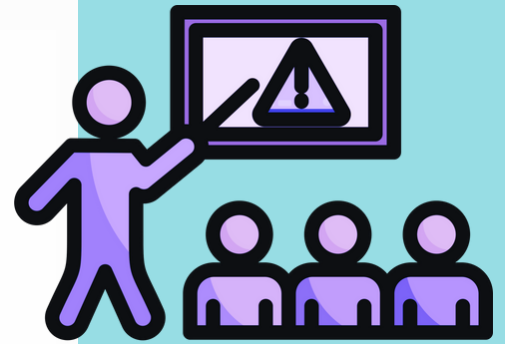


SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2025

# THE SPARK

SHASA NEWSLETTER



## ARE YOU READY ? Guide, Grab and Go Bags! Learn more in this edition.....

Peace of mind comes with being prepared for anything you can reasonably expect to happen over an Australian Summer. The Eurobodalla - like other parts of Coastal Australia - has experienced major bushfires, floods, and storms. Rising temperatures mean that these events are likely to be more frequent, and more intense, in the future. So, what can you do about it? You can make a plan, by yourself, with your household, or in your neighbourhood or community.

People who experienced those emergencies last time tell us that having a plan in place meant they were able to respond faster, were less likely to experience loss that can't be repaired, and report better mental health one to five years later.

Do you have a plan for your household? If you had to leave your home, where would you head for? What would you take with you? How about pets? Does anyone need regular medications? Special equipment? At what point would you decide to leave?



### Take one step at a time



**Get in the know**

[Learn more >](#)



**Get connected**

[Learn more >](#)



**Get organised**

[Learn more >](#)



**Get packing**

[Learn more >](#)

continued on page 17

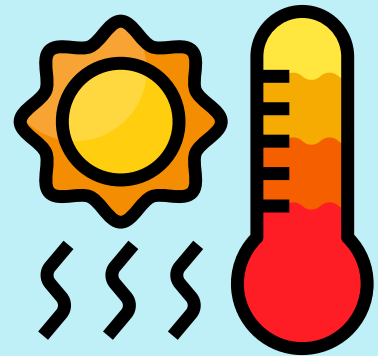
# SOUTHERN LIFE CHURCH - THE EUROBODALLA'S LARGEST BUSHFIRE AND HEATWAVE HAVEN



Thanks to a grant of \$168,668 (GST inclusive) from Club Grants 3 (Infrastructural Grants) NSW Government, SHASA has been upgrading the Southern Life Church Food Hall and Church Hall to operate as a Haven during extreme weather events for clients of The Pantry, Church members and their families.

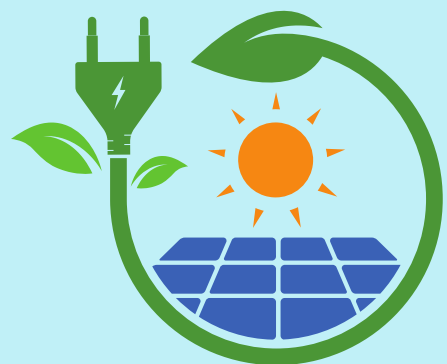
Works included:

- 29.92kW solar PV system and 20kWh battery on the Church Building
- 26.4kW solar PV system and 40kWh battery on the Food Hall
- Starlink satellite and training
- 4 internal air filters
- 2 fire pumps, 4 fire hoses and fittings
- Back up generator for the Food Hall



SHASA would like to thank our trusted local businesses including:

- Micro Energy Systems
- Camerons Hardware Moruya
- Betta Batemans Bay
- Blue n Grey Water and Septic Solutions



This is the 8th operational Bushfire and Heatwave Haven in the Eurobodalla. It will be officially opened by Dr Michael Holland, MP for Bega, 1pm on 13 October. For more details on havens go to [www.shasa.com.au](http://www.shasa.com.au)



**Southcoast Health and Sustainability Alliance**  
in partnership with **Southern Life Church Moruya** are proud to  
announce the official opening of the **Southern Life Church**  
**Heatwave and Bushfire Haven** officiated by  
**Dr Michael Holland MP for Bega**, followed by an afternoon tea.

