

## **Letters of Support**

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14. University of Wollongong

17 September 2018

Regional Cultural Fund  
Level 5, 323 Castlereagh St  
Sydney NSW 2000



To whom it may concern,

I am pleased to provide a letter of support for the Old Bega Hospital's application to the Regional Cultural Fund to restore the site as a significant cultural venue in the region.

The Old Bega Hospital was an important centre for arts and community activities until a fire in 2004 closed the main building. It is important that this vital venue is restored to community use and access, through support of the Regional Cultural Fund.

There are limited cultural facilities in the south east region, particularly for community cultural use. The demise of visual art classes through TAFE, coupled with the insurance challenges for individual artists and arts organisations to run events, has resulted in an increased need for accessible and affordable creative spaces. In supporting the application from the Old Bega Hospital, the local creative community of the south east will have a significant, heritage listed cultural centre that provides a venue for arts activities and creative business opportunities.

The proposed revitalisation of the Old Bega Hospital will provide a venue for individuals and organisation to run a range of events including exhibitions, meetings, demonstrations, workshops and training. In addition, the substantial outdoor spaces at the site can be used for activities including festivals, fairs, markets, community functions and large scale sculptural events.

South East Arts can assist the Old Bega Hospital redevelopment with advice and assistance, as well as connecting them to the broader arts and cultural community of the region through our extensive networks.

I strongly recommend that the application is supported and the Old Bega Hospital can once again be a central creative hub for the our community.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Gray  
**SOUTH EAST ARTS (NSW) Inc**  
General Manager

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South East Arts (NSW) Inc  
Bega Valley – Eurobodalla  
Snowy Monaro

[www.southeastarts.org.au](http://www.southeastarts.org.au)



SPIRAL GALLERY  
Co-operative Limited  
PO Box 525  
Bega NSW 2550  
Ph: 02 6492 5322

9<sup>th</sup> September 2018

To: The Old Bega Hospital Reserve Trust  
P O Box 392  
BEGA NSW 2550

Dear Trustees,

I write on behalf of Spiral Gallery Co-operative, Bega. Our Gallery is a not for profit organization that aims to support the broad visual arts culture of the Bega Valley. Spiral Gallery Co-operative was established 21 years ago, and we have a strong commitment to supporting established and emerging artists and all forms of cultural diversity in our community.

Spiral currently has 22 members, mounts an annual exhibition program at our gallery, and regularly offers art skills training workshops for beginners and experienced artists, in a range of art forms. For our training workshops, we need to hire a flexible space that allows for practical workshops in painting, printing and ceramics. While there is a real interest in art skills classes within our community from all ages, there are very few spaces available to run such activities.

We welcome and support the proposal from the Old Bega Hospital Reserve Trust to get the Old Bega Hospital working again as a cultural centre. It has been sorely missed by the community since the fire in 2004. We expect to be one of many groups from the region that will want to make use of the restored facilities. The Bega Valley has a wealth of artists and active groups working in a range of art forms. The Old Bega Hospital could provide a much needed cultural centre, providing a focus for the arts and culture in the Bega Valley.

The Old Bega Hospital is much loved and has been much missed by the community. We commend the Trust members for their volunteer work over many, many years which is finally set to bring the Old Hospital fully back to life for the community.

Yours sincerely

Diana Stewart  
Chairperson  
Spiral Gallery



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NSW Regional Cultural Fund

re: Bega Cultural Centre in the Old Bega Hospital

Dear Panel Members,

I am writing this letter in support of the grant application for funding of a Bega Cultural Centre in the Old Bega Hospital. As the director of Funhouse Studio in Bega, this project perfectly aligns with my mission to provide more creative spaces for our community to further develop opportunities in arts & innovation in the Bega Valley Shire.

Funhouse Studio is a unique venture that merges two ideas - to have a thriving, multi-purpose arts & entertainment venue that adopts the ethos of a co-working facility, where paying members help shape a quarterly program each year filled with classes, workshops, exhibitions, projects & performance opportunities for the community at large. We are an urban-inspired, bush-dwelling collective of creatives, entrepreneurs, small businesses, and community organisations who hope to make a difference both locally & nationally.

After establishing the 'Funhouse' in 2016, it has become increasingly clearer to me that the demand for creative space in our small regional community is well above average. The issue is not demand - the issue is lack of quality facilities in the heart of our region.

The Old Bega Hospital is an integral part of local heritage that also offers a unique opportunity to continue the work of creating the cultural hub that our region so desperately needs. I commend the work that the Old Bega Hospital Reserve Trust has put into this application, and look forward to supporting in anyway that I can.

If you have an questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Sincerely,

Cayce Hill  
DIRECTOR,  
Funhouse Studio  
[www.funhouse.org.au](http://www.funhouse.org.au)

20 September 2018

Richard Bomford  
Old Bega Hospital Reserve Land Manager  
PO Box 382  
BEGA NSW 2550

*Via email; richard.bomford@gmail.com*

Dear Mr Bomford

Thank you for your email of 15 September and sharing your draft application to the NSW Regional Cultural Fund.

