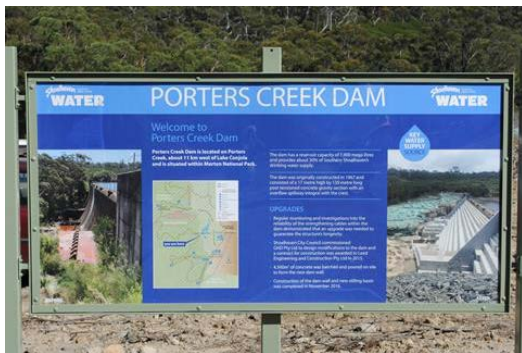




## Don't forget this Sunday FREE Pool Party at Nowra Aquatic Park from 10am - 1pm



### Porters Creek Dam upgrade monumental

*"History starts with us".*

Director of Shoalhaven Water, Carmel Krogh, last week opened the upgraded Porters Creek Dam. In an extract from her speech, she recalled that the opening of this dam was a "once in a career project". In this issue, we share part of her opening speech that showed the excitement, pride and joy of this project.

"To put the whole project in context, I need to give you my simplified version of dam building 101. The original dam was built in 1967. The dam was a post tensioned concrete dam which relied on 74 cables through the concrete to the rock bed for stability. These post-tensioning cables were provided in the original design to reduce the cross section of the dam so it made it a thinner walled dam with less concrete. In addition to the structural cable, monitoring cables were also installed during the original construction to monitor the structural cables.

Unfortunately over time, two of the monitoring

With some serendipity, the project has also had some other indirect positive outcomes including sealing over 3.5 km of the access road and making the highway intersection much safer, and I must acknowledge the great partnership we had with the RMS to bring that about.

Similarly the cooperation, support and tolerance of the local community has made the job much easier, and we have all greatly appreciated that.

#### *Working on the dam ..50 years on*

When the original dam was constructed in 1967 by Shoalhaven Shire Council, it was designed and supervised by GHD. There was a young 17 year old named Laurie Andrew who started his working life at that time as a trainee surveyor with GHD on that project.

Fifty years later, that same Laurie Andrew is a Coordinator with Shoalhaven Water and acted as Council's site supervisor for the upgrade.

We could not have picked a better person – I have thought long and hard about what to say about Laurie, and any superlatives I come up with are still inadequate.

His dedication, commitment, and the level of pride that he has taken in this role has been an absolute joy to watch. He has gone over and above in both major things and in the smallest details and made such a personal investment in this project and fills me with such pride it makes me want to cry."

*Extract from Carmel Krogh's opening speech*

cables failed load testing due to corrosion. This left Council with a situation where such a critical piece of infrastructure could not meet modern day requirements for stability and the potential failure of the dam posed an unacceptable risk for Council.

Porters Creek Dam is an integral part of the water supply system for the Southern area of the Shoalhaven LGA. Raw water is supplied from the dam to the Milton Water Treatment Plant before it is distributed to the southern areas. At peak times of demand the southern water supply can be supplemented from water drawn from Nowra, but the peak demand cannot be met entirely from the north. So when we embarked on this upgrade we only had a window of opportunity of less than 12 months to make sure that the construction was finished before the next peak Christmas period in 2016. We met that target – despite a number of challenges including the famous East Coast Low event last June that rapidly filled the dam, overtopped the spillway and flooded the construction site.

Many people think that any work on a dam should give you more water, but this project has been all about security of the current supply, and the renewal of a major existing asset - probably not very sexy from a public or political perspective, and that is why I give great credit to the Council to have shown the leadership to fully fund this project.



Director of Shoalhaven Water Carmel Krogh with Laurie Andrew



## Roads and Works Update

For road closures during the wet weather in the coming days, please view Council's [website](#)

As part of Council's ongoing commitment to preserving and enhancing its road pavement assets, a bitumen road resealing program will be undertaken in the following locations throughout the Shoalhaven commencing Monday, 20 March 2017. Weather permitting, this work will be completed by Monday, 10 April 2017.

