

FRIENDS COMMITTEE OF THE OBH REGIONAL COMMUNITY CULTURAL CENTRE



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President: Eric Myers Secretary: Kay Dowman friends@obh.org.au

August 2026 - Newsletter

Our vision is to develop a centre for the region's identity, a place where we celebrate our past, nurture our community and dream about our future.

THE OBH SPRING FAIR - Sunday 25 October

The winter chill might think it can send the OBH Friends Committee into hibernation but not so. **Plans for the 2026 OBH Spring Fair are in full swing and we are asking the community to put the date - Sunday October 25, from 10am to 2pm, in its diary. Our to do list is quite extensive and we will need the help of you and your friends and family, on the day. Only for a few hours.**

Some of the Spring Fair action locked in includes Brett Rogers with his Dog High Jump Competition, the Men's Shed Garage Sale, the Flower Show, Friends Cake Stall and the Business Houses \$5 Spring Fair Raffle. The Bega Brass Band, BAAD Band, our many Market Stall people and community Not for Profit organisations have been invited to come along to entertain and inform. Hillgrove House Auxiliary will be providing morning teas and light luncheons. The precinct's roving photographer, Cliff Shipton, will be there if you want to record yourself with part of the Bega Valley's history. You can add to the entertainment by channelling Spring in the form of your hat.

Workshops, stalls and demonstrations will also be held by OBH tenants - Weavers, Potters, Leadlighters, Edge FM Community Radio, Beekeepers, Landcare, and Lou Oakes Art.

Friends thank John Watkin for agreeing to be our MC at the Fair. John will make sure everyone knows what and when things are happening.

Updated Fair information will be published on the OBH Facebook and Web pages. The committee will need help on the day. If that's you then please let Kay know - setting up on the day needs to be planned. We need to know beforehand if you will be available, time and for how long.

OTHER COMMITTEE NEWS

Friends warmly welcome Katungul Aboriginal Corporation as a partner (for the next few months) of OBH.

Dave Thorssell is hard at work repairing and stripping the cubby house, ready for its repainting. Thankyou Dave - the kids, big and small will be delighted! If anyone can give Dave a hand, please let Secretary Kay know.

A successful garden working bee was held on June 27 when 16 cubic metres of mulch was spread over the northern planting. **Saturday August 29 will be our next landscape working bee – from 9:30am.** A grant application - 'Trees for Bees', \$500, has been submitted. Will learn on 10/08 if successful. That date has passed - still no answer.

Friends Committee thanks the Beekeepers who have donated \$200 to Friends for purchase of bee trees for boundary planting. We also thank Landcare for its contribution of tree guards and time to the boundary planting. And our gardening buddies. The landscaping plan is ongoing - the garden in front of the OBH is beginning to take shape and colour up! Our working bees are held on the last Saturday of each month from 9.30am.

The Friends have contributed \$1,000 towards updating OBH security system.

The Committee has ordered more branded tea towels as well as cards featuring a photo of OBH. The merchandise is always available for sale, is great for gifts and reasonably priced. Can be purchased from OBH most Saturdays from 11am to 1.30pm. A flag near the ramp into the building indicates someone is available to help you. It will be great when we can guarantee OBH will be open every Saturday.

Drop in to the precinct and check out the new signs, each briefly outlining the history of the building it is located in front of. Friends thank All Signs for such a great job.

It is still early days in the life of the fully operational, award winning, OBH, and there is much ground breaking work being done by the Land Managers and Friends Committee - all volunteers with a firm belief in a community managed community cultural centre. There is always room for new ideas and the enthusiastic volunteers to carry them out. Now would be an excellent time to put your hand up.

Val Little and Kay Dowman (on behalf of the Friends of the OBH Regional Community Cultural Centre.)

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