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POOLS OPEN FOR THE SEASON

Pools at Batlow, Khancoban, and Tumbarumba open to the general public from Saturday 23 November for the Summer season.



Daily Admission:

- Adult - \$5.50
- Children/Concession - \$2.50
- Spectator – \$1.00
- Family Day Ticket - \$11.00 (2 adults and dependent children living at same address).

Pools at Adelong and Tumut are also open for everyone to enjoy.

Season Pool Passes and After-Hours Cards can be purchased using the application form on our website
www.svc.nsw.gov.au/pools

VISITOR INFORMATION HUBS INITIATIVE

Council has plans to partner with complementary businesses like gift shops, co-ops, provedores, and art galleries to integrate Visitor Information Hubs within their establishments, aiming to redefine how tourists access information while visiting the region.

Participating businesses will be supported with staff training and promotional materials

Expressions of Interest will open in early 2025, providing a unique opportunity for local businesses to be at the forefront of tourism engagement in the Snowy Valleys.



COUNCILLOR COLUMN – DEPUTY MAYOR HUGH PACKARD



Almost 20 years ago I stood aside from Council after having served two terms as a Councillor with the then Tumut Shire Council. Returning in 2024 as the Deputy Mayor of SVC it is interesting to observe how much has changed, and also how much has stayed the same.

The most obvious and significant change is the current issue of a potential de-merger. 20 years ago the issue was how to successfully merge Tumut

Council with the Brindabella part of the broken up Yarralumla Council. The Brindabella road was a challenge then, and it remains a challenge today, although incrementally it has improved and will continue to improve.

Another significant change in the district, are the massive improvements in IT, connectivity, and communications in general. Being a rural, rugged local government area no longer means being a poor cousin in terms of connectivity. As Councillors for example, we no longer receive printed Business Papers, but access everything we need through our iPad, Councillor Portal, and the cloud, anywhere, anytime.

Rate Pegging was around and causing financial difficulties for Council during my past terms, and it should be no surprise that after two more decades of constricting Council's ability to pay for the services it provides, Rate Pegging is causing even more difficulties. Cost shifting from the State Government combined with the compounding effect of many years of Rate Pegging is seeing SVC and many other Councils applying for Special Rate Variations to remain viable and to sustain services, something that was far less common 20 years ago.

I am looking forward to my time on Council and am honoured to have also been voted to be Deputy Mayor to work alongside Mayor Julia Ham.

CHILEAN NEEDLE GRASS CONTROL ALERT

Over the coming weeks, our work crews will be spraying for Chilean Needle Grass in parks and nature strips.

Known for its invasiveness tendencies, the potential for spread, and economic and environmental impacts the grass is becoming a serious pasture and environmental weed forming dense stands in pastures, bushland and roadsides.



If you want to learn more about the weed and how to spot it download the free NSW WeedWise app or visit our website

www.svc.nsw.gov.au/weeds-plants

PUBLIC TOILET VANDALISM

Council's public toilet facilities continue to be battered by vandals with destruction causing costly clean-up, repairs, and temporary closures.

Damage includes broken handles and locks, kicked-in walls and doors, tile damage, general mess and heavy graffiti.

Community members are encouraged to report any information they have to the police.



TOILETS TEMPORARILY CLOSED

THESE FACILITIES ARE CLOSED WHILE WE REPAIR SIGNIFICANT DAMAGE CAUSED BY VANDALISM.

The nearest available public toilets are located at:

- Stockwell Gardens, Richmond St
- Pioneer Park, Elm Drive
- Richmond Park, Richmond St
- Wynyard Centre, Wynyard St (near Pie in the Sky)

We apologise for any inconvenience during these essential works.

EOI GARDEN SCULPTURES FOR SALE

Expressions of interest are open to purchase steel garden sculptures, including one large emu, one small emu, and one small cockatoo, with an optional timber stump.

The Sculptures are available for inspection on 26 November and 3 December at Council's Tumbarumba Depot. To book an inspection call 02 6948 9100.



MAYOR MEETS WITH MINISTER FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Mayor Julia Ham met with the NSW Minister for Local Government Minister, Ron Hoenig, MP, and Dr Joe McGirr MP, last Thursday to discuss the ongoing de-amalgamation process.



Council is on track to provide its Financial Sustainability Plan and Deamalgamation Implementation Plan to the Boundaries Commission before the end of this year.

Minister Hoenig told Cr Ham he had great faith in the Boundaries Commission and would support their recommendations which are expected to be presented around April 2025.

Should the Boundaries Commission support the de-amalgamation, a constitutional referendum would need to occur where 51% of all voters in the Snowy Valleys will need to vote yes in support.

The referendum could cost up to \$130,000 and the Minister advised he would consider a loan to Council to cover this cost.

The Minister also indicated he would consider a \$5 million grant to Council, as per legislation, in support of the de-amalgamation process if it was approved to go ahead.

EOI PAVERS FOR SALE

Expressions of interest are invited to purchase pallets of unused surplus pavers.

Each pallet contains approx. 540 mixed pavers and weighs 2000kg. Individual pavers are approx 200mm wide x 200mm long x 40mm high.

The pavers are available for inspection on 26 November at Council's Tumut Depot. To book an inspection call 02 69412 420.

