



*Celebrating the groups and organisations who  
stayed with us since the 2004 fire  
activating the surviving buildings as studios,  
workshops and meeting places  
You do, meet, build, craft and make things happen  
You have kept the dream alive of the OBH as the  
Bega Regional Community Cultural Centre*

## THE OLD BEGA HOSPITAL LAND MANAGERS BOARD

We, the volunteer members of the Old Bega Hospital Reserve Land Manager Board - Pat Jones, Chair, Jay Ellard, Secretary, John Reynolds, Treasurer, Claire Lupton, Media person, Richard Bomford, chief submission writer, David Stocker and Warren Page - bid you welcome to this seasonal newsletter and hope you will find the news and information useful and promising. We seven individuals applied to the Crown Lands Department in 2014 to form the Trust - as it was then known - to provide "care, control and management" of the site for a period of 5 years. We were appointed by the Minister for Crown lands for a 5 year tenure which will finish in December 2019. During this period we have worked strenuously to achieve our vision of restoring Old Bega Hospital to the role of a community and cultural centre it was before the May 2004 fire. I pay tribute to all the members and supporters who have given many hours of time, thought, submission writing and fundraising to bring construction about. Last Christmas we learned we had not been chosen for funding through the Regional Cultural fund - what we had thought was our best chance yet. So we were astonished when Andrew Constance called us to a meeting in February this year and announced that he had secured \$3 million through the Regional Communities Development Fund

This week we have learned that the preliminary requirements for us to qualify have been met and Minister Barilaro has nominated the OBH restoration project for funding. We are currently working to submit up to date details/costs by mid September. A departmental group will review and approve the project which will then go to Minister Barilaro for decision - although we are guaranteed the money! Decision, hopefully, by the end of the year. This means that this board has achieved its goal of getting the money to proceed - it's been a long haul since 2004. The majority of current board members have nominated to continue serving for another 5 years so there will be continuity of resolve and plan. We have worked with a firm of architects - Sibling Architects - to develop the plan to DA status and the DA is currently being considered by Bega Valley Shire Council. 2020 promises to be an exciting (and busy) year for the Bega Valley community as Stage One of the restoration commences.

*Pat Jones - Chair  
Old Bega Hospital Reserve Land Manager Board*

## THE FRIENDS OF THE OLD BEGA HOSPITAL

is a community group anyone can join, get involved with looking after the Old Hospital and to have a say in what we do with it. It is a grand old building, many of us love it, and we want it back on its feet for the Bega community. The building is 'Crown Land', i.e. owned by the State government. In 1990 the government decided not to sell it, but to hand it over to the community to run for heritage and community purposes. All the legal stuff is handled by the Reserve Land Manager Board, a bunch of volunteers appointed by the Minister. Very limited opportunities to be on that Board, so we've established the Friends so that everyone else can join in. The Friends also hold all the money raised by the community - keeps it away from the government. Main activity of the Friends is holding community events, which raise money and keep everyone up to date with what's going on. While the main building was severely burnt in 2004, the Old Hospital has continued to be a centre for community groups. Don't miss our Raise the Roof Spring Fair - a big family day for everyone to come along and check the place out. Later this year we will be starting work on plantings around the edges of the site. Council has approved the neighbouring properties for light industrial zoning, and they are starting to get ugly. We plan to put in several rows of plants around the boundaries to give the site some form and to protect us from the neighbours. They are nice people, but we don't need to see what they are doing.

**Want to be involved? Raise money, help with events, make friends and influence people?  
Join the Friends. \$10 a year and it's great fun [Friends Membership](#)**

*Richard Bomford – Chair  
Friends of the Old Bega Hospital*

## NEWS FROM OUR RESIDENT GROUPS

### BEGA VALLEY TEXTILE GROUP

We have many varied interests but we all share a passion: to practice and promote the wonderful textile and fibre arts and crafts. We meet weekly to share friendship, knowledge, morning tea and practical help. Meetings are every alternate Friday and Saturday, 10.00am -1.30pm (August 16 was a Friday meeting.) We meet in a detached building of the heritage Old Bega Hospital.

Checkout our Facebook page [Bega Valley Textiles](#).

Spring Happenings. Workshops: Narooma Fibre

Fest: A "Loom Weaving" 2 day workshop -

October, 5 and 6: 10am to 3pm. \$60.00. Learn about a range of small mobile hand looms and create a masterpiece to take home and cherish. And an "Indigo Dyeing" 1 day workshop - October 6: 10am to 3pm. \$30.00.