**HEATWAVE & BUSHFIRE HAVEN OFFICIAL OPENING**  
**MONDAY 13 OCTOBER 2025**  
**1pm**  
**2837 Princes Highway, Moruya**



## **SOUTHERN LIFE CHURCH MORUYA**

**This marks the opening of the 9<sup>th</sup> Heatwave and Bushfire Haven  
in the Eurobodalla Shire.**

**Southern Life Church building and food hall have been fitted with  
solar arrays and batteries, 4 internal air filters, 2 steel rainwater  
tanks, 2 fire pumps and a Starlink satellite for communication  
with electrical upgrades and fire hoses and fittings to come.**



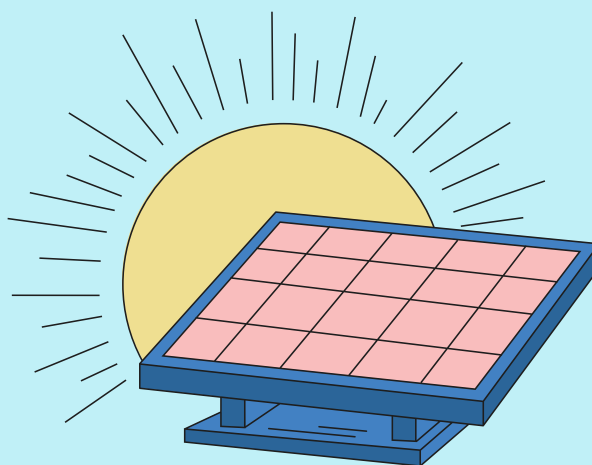
**shasa.com.au**

# LONG-TERM PARTNERSHIP DRIVES COMMUNITY SUCCESS



The team from Micro Energy Systems has again demonstrated their commitment to sustainable community development through recent successful installations in the Eurobodalla region. Their long term partnership with SHASA continues to deliver more projects supporting local organisations to reduce their environmental footprint.

While SHASA assists these organisations with funding solutions to implement solar and storage projects, collaboration with Micro Energy Systems extends far beyond installation day. The team from Micro Energy Systems commits to supporting these organisations as long-term customers, with ongoing service over the next 10-15 years. This enduring partnership allows SHASA to confidently continue providing innovative, sustainable solutions that empower our community.



## **Southern Life Church: A Solar and Storage Milestone**

Recently, Micro Energy Systems completed a significant upgrade at Southern Life Church, installing photovoltaic (PV) solar and battery storage systems. Despite being on separate buildings, these systems are connected behind the same meter and have been cleverly configured to operate seamlessly via monitoring programming, maximizing energy efficiency and cost savings.

Further enhancements are underway, with scheduled upgrades to the electrical infrastructure aimed at improving resilience and enabling emergency power supply for essential circuits across both buildings. In a generous gesture, Micro Energy Systems has donated \$5,000 to SHASA's public fund to support these critical upgrades, reinforcing their commitment to long-term community sustainability.







# SHASA PUBLIC FUND - YOUR MONEY AT WORK



The SHASA Executive recently approved funding for two local projects from the SHASA Public Fund:

<https://shasa.com.au/membership-and-donations/>



\$2,000 to Michelle Hamrosi to assist with publication of **Charlie's Birthday Adventure** - a children's storybook designed to introduce disaster preparedness concepts to preschool-aged children and their families in an age-appropriate, engaging way. The book fosters understanding, normalises emergency planning, and equips families with practical strategies to reduce anxiety and improve readiness before and during disasters.

\$3,146 for a small solar and battery system for the Tuross Head Community Garden, so that they can charge their electric power tools on site. There is no mains power at the community garden.





# HAVE YOUR SAY- HELP US IMPROVE SHASA'S WEBSITE !



Scan here to have your say

*When was the last time you visited SHASA's website? We're currently reviewing our digital strategy, and we'd love your input to help shape a refreshed and more effective online presence*

**PLEASE TAKE A FEW MINUTES TO COMPLETE OUR SHORT SURVEY.**

*Your feedback will help us make SHASA's website more useful, engaging and aligned with our mission.*



- How you use the current technology website
- What you think it should be used for
- Who it should be targeted to — prospective, new, or existing members
- Whether it reflects and promotes SHASA's work effectively

SHASA

Events

Climate

Energy

Transport

Community

Waste

Disaster Preparedness

News

About

Contact

Join & Donate

Governance

50%

once a month

SHASA

Southcoast Health and Sustainability Alliance

50%

Rarely

HELPING MAKE THE EUROBODALLA A BETTER PLACE TO LIVE, WORK & PLAY

We are doing this by championing renewable energy, sustainability and community resilience projects across the Shire



Ten people have responded to our survey so far and told us how often they visit.



