over 60,000 years before Europeans arrived and I'd urge all members of the community to remember that when given the opportunity to have them recognised in the Constitution.

It was also a wonderful honour to have Bruce Elder as our Ambassador this year, his connection to this region having grown up in Tumut, made for some very personal and entertaining reflections shared.

Please remember we are elected to represent you, members of the wider community, we can only do that if you work and engage with us.



GENERAL MANAGER MEETS WITH NSW RFS DEPUTY COMMISSIONER

The work to finalise the way forward for the construction of a Fire Control Centre at the Tumut Aerodrome continues, with Council and NSW Rural Fire Service representatives meeting again last week.

NSW RFS Deputy Commissioner Kyle Stewart met with our General Manager Ken Gouldthorp onsite at the Tumut Aerodrome to review the Draft Master Plan prior to its consideration at the February Council meeting.

The Draft Master Plan includes space allocation for an improved RFS facility incorporating a Fire Control Centre, operations centre, administration area, training facilities and a hangar.



MORE BRINDABELLA ROAD FUNDING ANNOUNCED

An additional \$20M in funding for Brindabella Road was announced recently by the Hon. Catherine King MP, Federal Minister for Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government and the Hon. Kristy McBain MP, Minister for Regional Development, Local Government and Territories.

Council welcomed the funding announcement and will now work through the prioritisation of the next stage of road works, as the associated funding agreement is finalised with the Department.

The previously announced \$17.4M for Brindabella Road is for the upgrade, reconstruction and re-alignment of the road between Piccadilly Circus and the Brindabella Valley to address safety concerns with the existing road, improve liveability for residents, improve business productivity and enable an uplift in tourism visitation.

SNOWY VALLEYS SENIORS EXPO



More than 200 Seniors from across the Snowy Valleys enjoyed a free day out at the Snowy Valleys Seniors Expo on Wednesday 8 February at the Valmar Auditorium in Tumut.

They enjoyed a sit-down lunch and live entertainment from the Tumut Smooth Movers and Elvis entertainer Lenny Connolly.

Attendees also had the opportunity to connect with more than 30 organisations and local service providers that provide help and support to seniors living in the Snowy Valleys region.

Attendees from Tumbarumba, Adelong, Batlow and Khancoban were able to take advantage of a free bus service made available for the event.

Exhibitors included Legal Aid NSW, Seniors Rights Service, Rural Health, Service NSW, Open Mobility, Forrest Community Services, NSW Police Force, Murrumbidgee Local Health District, Australia Red Cross and many more.

Thanks to Valmar for partnering with us and to all the exhibitors, groups and organisations that participated.

📷 T&A Times

DEMERGER BUSINESS CASE

The development of the independent report on the advantages and disadvantages of demerging Snowy Valleys Council has commenced with the first steps in engaging with the community underway.

Report author and project lead, Professor Joseph Drew of the University of Newcastle, will meet with representatives of key stakeholder groups, Councillors, and Council staff to collect information, feedback, and individual views on the advantages and disadvantages of demerging.

Additional community-wide meetings will then be held in April.

Following the initial meetings with key stakeholders, the Professor will return to present his draft report at two community meetings which will be open for all those interested.