The Department of Industry – Crown Lands & Water (the department) acknowledges the efforts and commitment of the Old Bega Hospital Reserve Land Manger (land manager) in carrying out their responsibilities of care, control and management of this important Crown Land site.

As you would be aware, the land manager and department has been in extensive correspondence regarding the future of the site since the fire of 2004 and that the department has provided a number of small funding packages to allow minor works to be completed.

The department is unable to commit any funding to the restoration of the site at this time and therefore has no objection to the land manager submitting an application for funding through the NSW Regional Cultural Fund.

We look forward to hearing the outcome of your application and continuing to work with you.

Best regards



Ben Tax

A/Area Manager – Sydney & South Coast

Department of Industry - Lands



Education



Bournda Environmental Education Centre,  
Bournda National Park, Via KALARU 2550  
Ph: 02 6494 5009 Fax: 02 6494 5011

E-mail: [bournda-e.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:bournda-e.school@det.nsw.edu.au)  
Web: <http://bourndaeec.nsw.edu.au>  
ABN: 97 562 394 093

19<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Mr. Richard Bomford  
President  
Friends of the Old Bega Hospital  
182 Newtown Road  
BEGA NSW 2550

Dear Richard,

RE: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR OLD BEGA HOSPITAL ROOF

Bega Tathra Safe Ride supports the restoration of the Old Bega Hospital (OBH), complete with new roof. A fully restored and functional OBH, will be the focus of a diverse range of cultural, community and recreational activities and will attract many visitors.

A restored OBH will be an attractive cycling destination for locals and tourists and can easily be connected to the proposed Bega Tathra Safe Ride route.

Our September 4<sup>th</sup> meeting unanimously supported the OBH Committee's work to have the roof restored.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Doug Reckord".

Doug Reckord  
On behalf of Bega Tathra Safe Ride

*The remaining letters of support here are from and for the 2014 Strategic Plan (<http://www.obh.org.au/Reserve%20Trust/OBH%20Vision%20Strategic%20Plan%202014.pdf>), which proposed a regional community and cultural centre at the Old Bega Hospital. They are germane to the current proposal, because it is a direct descendant of the strategy.*

Dr Mike Kelly is now the Federal Member for Eden-Monaro:

The Hon Dr Michael J Kelly, AM  
PO Box 1434  
Queanbeyan, NSW 2620  
AUSTRALIA

To Whom It May Concern

2 October 2014

Dear Sir/Madam

I write to support the proposals of the Trustees of the Old Bega Hospital acting with the Friends of the Old Bega Hospital for the restoration and strategic plan for the Old Bega Hospital historic building.

The Old Bega Hospital is an essential and valued part of the history of the Bega Valley and its community. From the outset the Bega community has been characterised by its commitment to working together and self-help. This was apparent in the formation of the Bega Cheese Cooperative and countless other voluntary and community institutions in the region.

One of the most important of these institutions was the Bega Hospital. From the beginning the effort to establish a hospital to support the Bega Valley was a concerted community endeavour, led by successful local figures who believed that having done well in life they had an obligation to put something back. These included my own Great Great Great Grandfather Daniel Gowing and Great Great Grandfather Thomas J. Kelly who also collaborated on the establishment of the Bega Cheese Cooperative.

The building has had many uses over the years reflecting the evolution of the town and the Valley and has always been a cherished and vibrant focus of life.

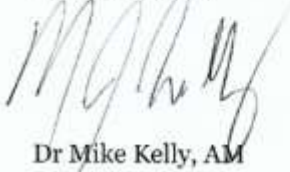
The building not only has special character in its own right, making it worthy of preservation, but that reflects the unique values and nature of the Valley community. For these reasons the Old Bega Hospital is very important as a heritage site and as an ideal focus for continuing community activity. There is no doubt that any investment in the strategic plan put forward by the proponents will deliver excellent value in the use it will be put to, and the local and tourism interest it will attract.

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The business plan for sustainment of the facility is sound and the projected scope of works to be covered by funding support is prudent and feasible. The individuals involved in the project are of the highest caliber and reputation within the community, and the interest for the effective uses to which the building will be put has been well demonstrated.

I endorse the plan and proponents wholeheartedly and without reservation.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mike Kelly', written in a cursive style.

Dr Mike Kelly, AM



Dr Peter Hendy was then the Federal Member for Eden-Monaro:



September 2014

### Letter of Support NSW Crown Lands Grant

To whom it may concern,

The Old Bega Hospital Regional Centre has a strategic plan for the complete restoration of the fire damaged main building so it can be utilised fully by the community in a variety of ways.

I wish to support the Old Bega Hospital Trust in their application for funding through NSW Crown Lands. The premises are owned by the NSW State Government and have been managed by the Trust since 1990 under the Crown Lands Act.

They intend to reroof the main building. This will then enable them to internally restore the historic building.