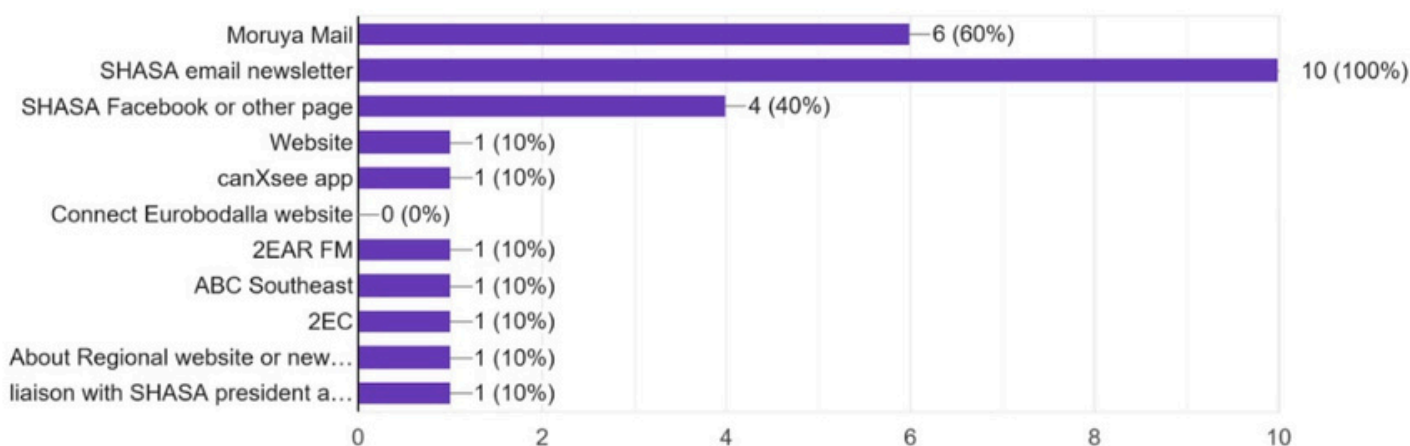
# WHAT YOU'VE SAID SO FAR

## WE READ THE *SPARK*

SHASA's newsletter, The Spark, is an important source of news and information, as is Moruya Mail, and SHASA's Facebook page, for keeping up to date on SHASA's activities.

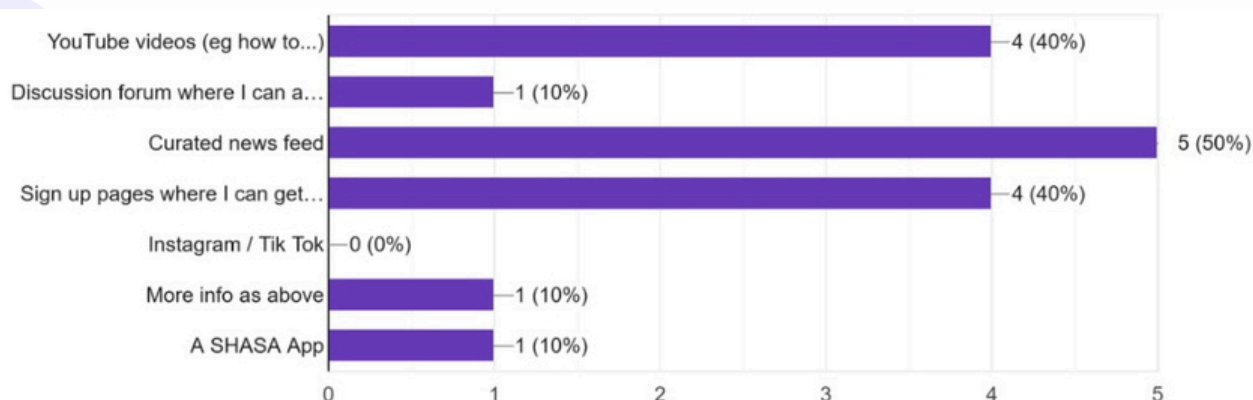
*Thanks For  
Your Support*

How do you keep up to date with what SHASA is up to? (tick all that apply)  
10 responses



There is interest in being able to sign up to curated newsfeeds from the SHASA website, and having a signup page for people to get involved, as well as having more video content.