Fibre Fest will be held in the Narooma School of Arts. Bookings: phone 0400442945.

Demonstrations: Raise the Roof Spring Fair:

October 27: 10am to 2pm

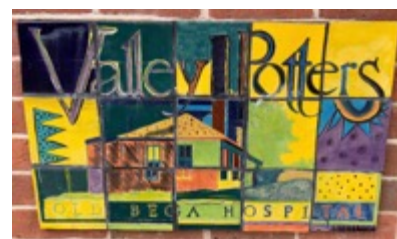
Bemboka Art and Craft Fair: November 16: 10am to 2pm in the Bemboka Memorial Hall. There will be handmade items for sale at each of these demonstrations. We welcome new members and are always keen to help others find joy and pleasure in the world of textiles



**Bega Access  
Radio Inc.**

### Bega Access Radio (93.7 Edge FM)

is your local Community owned and operated radio station, transmitting to the Bega Valley and beyond. For the last 26 years we have broadcast from studios in the Old Bega Hospital at South Bega. We broadcast 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For a full program guide check out our web site at [edgefm.org.au](http://edgefm.org.au) If you have ever had the urge to present your own radio program, Edge FM has several available time slots. Training is provided free of charge, generally on Saturday afternoons. For more information write to P.O. Box 771, Bega, email [station@edgefm.org.au](mailto:station@edgefm.org.au) or call us on 64 924202. If you simply want to support us, become a member from as little as \$17.00.



**The Valley Potters** is a group who are interested and enjoy making things from clay, learning new techniques and sharing their knowledge of pottery. Our permanent studio is located in the former OBH Laundry; the rooms are equipped with kilns, slab roller, glaze and clay supplies, Potters wheels and fellowship. It is available 24-7 for members to work at their convenience. We also run a range of workshops throughout the year for beginners and intermediate students. It only costs \$85 per year to become a member of The Valley Potters and access our network and facilities. You can follow us on our Facebook page search [Bega Valley Potters](#) or for further information contact our secretary Sarah Murray [sarahmurrayceramics@gmail.com](mailto:sarahmurrayceramics@gmail.com)

### FRIENDS TRIVIA NIGHT SUCCESS

A big Thankyou to everyone who supported the Friends Trivia Night at Club Bega's Tarraganda Golf Club on Saturday, August 3. It was an entertaining evening for all under the highly talented quizmaster Daniel Doody, from the ABC South East, with Rhonda Jones as the brilliant question setter. The principal organiser was the ever energetic Val Little with her team, who also gathered donations for the prizes; made the delicious cakes for the silent auction; while Andrew Constance's office and Tathra's Post Office covered the cost of the printing; with donations from BigW, Coles and Woolworths; a special thanks to the Club for the free use of the facility and the staff of the Golf Club for their help in setting up the tables and their service during the evening.

Altogether we raised \$1,500.

Doody, keep singing those songs

**The Friends Christmas New Year Grand Travel Raffle**  
on sale now

**WIN A \$3,000 VOUCHER  
FROM FLIGHT CENTRE BEGA**

**1 @ \$5  
5 @ \$20**



### The Bega Men's Shed

This was incorporated in October 2009, meetings were first held at various venues and the Shed met monthly. The Shed started with 9 members; a permanent venue was unable to be found anywhere in the Bega area. The current site became available after the then OBHRT agreed in principle that the BMS could meet weekly in the cottage late 2013. The current shed was erected and opened in January 2015. Today the BMS is proud to have grown to 27 members and now opens Tuesdays and Thursdays 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. The Shed has made quite a few projects for the community in the form of bookcases, educational equipment, mud kitchens for pre-schoolers, and repairs for individuals as well as some members' projects. The support from the community and business enterprises has been really appreciated without which the Shed would not exist today. The Shed looks forward to a continued successful relationship with the Land Manager



### Bega Valley Beekeepers Inc

#### BEGA VALLEY BEEKEEPERS

Our purpose is to promote responsible and ethical beekeeping in the Bega Valley. Regardless of whether you already have working hives or are simply considering becoming a beekeeper, we welcome new members, amateur and professional alike. The club can assist new beekeepers with the acquisition of gear, with advice on establishing your first hive and with that all-important mentoring that will help you through those first exciting months as a beekeeper. In September and November we will be 'Beginning in Bees' One-Day workshops for anyone interested in taking up beekeeping as a hobby. The workshops will provide participants with sufficient information to get started in bees. Led by Graham Jones, Apiary Manager with the Bega Valley Beekeepers, each workshop will cover: Basic beekeeping, honey production and bee behaviour; Setting up your first hive; Legal requirements; Keeping your bees and hives in good health. The workshops include a morning of theory followed by guided, hands-on work with bees after lunch. The One Day Workshops will be on September 7 & 8 and November 2 & 3 at our Apiary located on the grounds of the Old Bega Hospital. We meet once a month in Bega at Meals on Wheels and our Apiary is located on the grounds of the Old Bega Hospital

