



6 October 2017

## Special Rate Variation

Shoalhaven City Council debated a proposal for the continuation of the Special Rate Variation. Council adopted to move forward to continue the path of ensuring ongoing financial sustainability, however a rescission motion was put forward by Clr Pakes, Clr Waston and Clr Proudfoot. This means that the matter will again be debated at a further meeting to be held in the coming weeks.

The special rate proposal is as follows:

1. That Council retain the 13.2% special rate variation, approved as a one-off increase in 2017/18 by IPART as a permanent increase.
2. That an increase of 5% including the rate peg be proposed to be applied from 2018/19 until 2020/21.

Mayor Findley said, "Council must continue to ensure that it is financially sustainable into the future."

"There are two very clear options for Council to adopt. Either we cut our services to reduce the amount of money we are spending or we increase the revenue that we receive each year."

"We can ask our community whether they would like their pools to be closed, their library services to be condensed or the road maintenance reduced, but from what we have already heard, I am sure that the answer to this will be a resounding no."

"Our community want Council to continue to provide them with services and meet their needs. The only option is therefore to seek additional revenue to ensure that we can meet ongoing community expectations."

"We have listened to the community and staff have put forward a recommended rate increase approach, that is significantly reduced from previous proposals. This will mean that we may not meet the State Government benchmarks required of us in the time originally nominated. "

"Further discussion will be occurring on this matter at a future Council meeting and there will be a process of ongoing community engagement that will need to occur."

"Clear explanation of what is proposed will be provided and discussed with our community. We will also strongly continue to advocate for our fair share of both State and Federal funding and explain to our community about the ongoing cost shifting that occurs from government to local councils."

An Extra Ordinary Meeting has been scheduled for Monday, 9 October 2017 at 5pm in the Council Chambers, Bridge Road Nowra.

This meeting has been scheduled to consider the Rescission motions relating to the Development of a Motor Sports Complex at Yerriyong and Pathways to financial sustainability.

All community members are welcome to attend. Details of the reports relating to these matters can be found on Council's website.

How do you want Council to "keep in touch" with you? Do you like this newsletter? Do you listen to the radio? Are you a facebook follower?

To better understand how Council can inform you on what is happening in the Shoalhaven, how you can provide feedback on projects, community engagement activities, events or decisions, we have launched a short survey. Click [here](#).

Anyone who fills out the survey before 10 October 2017 will go into the draw to win tickets to the "Rumour Has It" show *and* tickets to the exclusive preshow Crooked River Wine Tasting event at the Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre on Saturday, 14 October from 6.30pm.

The show, "Rumour Has It" - Adele, Her Life and Songs stars Naomi Price as Adele. Watch the video promotion [here](#).

The winner will be a VIP for a special wine tasting event hosted by local winery Crooked River Wines. Sample their celebrated classics and innovative blends, snack on some nibbles, and then enjoy a glass of your favourite Crooked River wine while watching the show.

Fill out the survey [here](#). For more information on the show, visit the Shoalhaven Entertainment Centre [website](#).

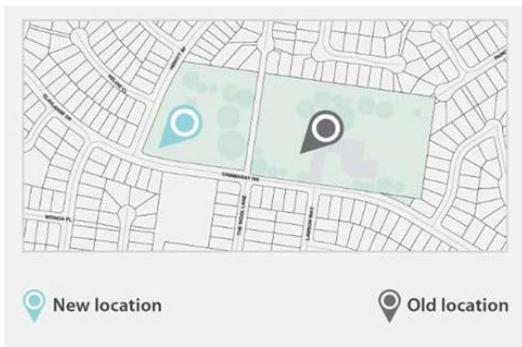
## How do you hear what happens at Council?

**WIN 2 tickets to Rumour Has It on 14 October by answering our survey**



## St Georges Basin Playground

Council will be removing the existing old playground from inside the Wool Lane Sportsfield and installing a new playground



on the corner Cammaray Drive and Hewitt Avenue, St Georges Basin.

Construction is expected to start early 2018. If you have any questions or feedback, visit the St Georges Basin Playground [webpage](#).

## Free Safety Forum

SafeWork NSW in collaboration with the Shoalhaven Safety Group presents a free business forum for all industries, to find out the latest work, health and safety information from industry peers and government. The business forum aims to provide businesses with a 'snapshot' of a range of topics and emerging issues to assist them to manage their business.

The FREE safety forum will be held on Tuesday, 10 October 2017 at Nowra School of Arts from 9.15 am. Register your attendance by phone 4428 6700 or [online](#).

Council's WHS Risk Unit Manager, Don Hahn, will be delivering a session on Mentally Healthy Workplaces including: What does a mentally healthy workplace look like, Creating a mentally healthy workplace, Identifying support and resources and looking at Beyond Blue's tool box talk.



## Breaking Down Barriers

Nowra Library has been hosting a Tech Help program for Gen Connect linking young school students to support seniors with their technology questions.

One participant, Len wrote:

*" I would be grateful if you would pass on to the students my sincere appreciation for their tuition. The school can be proud of the those students, the way they extended amazing courtesy and respect to me and all the other senior participants augers well for their future careers and they will be great ambassadors for the school and Nowra.*

# GEN-CONNECT

TECH HELP AT NOWRA LIBRARY



**ARE YOU A SENIOR LIVING WITHIN THE SHOALHAVEN COUNCIL AREA AND IN NEED OF TECH HELP?**

Bring your tech questions to Nowra Library and be paired with a High School student who will help you find the answer you need.

**EVERY THURSDAY  
OCTOBER 12TH  
UNTIL  
DECEMBER 14TH  
2-3PM AT  
NOWRA LIBRARY**

For more information please contact Gemma (02) 4429 3712 or email [gemma.luxford@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au](mailto:gemma.luxford@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au)



*Thank you also for the wonderful efforts that was put into making the Gen-connect sessions possible."*

**The next Gen Connect sessions will commence at Nowra Library on 12 October 2017.**

## Deputy Mayor Appointed



Councillor Patricia White has been appointed the Shoalhaven City Council Deputy Mayor for 2017/18. The role of Deputy Mayor was elected by the Councillors through open vote at the Ordinary Meeting held on 26 September and reconvened meeting on 3 October. Councillor White was the Assistant Deputy Mayor during 2016/2017 year.

## Assistant Deputy Mayor



During this meeting Councillor Mitchell Pakes was also appointed as the Assistant Deputy Mayor.

Council appoints an Assistant Deputy Mayor who may exercise the function of Deputy Mayor if the Deputy Mayor is prevented by illness, absence or otherwise from exercising the function of the Deputy

Mayor. Election to the position of Assistant Deputy Mayor followed the same procedure as for Deputy Mayor.

## Rising Star Visits

Cemeteries and Crematoria Association NSW Rising Star Award Kirra Williams from Newcastle City Council visited Shoalhaven Bereavement Services in September as part of the Rising Star Award which recognises and encourages industry excellence.

Kirra spent time visiting Shoalhaven Memorial Gardens and Lawn Cemetery, cremation facilities and operations and toured Nowra General, Cambewarra and Shoalhaven Memorial Gardens and Lawn Cemetery

Kirra was impressed with the variety of landscapes and types of memorials that are available in our cemeteries and she loved Worrigeer for the bush aspect and peaceful nature of the site.



Shoalhaven City Council  
PO Box 42, NOWRA NSW 2541  
Tel: 4429 3111 Email: [council@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@shoalhaven.nsw.gov.au)

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

[Preferences](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

 Like

 Tweet

 Share

 Forward