Features and functionality that I would be interested in (tick all that apply):





# CONGRATS!

**SHASA RECEIVES A  
2025 COMMUNITY BUILDING PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM GRANT  
TO THE VALUE OF \$49,977 TO ELECTRIFY  
THE DR MACKAY COMMUNITY CENTRE IN MORUYA**



*Dr Michael Holland MP Member for Bega congratulating Southcoast Health and Sustainability Alliance (SHASA) on their successful funding application to electrify the Dr Mackay Community Centre.*

**Community resilience  
for the Eurobodalla**

[shasa.com.au](https://shasa.com.au)





# SAGE SPRING SOLSTICE DINNER



## SAGE MORUYA SPRING SOLSTICE DINNER

Sunday 21 September

Gates open 3.30pm for 4pm dinner

SAGE Garden 110 Queen Street, Moruya

Step into the promise of warmer days and brighter evenings at the SAGE Spring Solstice! We invite you to gather with friends, family, and fellow food lovers for a heartwarming celebration that marks the joyful end of winter and the vibrant arrival of spring.



Our menu showcases the freshest local spring produce through a mouth-watering selection of homemade soups to chase away the last chills of winter crafted from the season's best ingredients plus freshly baked breads from the pizza oven, and a selection of cakes and live music.

BYO picnic rug, drinks, chair, soup bowl or mug, plates, cutlery, and drinking vessels.



# SPRING

Book Now Online At  
SAGE Project  
Tickets \$30 adult

# IT'S COMING TO YOUR MAILBOX - THE EUROBODALLA PREPAREDNESS GUIDE

We're thrilled to announce that the Eurobodalla Preparedness Guide (EPG) is on its way!

**Arriving in every household's mailbox by the end of October 2025**

This essential guide has been developed to help our community prepare for, respond to, and recover from natural disasters and emergencies.

Created by locals for locals, the EPG is all about strengthening our region's resilience by providing clear, practical tools and information in one easy-to-use resource, including:

- up-to-date local emergency contact information
- personal and household planning tools
- step-by-step instructions for monitoring and responding to emergencies
- details of local support hubs and community networks



*IN YOUR  
MAILBOX IN  
OCTOBER -  
READ IT,  
SHARE IT,  
TALK ABOUT IT  
AND PUT IT  
ON YOUR  
FRIDGE DOOR!*



# BE PREPARED

The EPG will be an on-hand resource and act as a quick reference in an emergency. It will also be available online through SHASA's website (and will be kept up to date as a living document) — ensuring access for all, for those who are digitally connected and those who are not.

So keep an eye out for your Eurobodalla Preparedness Guide arriving by post at the end of October. We encourage you to read it, share it, talk about it with your family, neighbours, and friends, put it on your fridge so it is visible, create your action plan, prepare an emergency survival kit and prepare your property.



Von Hutcheson and Sandra Makdessi have been working together to create the Eurobodalla Preparedness Guide and are now ready to launch it to every household in Eurobodalla.

*TOGETHER,  
LET'S BUILD A  
MORE PREPARED.  
CONNECTED  
AND RESILIENT  
EUROBODALLA!*

## Australian secondhand Battery Electric Car sales surge in first half of 2025

BEVs took a record share of the secondhand market in the first half of 2025, with sales up 92.2% on the same period in 2024.



Despite a drop in demand for passenger cars in the wider used market, used BEVs have seen 16,398 units sold this year to date, up 92.2% on the same period in 2024.

The number of secondhand BEVs available on the second-hand market rose 88.9%, from 9,848 on the market in the first half of 2024, to 17,914 this year.



New EV sales hit a record high in 2024 and, according to a report by **JOLT**, Australia is on track to surpass 300,000 EVs on the road by the end of this year. Owning an EV is increasingly affordable, through secondhand sales and state-specific incentives and financial incentives for EV buyers, including the **Electric Car Discount legislation**, as well as green loans from the Australian government's green bank, **Clean Energy Finance Corporation (CEFC)**.

To support EV uptake across the country, the Australian government recently launched a new website dedicated to provide information to Australians about buying, owning, and maintaining an EV. This includes EV basics, such as types of vehicles, as well as the necessary knowledge about EV charging infrastructure, whether that be at home, kerbside, private or public





# EuroBEV update

# Join US



**HELLO EV OWNER AND  
WELCOME TO  
EuroBEV!**

**SHASA's  
Eurobodalla Battery Electric Vehicles Group  
EuroBEV is an informal group.  
We have luncheons every 6- 8 weeks at chosen  
venues across our beautiful Eurobodalla Shire.  
The aim is to meet with fellow EV drivers and  
those interested in purchasing an EV.**

