

BUNDANOON COMMUNITY POOL PROPOSAL

BACKGROUND

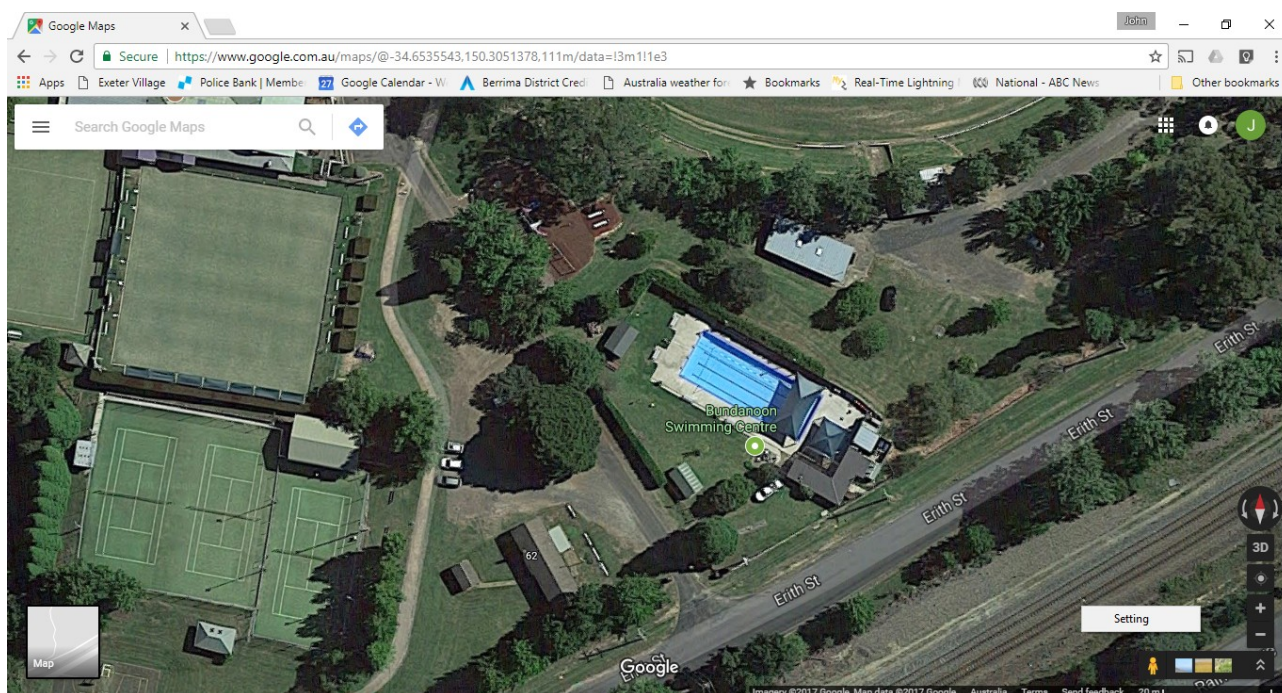
In 1959 the Bundanoon community came together to address a need to provide a safe swimming amenity following a number of tragic drownings locally. The pool was built with funds donated by the community and other benefactors, and opened in 1960.

The Bundanoon Community Pool was operated, staffed and funded entirely by volunteers, until it became difficult to comply with changes to public liability, staffing and insurance. **The pool was gifted to Wingecarribee Shire Council** which has continued to operate the pool to the present time.

The proposal detailed below continues the proud tradition of this community in being involved in driving and funding the project.

The Bundanoon community is not seeking funding from Council for capital works, but is seeking approval for the project by Council and to assist the community in accessing Government and institutional community grants, identified for this project.

THE SITUATION



The Bundanoon Community Pool sits within the Bundanoon park complex, a large precinct of public recreation encompassing football, cricket, netball, tennis, croquet and lawn bowls. This area

has been developed over many years to cater for the needs of Bundanoon and the wider community, with the vision to meet the growing population.

This proposal will enhance the Bundanoon sporting precinct by giving all year access to a facility which is significantly under utilised, management and climatic constraints.

The pool comprises a twenty five metre concrete structure, a smaller children's pool and small ancillary buildings, including canteen, change room, plant room and office. Both the pools and buildings are sound and functional, with substantial life left in them. The pool water is heated during the months that the pool is operational.

2016/17 Operating Hours

The 2016/17 season at Bundanoon Swimming Centre will run from the 12 November 2016 to the 5 March 2017.

Monday	6am to 8am 3pm to 6pm
Tuesday	3pm to 6pm
Wednesday	6am to 8am 3pm to 6pm
Thursday	3pm to 6pm
Friday	3pm to 6pm
Saturday/Sunday/Public Holidays	10am to 5pm
Christmas Day/Boxing Day	CLOSED

1

During school holidays, the operating hours of the Bundanoon Swimming Centre will be extended. The pool will be open from 6am to 6pm on Monday and Wednesday and 10am to 6pm on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.

On inclement days or when the temperatures fall below 18 degrees, Bundanoon

CURRENT OPERATING ENVIRONMENT

The Bundanoon Community Pool is operational over a very short period and at the completion of the swimming season is emptied. The opening hours of the pool are constrained by Council's operational management, leaving the community with the pool not open during the swimming season at times, when there is a need for the facility to be open. This has resulted in a lack of patronage, not a lack of interest.

BUNDANOON EXPANSION

There is an explosion of residential development in and around the Bundanoon area, with attendant increase in residents of all ages. Council's own planning studies have indicated the predicted population over the next thirty years, requires infrastructure to support that growth.

1 Wingecarribee Shire Council website

The latest Census data confirms the population increase. The demographic breakdown highlights the number of younger children as being on the national average, whilst there is an over representation of those aged sixty five or more.

PLANNED UPGRADE FOR THE BUNDANOON POOL

This proposal is for the Bundanoon Community Pool to move from this



THE CONCEPT

This proposal involves the placing of a mobile sectional polycarbonate roof structure over the pool which will allow the facility to be used during the colder months, and with the ability to be opened or partially opened during the warmer months depending on climatic conditions. The structure sits on flush tracking and can be manually operated by pushing the concertina sections into an open/partially open/closed position. The system provides UV protection, when users are beneath the closed/partially closed section, complying with all current requirements for sun protection.

It is proposed that the structure will provide weather protection/cover for patrons when moving between the pool and change rooms, and for supervising parents and children in and around that facility.



BENEFITS

- All year round swimming for all members of the community
- UV protection for swimmers and spectators
- Covered protection of the children's pool
- Venue for parents to supervise children engaging in recreation
- A natural connection to the children's playground adjacent to the pool.
- Swimming club events
- School recreation and sports
- Rehabilitation swimming
- Fitness classes
- Tourism/visitor amenity
- Integration into an already developed sporting and recreational complex
- Employment opportunities (both during construction and operations).
- Provide swimming facilities for residents from Exeter to as far south as Wingello
- Significant cost savings on water heating, cleaning and chemical treatment.
- Supports Government policy of encouraging sport, health and water safety.

ACTION

The Bundanoon Community Association is seeking support from Wingecarribee Shire Council by way of an Agreement in Principle so that the project should proceed. To achieve this position we would require:

- Formal acceptance to consider the proposal
- Agreement to allow the Bundanoon Community Association to apply for community grants
- Seed funding to employ a consultant to prepare all documentation for Council.