

Have Your Say

SNOWY RIVER MAIL

27th Feb 2013

Contact: Snowy River Mail
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Please explain

Sir, - The president of the Mallacoota Business and Tourism Association was quoted in the *Snowy River Mail* on February 13 regarding the proposed development at Bastion Point Beach.

He was quoted saying: "The old ramp which sits in the middle of an attractive sandy beach... will be removed and the

beach restored for family activities".

I would greatly appreciate an explanation from Mr Rudge as to how this will occur considering a two-lane raised, sealed road with pedestrian access would then cover the "attractive sandy beach" should be planned development in its present form go ahead. This development will cater for one group only.

Yours etc.,
Jeannette Davey,
Mallacoota.

Rates high?

Sir,- As an East Gippsland ratepayer, I cannot share Mr Davidson's enthusiasm for a 130-metre breakwater at Mallacoota which will require constant dredging.

Originally proposed as a 'user pays' project, the site will now be fully maintained by East Gippsland Shire Council. Operational costs have recently

been estimated at \$270,000 annually - money to be collected from all shire ratepayers of course.

Yours etc.,
Jane O'Shea,
Mallacoota

At a loss

Sir, - I am at a loss to understand the claims made by Mr Rudge (*Snowy River Mail*, February 13), apparently representing the Mal-

lacoota Business Tourism Association, and echoed by Charles Davidson (*Snowy River Mail*, February 20), about the merits of East Gippsland Shire's proposal to build a breakwater at Bastion Point with an access road on the beach.

Both men claim the proposed development will enhance safety by separating boating away from other activities, and restore the family beach to its original condition.

Yet a submission to the panel of inquiry into the en-

vironmental effects of the Ocean Access Boat Ramp at Bastion Point (28 June 2008) by the Mallacoota Ocean Access Committee, of which Mr Rudge was then vice-chair, argued against constructing a road on the beach. Their reason?

"It... would compromise public safety, as it would result in continuing conflict between boat operators and other Bastion Point users... reduce visual amenity and (be) inconsistent with the proposal to restore the beach at the existing site".

A further point omitted by both Mr Rudge and Mr Davidson is that this "family beach" is also the proposed site for dumping sludge from the continual dredging which will be necessary to maintain the new boat ramp in a state fit for use.

Is this part of their vision for restoring the beach? The cost of the dredging will, of course, be carried by us, the ratepayers of East Gippsland Shire.

Yours etc.,
Leonie Daws,
Mallacoota