**Our next luncheon will be held at the  
TUROSS BOATSHED & CAFE  
93 TRAFALGAR RD  
TUROSS HEAD  
SUNDAY 21 SEPTEMBER  
12 noon**

**If you are thinking of coming along or have a question  
to ask about owning or driving an EV please contact Andrew Everard.  
andrew.john.everard@gmail.com  
Scan the QR Code for more information on SHASA.**

**HOPE YOU CAN JOIN US !**





# CHECK OUT A SHASA EV EXPO!



**AT THE EV EXPO  
IN NAROOMA ON  
22 JUNE... THERE  
WERE 12 CARS,  
BEAUTIFUL  
WEATHER, AND  
LOTS OF SERIOUS  
INTEREST FROM  
MARKET  
VISITORS!**

**COME CHECK  
OUT OUR  
NEXT EXPO  
ON THE  
OCTOBER  
LONG  
WEEKEND!**



**COME ALONG AND VISIT SHASA'S  
ELECTRIC VEHICLE EXPO**

**SATURDAY 4 OCTOBER 2025**

**Moruya Country Markets**

**Riverside Park Moruya**

**8am - 12.30pm**

**Learn about EV models available in Australia today  
Discuss savings, costs and advantages of an EV  
Meet local owners with a selection of models on display  
Chat about EV charging  
Chat about use of home solar plus battery power**



**SHASA**  
Southcoast Health and Sustainability Alliance





# For SHASA members...

## SHASA ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2025



All Executive positions are made vacant, including the President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer and committee members. We encourage all members to consider joining the Executive. Key operational policies are made by the Executive. Please send an email to [contact.shasa@gmail.com](mailto:contact.shasa@gmail.com) for more information or to register your interest to attend.

THURSDAY 11 SEPTEMBER

11am-11.30am



VIA ZOOM

**Come Along And Have A Say  
At The SHASA Members'  
Zoom Meeting!**



**YOU'RE  
INVITED!**



Meetings are held on a  
Thursday every 6 weeks  
11am-12.30pm

Zoom meeting - link  
provided to members  
who would like to attend

To become a member  
and/or to register your  
interest to attend  
[contact.shasa@gmail.com](mailto:contact.shasa@gmail.com)

1

2

3

A better future for  
the Eurobodalla

[shasa.com.au](http://shasa.com.au)



**NEXT MEETINGS**  
Thursday 11 September  
Thursday 23 October

# FUNDING ENERGY UPGRADES TO SOCIAL HOUSING

## Funding energy upgrades to social housing to cut bills and tackle climate change

The Albanese and Minns Labor Governments are partnering with 22 Community Housing providers to upgrade thousands of social housing homes to make them cheaper to run, more comfortable to live in, and better for the environment.

These upgrades will deliver lasting cost of living relief, while making renewable and smart energy features more accessible.

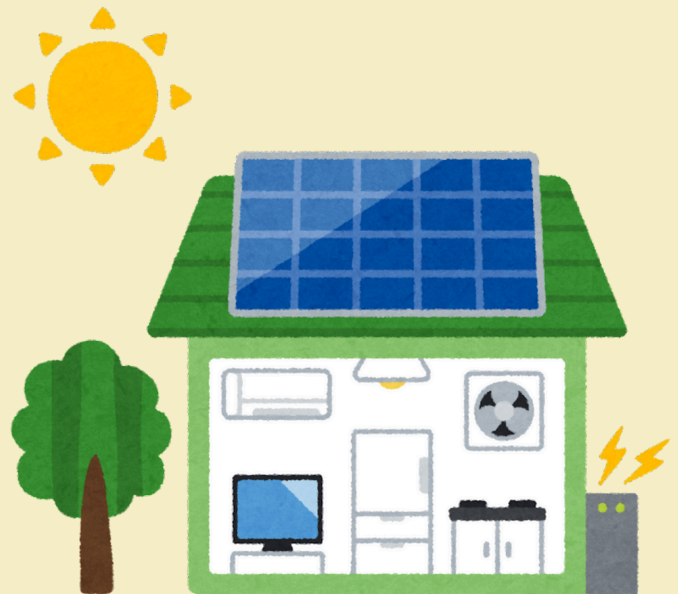
More than 2,300 homes will be upgraded with nearly \$18 million in joint funding from the Australian and NSW Governments, as well as Community Housing Providers.