The Friends of Old Bega Hospital are a community group established to assist the Trust and encourage and support restoration, conservation, development and maintenance of Old Bega Hospital as a heritage, cultural and community precinct. The trustee's plan is to provide an insight into the history of the region and offer short term and permanent affordable accommodation and resources to attract local groups and visitors. The revenue from this more than covers the expenses.

They envisage it becoming a major tourist attraction which could also cater for conferences, weddings, presentations, theatrical and musical performances and many other events.

The plan to provide excellent facilities for a range of community activities demonstrates their commitment to the venture.

As Member for Eden-Monaro I am keen to see careful development of the tourism sector in this region and therefore I encourage The Old Bega Hospital Reserve Trust in its endeavours.

Yours sincerely,

  
PETER HENDY

**QUEANBEYAN** 1/21-25 Monaro Street (PO Box 214), Queanbeyan NSW 2620  
Phone 02 6284 3077 Email Peter.Hendy.MP@aph.gov.au Fax 02 6284 3904

**BEGA** 1/225 Carp Street (PO Box 1233), Bega NSW 2550  
Phone 02 6492 0974 Email Peter.Hendy.MP@aph.gov.au Fax 02 6494 7209

# Andrew Constance

Member for Bega 

*Commitment Passion Results*



25<sup>th</sup> September 2014

Ms Claire Lupton  
Old Bega Hospital Trust  
[clairelupton@bigpodn.com](mailto:clairelupton@bigpodn.com)

**Letter of Support  
Public Reserves Management Fund Program  
Old Bega Hospital Trust**

To whom it may concern

I write in regards to the Old Bega Hospital Trust and their application through the Public Reserves Management Fund Program.

The Old Bega Hospital Trust is seeking funds to enable the repair and replacement of the roof of the main building following damage sustained from a large fire in May 2004.

The Trust has continued to work tirelessly on a Strategic Plan to see the Old Bega Hospital returned to its former glory, but the first hurdle for the trust is to ensure the building is once again water tight.

Many community groups utilised the site prior to the fire and I am confident that at the completion of all works required, that the Old Bega Hospital will once again become a thriving community hub.

I offer my support to the Old Bega Hospital Trust and their application for funding through the Public Reserves Management Fund Program and wish them every success with their project.

Yours sincerely

**Andrew Constance MP**  
Member for Bega



PO Box 492, Bega NSW 2550  
P. (02) 6499 2222  
F. (02) 6499 2200  
E. council@begavalley.nsw.gov.au

ABN. 26 987 935 332  
DX. 4904 Bega

Ref:

24 September 2014

Mr Tim Whitaker

Via email: tim.whitaker@thextonarmstrong.com.au

Dear Mr Whitaker

***Old Bega Hospital Strategic Plan***

I am pleased to support the Old Bega Hospital Regional Centre Strategic Plan which has been endorsed by the Trustees for the Old Bega Hospital. I understand that stage one is the reroofing of the site.

The Old Bega Hospital has great community support and current usage, whilst extensive, is curtailed by the requirement to refurbish the building damaged extensively by fire.

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

I wish you well with your endeavours to gain funding for the restoration works.

Yours sincerely

Cr Bill Taylor  
Mayor



The Best Chamber In The State!

### **Old Bega Hospital – Regional Centre**

As the president of the Bega chamber of commerce I fully support the Strategic Plan for the Old Bega Hospital Regional Centre.

A centre for our regions identity is something that would be welcomed and provide much needed resources that will assist not only the business community but the whole community. The centres role as a premium tourist facility will be a much needed boost for the local economy.

We wish the Reserve Trust all the best in their application for funding for stage one, the roof restoration and we are supportive of the full restoration to complete this wonderful project.

Mal Barnes  
President  
Bega Chamber of Commerce and Industry

# *Bega & District Nursing Home Limited*

ABN 34 002 554 636

24 Hill Street  
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BEGA NSW 2550

Hillgrove House (High Care)  
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24 September 2014

## **TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN**

### **Re: Old Bega Hospital Regional Centre Investment for our Community**

I am pleased to support the Trustees and Friends of the Old Bega Hospital in an endeavour to develop the existing site into a Regional Centre.

I appreciate the links to the past and the involvement of our aged citizens who the centre will provide for. The resources and facilities proposed in the Strategic Plan/Vision Statement are what our area is lacking and will be seen as a significant improvement in our regions cultural and heritage values.

I see that when the Old Bega Hospital is operational it will be a significant asset to the local community as well as another valued tourist attraction. We hope that the Trust is successful in acquiring the funding required for this proud community facility.

Yours sincerely



Jim Butterworth  
Chief Executive Officer

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**DONATIONS OF \$2 AND OVER ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE - CHARITY NO: CFN12404**

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Hi Tim,

Confirming that we support your vision for the Old Bega Hospital.

Would also suggest that you include venue fees within your future revenue stream for meetings, conferences and workshops, as we often receive requests from organisations looking for venues to hold meetings and workshops in Bega that we are unable to support.

Kind regards,

Sam

**Samantha Avitaia**

Manager UOW Bega  
176 Auckland St  
PO Box 1020 Bega 2550



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