**Bangalee:** Coconut Drive. **Bomaderry:** Judith Drive. **Callala Beach:** Centre Street, Quay Road. **Cambewarra:** Nooramunga Ave. **Culburra Beach:** Ingle Ring, The Marina Access



After the reseal is completed, some loose stones may remain on the road surface. Please drive carefully to minimise loss of tyre traction

Road, Wentworth Street. **Falls Creek:** Jervis Bay Road. **North Nowra:** Balmaringa Ave, Illaroo Road, Nunikeri Place, Peak Ave, Yurunga Drive. **Nowra:** Osborne Street, Salisbury Drive. **Nowra Hill:** Braidwood Road. **Sanctuary Point:** Edmund Street, Frederick Street. **South Nowra:** Albatross Road. **Tomerong:** Cambourne Road, Evelyn Road, Pine Forest Road, Port Jervis Road, Turpentine Road. **Wollumboola:** Coonemia Road. **Worrigeer:** Illawarra Court, Lilac Close.

and stone throwing.

The road works program at Agars Lane Berry and Culburra have been delayed by one week due to the current weather conditions. We will make further assessment next week to determine road conditions.

Road and assets projects are regularly updated on Council's [website](#).

Don't forget to share this newsletter with your friends who can sign up for their own copy on Council's [website](#)

## What's Happening in the Shoalhaven

**3-12 March - Seniors Festival** - There's always room in life for new experiences and they're even better when shared with friends, family and others. So let's do more together. More information on Council's [website](#). Join the launch at Nowra Arts Centre (moved from Jelly Bean Park due to the weather) at 10am - 1pm this Friday, 3 March.

**Sunday 5 March - End of Summer Pool Party** - This Sunday from 10am - 1pm at Nowra Aquatic Park. Free entry and free waterslides. Hear first hand a special announcement at 11am.

**Sunday 5 March - Clean Up Australia Day** - Various locations across the Shoalhaven are holding Clean Up Shoalhaven activities. Find out more [here](#).

**Sunday 26 March - Neighbour Day** - Neighbour Day is Australia's annual celebration of community that encourages people to connect with those who live nearby. Whether for a cuppa, a picnic in the park or a message of support; it's the perfect opportunity to say thanks for being a great neighbour. More information is available at [www.neighbourday.com.au](http://www.neighbourday.com.au) or on Council's [website](#).





These events are organised or supported by Council.

## Ambassadors Needed

Shoalhaven Tourism is seeking friendly volunteers to greet visitors and tell local stories. Nobody knows all the best places and things to do in our area like our wonderful residents do. The volunteer ambassadors will greet visitors with information and things to do, both from the Nowra Visitors Services Centre, and out the in region with Shoalhaven Tourism staff at key events and popular tourism destinations. This would be a perfect opportunity for a retiree who is passionate about the region or a school leaver looking for experience in the tourism industry. You will be fully trained and work as little or as much as you're able to commit to. Please send your CV, a cover letter and two referees through our [website](#) or pop into the Shoalhaven Visitor's Centre at Nowra and chat with Joe Puglisi. Click [here](#) for more information.



## Community Art Projects

Visit the Shoalhaven City Arts Centre and Regional Gallery in March to view the amazing 'Sea of Waste' project which is supported by Shoalhaven City Council Waste Services. This project will form a major exhibition in July and everyone is invited to take part in the transformation of waste into art. A series of funded workshops will be held to turn items traditionally considered as waste (plastic bottles, bread bag ties, bottle tops, fabric scraps etc) into a stunning coastal landscape through a range of creative methods. Artists and staff will be on hand at the Seniors Week Launch festival on Friday, 3 March 10am-1pm at Nowra School of Arts, demonstrating techniques and helping everyone to create their own

unique piece.

Thanks to a grant from the Copyright Cultural Agency Fund and Museums and Galleries NSW, the Gallery's Artist in Residency project will be held on Saturday, 11 March. Sound artist Christopher Fulham will be inviting people to attend funded workshops at different points throughout the year to help him in the development of an immersive sound artwork.

For more information about our programs or exhibitions, drop in or contact the Shoalhaven Arts Gallery on 4429 5444 or visit our [website](#).

## Clean Up the Shoalhaven

On Sunday, 5 March 2017 Clean up Australia will come to the Shoalhaven. Council is supporting locals who take to their streets, parks, waterways, beaches and bushland to Clean Up the area and will be facilitating rubbish pickups in registered Clean Up Australia areas.

On Tuesday, 7 March, the Shoalhaven River Watch group has organised a group of volunteer divers with boats to assist with removing shopping trolleys and submerged items from the Shoalhaven River, particularly underneath the Nowra bridge commencing at 8am from Greys Beach. The day will finish with a BBQ and volunteers are welcome to join the day. For more information contact Peter at Shoalhaven River Watch on Tel: 0488460011. Since starting the clean up of the river, 153 trolleys have been excavated out of the river. Sites can be registered [here](#).



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