

# Wingecarribee Today

**Keeping the Southern Highlands in touch with Council**

## All hands-on decks

On Monday 1 June the all new Bundanoon Skate Park was officially opened by the Member for Goulburn Wendy Tuckerman, Wingecarribee Shire Mayor Duncan Gair and sixteen-year old Tyson Robb.

Mayor Gair said it was only fitting that the spirited Bundanoon teen lend a hand at the ribbon cutting.

"If it wasn't for the enthusiasm of young Tyson, this skate park may never have eventuated," he said.

"Together with a few mates they saw the potential of a new skate park and before long they had gathered over 1,000 signatures on a petition supporting the idea."

That petition, along with the overwhelming support of the Bundanoon community, would prove to be instrumental in securing a successful grant via the State Government's *Stronger Country Communities Fund*.

Shortly thereafter Council awarded a tender to *Trinity Skate Parks* to undertake the specialised construction from a design by *California Skate Parks*.

Construction on the \$416,000 project began in late 2019.

Council's Group Manager of Capital Projects Ned Tripkovic said the finished facility included a wide range of elements catering to skaters of all abilities.

"The kids of Bundanoon really drove this project and it was their idea to make it fun for both first-time users and seasoned skaters," he said.



**Mayor Gair and the Member for Goulburn Wendy Tuckerman watch on as Tyson tests the ramps.**

"Not only did they provide input throughout the entire process, but they were an absolute delight to work with."

Speaking at the official opening Tyson thanked the Member for Goulburn, Council staff and contractors, his mates and his mum.

"Not in my wildest dream did I think it'd be this awesome!" he smiled.

Well done Tyson!

The Bundanoon Skate Park is located within the Bundanoon Oval precinct on Erith Street in Bundanoon.

## Wingecarribee Today is moving online!

Each quarter we print almost 28,000 copies of *Wingecarribee Today* and deliver them across the Shire.

Moving forward, we'll be printing fewer copies and instead will be making them available at our Civic Centre, libraries, Southern Highlands Welcome Centre and online.

To view online newsletters, including past editions, or subscribe to have future editions delivered direct to your inbox, visit [www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/newsletters](http://www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/newsletters).

# Old South Road improvement works

Old South Road is set to receive a massive \$12.5 million make-over in a jointly funded project announced between Wingecarribee Shire Council and the NSW State Government.

In total \$4.7 million in grant funding was secured through the NSW Government's *Safer Roads Program* with the remaining \$7.7 million to be provided by Council.

The monies will be spent over the next three years on 9.3 kilometres of the road between Merrigang Street in Bowral and Aylmerton Road in Mittagong.

The first stage of works involves completing a detailed design with construction planned to commence in the latter part of 2020/21. Works will include reconstructing and widening the road and installing safety improvements such as crash barriers, audio tactile markers and warning signs. The project is expected to be completed in 2023.

The announcement of the State monies follows a further \$3.3 million being secured by Council under the Australian Government's *Black Spot Program* to improve three key Highlands roads.

Over the next two years sections of the Old Hume Highway in Mittagong and Bowral and Mount Broughton Road in

Wurai will share in the multi-million dollar Federal funding.

Wingecarribee Shire Mayor, Duncan Gair congratulated staff for securing the grants and said the announcements were testimony of the State and Federal Government's confidence in our Shire to deliver major capital improvement projects.

"Now, more than ever, it's important that we continue to invest in projects across our Shire that support local businesses."



## Re-purposing fire-affected trees

Managing trees burnt and damaged in the summer bush fires continues to be an ongoing issue.



To help us clear and mulch these trees we've brought in some specialist equipment from the Snowy Mountains.

We've already removed thousands of dangerous trees, however storing and processing the felled trees then becomes another headache.

One solution has been to re-purpose the timber.

In Balmoral and Buxton residents have had more than 80 tonnes of wood split delivered to their homes by Council crews to use as future firewood.

In a strange twist, the trees damaged by bush fire will now be used to keep us warm through our chilly Highlands winters.

## Tulip Time gets pruned back

In the wake of COVID-19 this year's Tulip Time celebrations will sadly be scaled back from previous years.

The uncertainty surrounding the future of large public gatherings left us with little choice but to cancel all public events including organised tours.

This doesn't mean however we'll miss out on all the floral fun.

We'll still have some beds planted with bulbs in Bowral's Corbett Gardens, Leighton Gardens in Moss Vale and the Southern Highlands Welcome Centre and Winifred West Park in Mittagong.

We're also encouraging residents to plant bulbs around their homes and gardens to welcome in spring.

Rest assured that Tulip Time will return in 2021, bigger and

better, with plans already well underway for our Diamond Anniversary celebrations!



# Council news delivered differently

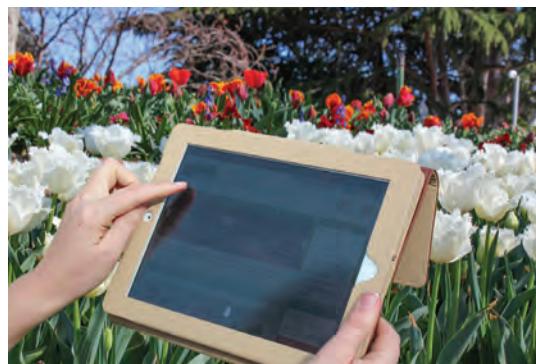
COVID-19 has disrupted businesses and industries across the globe.