The upgrades will include a range of potential measures:

- rooftop solar panels and shared solar systems
- reverse cycle air conditioning
- energy-efficient hot water systems
- ceiling insulation, window shading and draught proofing
- LED lighting and ceiling fans.

These upgrades will help keep homes warmer in winter, cooler in summer and make them cheaper to run. It will help vulnerable households save on energy bills while cutting emissions across the state.

For more information scan the QRCode.





*continued from front page*

# ARE YOU READY ? ... learn more Grab and Go Bags / Bug Out Bags

The Australian Red Cross has a kit to help households to make a plan - SHASA has booked a workshop for 22 October to help SHASA members to fill their plans out in company, with the help of local emergency responders who have experience. Check out their resources at

<https://www.redcross.org.au/prepare/>



## Take one step at a time



Get in the know

[Learn more >](#)



Get connected

[Learn more >](#)



Get organised

[Learn more >](#)



Get packing

[Learn more >](#)

In an emergency, you often don't have time to think, let alone pack. By packing a survival kit in advance, you can save yourself a lot of time and stress. There are lots of suggestions on line if you search for Bug Out Bags or Grab and Go bags. Everyone's bag will be different, but the process of packing yours will help you to make sure that the things you really need will be to hand and ready when you need to leave. Think about your essential documents, irreplaceable sentimental objects, pets and their supplies, children and their needs. If you plan to see out the emergency in your home, your bag might be a box of non-perishable food and plenty of drinking water in your pantry or garage.



The Tec Exec is looking for suitable Grab and Go bags for our location and our members.  
**WATCH THIS SPACE** for more details

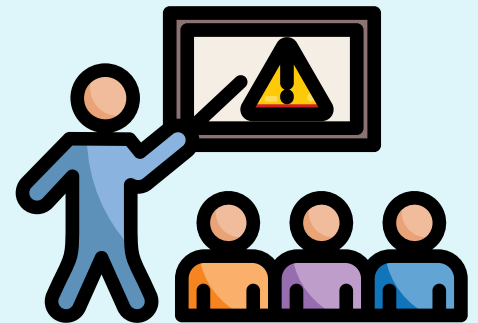
**CONTINUE**

ARE YOU READY? learn more ....

# RURAL FIRE SERVICE

Get Ready Weekend at your local RFS shed.  
Weekend 21-22 September

Would you like to find out more? There are many opportunities to learn about preparing your home and household. The Rural Fire Service has a Get Ready Weekend on 21-22 September - check what's on at your local RFS Shed.



There are also several apps for your smartphone that will help you to keep in touch with what's going on - during emergencies, ABC Radio South East is our official emergency broadcaster so you need to be able to tune in. A battery radio is extremely helpful, with back up batteries stored outside of the appliance. You can also get radio on your phone with the ABC Listen app.





# EMERGENCY SERVICES PLAYDATES ... for your diary !

Your local NSW SES Batemans Bay Unit will be attending several Playdates with Emergency Services starting in mid October. The volunteers would love to chat to you about your local flood, storms and tsunami risks and what you can do to prepare, respond and recover. This is a free family event - please drop by and say Hi - there's one near you.



## REMINDER

September's green light for  
**FREE GREEN-WASTE DROP-OFF**

From Monday 15 to Sunday 28  
September the tips will accept your  
green waste for free.

It's the perfect start to your fire-  
season preparations and the timing  
sits nicely with the NSW RFS Get

Ready Weekend on 21-22  
September. Use the time to think  
about all the material on your  
property - old furniture, packing  
cases, cardboard, paper, poorly  
maintained decking, this is a good  
time to pass those on also.

There's a 2 cubic metre limit for  
Moruya's waste transfer station.  
Bigger loads - 2 cubic metres or  
more - should go to the Brou or  
Surf Beach facilities please.

### Date

13 October 2025, 5:30 pm – 7 pm

### Where

Corrigans Beach Reserve, Beach Road,  
Batehaven

### Date

16 October 2025, 5:30 pm – 7 pm

### Where

Quota Park, Riverside Drive Narooma

### Date

20 October 2025, 5:30 pm – 7 pm

### Where

Mogo Sports Oval, Park Street, Mogo

### Date

23 October 2025, 5:30 pm – 7 pm

### Where

Riverside Park, Ford Street Moruya

# LOOK OUT FOR SHASA'S NEW MARQUEE AT OUR UPCOMING EVENTS !



**A big thank you to  
Fire to Flourish  
Eurobodalla  
for proving the  
grant funding from the  
Community Resource  
Funding Round.**