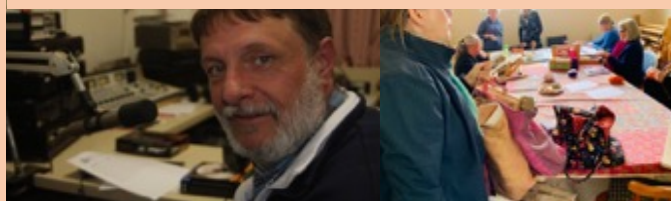
For more information about the Beekeepers [Bega Valley Beekeepers Inc](http://BegaValleyBeekeepersInc.org.au) or email: [BegaValley.ord2@beekeepers.asn.au](mailto:BegaValley.ord2@beekeepers.asn.au)

**Raise the Roof  
Spring Fair  
OPEN STUDIOS  
OCTOBER 27 10-2 PM**

visit all the studios  
meet the makers  
get information  
become a member  
**JUST EXPLORE**



**It is free**



*Become a Friend of the OBH*



Did you know the OBH has been listed as  
ONE OF THE BEGA SHIRES 101 HIDDEN  
HERITAGE OBJECTS?

Check out the web site

<https://hiddenheritage.com.au/>

read all about it and download  
an interactive App.





# Sunday October 27

## The Friends of the OBH annual Raise the Roof Spring Fair

### A great community family fun day

10 am to 3 pm

Latest details on Facebook

#### An Invitation to become Involved with Potential Gardens and Landscaping



#### The Old Bega Hospital Landscaping Community Consultative Committee

to think about and develop the plans to landscape the grounds.

**The Brief:** The Old Bega Hospital Landscaping Community Consultative Committee will be tasked to develop plans for landscaping the Bega Regional Community Cultural Centre precinct. The OBHLCCC will develop a landscaping plan for the entire OBH site and advise the OBH Land Managers. The committee needs to embrace a vision for the site taking into account existing plans, reports, infrastructure and studies while incorporating the heritage values and the potential for new buildings including studios on the site.

Become a part of building the long-term vision for the precinct, with the options over the next few years for the staged development of the grounds and gardens. There are a number of different ways you can become involved as volunteers.

For information Email: [gardens@obh.org.au](mailto:gardens@obh.org.au)

#### THE NEXT STAGES IN THE ONGOING RESTORATION

**Stage 1.** The \$3m will cover the 'bare bones' restoration of the Old Bega Hospital main building. This will give us a roof, a ceiling, a floor, doors and windows that open and shut, and just enough toilets, electricity, water and security to meet all the rules to allow us to legally occupy and use the whole building. It won't include anything fancy and it won't make any additions to what is already there. It will provide a bare building that is a blank canvas for us to work on. If we want tables to do art work we will have to make or buy them; if we want chairs and a projector for a cinema, we have to find them; if we want white walls for a gallery, we'll have to find the paint and someone to put it on; if we want a cafe or wifi, we'll need equipment, and if we want landscaping we'll have to plant it. There is a lot of work to do and that is where the Friends come in: the Friends have custody of around \$50,000 in community funds already, and we will need to raise much more. The Friends can apply for grants, work with user groups and organise volunteers, and they might be able to get tax deductibility for donations. There will be plenty of work for everyone to get the old OBH heart up and running.

**Stage 2.** The estimated cost is \$4m for Stage 2. It would add and enclose verandas and decks, provide a fully-equipped, commercial kitchen, air conditioning and a gallery space, as well as add new disabled access points, provide more car parking, and generally include all the bells and whistles that you'd hope for in a new building.

The deadline for material for the  
Summer Edition of the Newsletter is  
Monday 25 November 2019

Articles of less than 200 words are  
welcome, we are open to any other  
ideas and suggestions.

Any questions or further information  
Email [newsletter@obh.org.au](mailto:newsletter@obh.org.au)



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AUSTRALIA

—  
Bega

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