



## **WINDTOWERS**

At a recent Council Workshop Doug Landfear, Project Director of Winterbourne Wind for Vestas, addressed Councillors and Executive Staff on the progress of the proposed wind farm project.

Vestas is a large multi-national wind energy company with renewable energy projects in over 80 countries. Doug updated Council on where the project is in relation to obtaining a State Significant Development Application, which in layman's terms is the document that gives permission for the project to proceed. A mass of work has already gone into completing the Scoping Report for the project, and the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment (DPIE) has now issued SEARs which are the requirements that need to be addressed in the Environment Impact Statement. The process to complete the EIS could be 18 months, with the community and Council having ample opportunity to comment on this document. If a DA is issued and an offer to connect to the grid the project may proceed. The process to even start this project is thorough and in the State Government's hands. Doug made it quite clear that our community will be fully informed and have ample opportunity to comment on this project through the process.

## **TONKA TRUCKS**

Not that I can remember when I turned nine but I believe on the top of my list would have been a tonka truck. To see Simon Wellings forego personal presents and collect 164 backpacks for children entering foster care speaks not only volumes of Simon's understanding and sensitivity, but gives people like me a glimpse into a world I obviously have very little understanding of. Well done Simon, you have not only made your family proud but also your local community, and in doing this selfless act made a massive difference to children in a vulnerable situation.

## **INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS**

Some Council infrastructure projects are starting to take shape around our area. Sealing of roads impacted by bushfires around Kangaroo Flat and Brackendale will make a massive difference to sections of difficult roads. Anyone driving past the pool will see the new gym rising from the ground and is certainly an exciting project for the physical and mental health of our community. Planned to open in the first quarter of next year it will stand as a credit to the dedicated band of members who have managed the current facility. On another brighter note the new Men's Shed is progressing in the background. This will be another great building that not only gives men a "hangout" but probably a lot of wives some relief too.

## **MINISTERIAL VISIT**

Last week General Manager, Anne Modderno, and myself did a day trip to Sydney to meet with Water Minister, Melinda Pavey, and staff from the Deputy Premiers Officer, John Barillaro, to keep our water security issue at the forefront of their respective departments. Local Member Kevin Anderson MP, facilitated this meeting and as our design reaches the



concept design stage we felt our outcome was positive. Constant lobbying will hopefully pay off by the time we enter the next phase. While we were there we had the opportunity to talk about the "old Hospital". This comes under Melinda Pavey's portfolio and is certainly in need of some conclusive action, no matter what that is. The dereliction of this building is obviously of great concern to the community and a high priority of Council to help solve.

## **BUSHFIRE SURVEY**

Council are supporting Service NSW and Resilience NSW by sharing a survey for residents who had their property damaged or destroyed in the bushfires. The survey is also relevant to anyone who Council and recovery agencies have connected with in the recovery process including those that were directly and indirectly affected, and it will ask some questions relating to recovery. This work will help all levels of government better understand what the community and individuals need, and to communicate available assistances. If you have been impacted, then be sure to check your emails for a link to the survey. We know email isn't for everyone, so Council is working with the Red Cross to make follow up phone calls to be sure we are providing support.

If your property was damaged or destroyed and you think we may not have up to date contact details for you, please email our Community Recovery Officer, Brooke on [bjeffery@walcha.nsw.gov.au](mailto:bjeffery@walcha.nsw.gov.au) or phone 0429 838 365.

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