Because some regional newspapers have suspended or ceased print operations entirely, the NSW Government recently introduced a series of regulatory changes which affect the way councils advertise.

These changes enable councils to continue to notify residents of community interest and legislative matters in lieu of traditional print newspaper.

Our regular *Community Update* page which contains council notices including planning matters and development applications, documents for public exhibition, community events and notifications of Council Meetings will no longer be advertised in print, but instead, can now be found on our website at [www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/advertisements-2020](http://www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/advertisements-2020).

Residents wishing to receive our e-newsletters can sign-up to have them emailed directly to their inbox at



[www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/newsletters](http://www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/newsletters).

To read the latest Council news and alerts visit our online digital *Media Centre* at [media.wsc.nsw.gov.au](http://media.wsc.nsw.gov.au).

You can even view past versions of this quarterly newsletter at [www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/wingecarribee-today](http://www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/wingecarribee-today).

For more information contact us on phone **4868 0888**.

## Council's COVID-19 support package

Shire residents and businesses impacted by the Coronavirus can defer paying their rates for six months as part of a financial support package offered by Council.

The rates deferral is part of a \$700,000 suite of measures designed to help struggling businesses and home-owners through the pandemic.

The full COVID-19 community and business financial support package includes:

- Rates deferred for all business-rated properties for six (6) months starting 1 April 2020. This will apply where the property owner runs a business from the premise or provides a rent deferral period for business tenants.
- Rates deferred for all property owners who have lost employment or been stood down due to the Federal Government's enforced business closures for six (6) months. Three (3) year repayment period provided.
- Removal of all interest charges on overdue rates and charges (including water and sewer) for a period of 12 months commencing 1 April 2020.
- Provision of rental subsidy for six (6) months for Council-owned properties which are occupied by a small

business or organisation impacted by the Federal Government's enforced business closures.

- Provision of fee reduction for all outdoor dining areas, materials on footpaths and environment and health inspections commencing 1 April 2020 for a period of six (6) months.

In addition to the above measures, Council will also suspend all existing debt recovery actions on outstanding rates and charges until the pandemic has passed.

"Across the Highlands we know a lot of residents and businesses are doing it tough right now," said Wingecarribee Shire Council General Manager, Ann Prendergast.

"I encourage anyone under financial stress to either apply for this support assistance or make contact with our staff to discuss their individual circumstances."

To apply for Council's *COVID-19 Financial Support Package* visit [www.wsc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.wsc.nsw.gov.au) or phone **4868 0888** to discuss how we can help your family or business.

## Upcoming Works

Berrima Marketplace

Commencement of playground works

Sutton Forest

Water mains upgrade

Erith Street, Bundanoon

Drainage construction

Merrigang Street, Bowral

Road reconstruction continuation

Murrimba Road, Wingello

Drainage construction

Wattle Lane, Bowral

Car park construction

Armstrong Crescent, Robertson

Drainage construction

Moss Vale Saleyards (SRLX)

Tender for development and construction upgrades

Find out more about Council's current and future works including water and sewerage improvements at [www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/road-closures](http://www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/road-closures).



# Bowral Library reopens!

As public health restrictions begin to ease, we're excited to announce that library services are progressively being restored across the Shire.

Bowral Central Library was the first to reopen on 1 June.

Council's Chief Information Officer, John Crawford, was thrilled to welcome patrons back through the doors at Bowral Library.

"We know a lot of our regular guests missed catching up on their favourite reads," he said.

"While we don't have all of our services back up and running due to current restrictions, patrons are welcome to once again borrow and return items."

"As soon as further social restrictions are lifted we'll review how we can restart our other regular services too."

"On behalf of the staff at Wingecarribee Public Libraries, I'd like to thank all of our patrons for their understanding and patience," he added.



**General Manager Ann Prendergast and Deputy General Manager Mark Pepping visit staff at Bowral Library ahead of the reopening.**

For the latest advice on library services visit [www.library.wsc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.library.wsc.nsw.gov.au) or phone Wingecarribee Public Libraries on

**1300 266 235.**

## Safe burning this winter

With more people stuck at home and out in the garden, you may be considering pile burning to help clean-up around your property.

Before undertaking a burn, it's important to familiarise yourself with the rules for backyard burning.

Council's Backyard Burning Eligibility Map provides users with clear information about how, when and where backyard burns can be undertaken.

It also provides advice on how to apply for the necessary permits and links to the relevant fire authority.

Our easy-to-use Backyard Burning Eligibility Map was introduced in 2017 and since then has been used over 7,000 times!

To access the Backyard Burning Eligibility Map and learn more about safe backyard burning, visit [www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/backyard-burning](http://www.wsc.nsw.gov.au/backyard-burning) or call us on **4868 0888**.



## CONTACT YOUR COUNCILLORS

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## Connecting with Council

Online 24 hours/7 days: [www.wsc.nsw.gov.au](http://www.wsc.nsw.gov.au)

Email: [mail@wsc.nsw.gov.au](mailto:mail@wsc.nsw.gov.au)

Phone: 4868 0888 Fax: 4869 1203

Post: PO Box 141 Moss Vale, NSW 2577

In person: (8:30am to 4:30pm Mon – Fri) Civic Centre,  
68 Elizabeth Street, Moss Vale

Emergency after hours: 4868 0888 (24 hour Contact Centre)