

WEDNESDAY, MAY 8, 2013

## Have Your Say

SNOWY RIVER MAIL

### Good luck, Barrie

Sir,- Re: Barrie Martin's correspondence 'Just for show?' (*Snowy River Mail*, April 24) regarding the unfinished walkway in Salisbury Street, Orbost.

Barrie, I don't know a lot about your unfinished footpath, but I do know about Bastion Point.

What our two concerns have in common is the lack of satisfaction, and what we as ratepayers are getting from our shire.

Emails, letters, phone calls and even in our situation, so-called 'public consultation', and still, the voices of the ratepayers are not being heard.

Is this due to 'filtering of information' or 'direction' given to our councillors by shire executives? I think so.

For too many years to count, the Mallacoota community and many

seasonal visitors have supported a boat ramp upgrade at Bastion Point.

As revealed on the front page of the *Snowy River Mail* on April 24, under information gained under freedom of information, '3B' was not the preferred option by the Department of Transport (DOT).

Still we, nor the DOT, or even the independent government panel, have not been heard by our shire, as it has chosen to continue with the costly, oversized controversial

development.

Why? Perhaps it's because 'Bob Jelly' has moved this way for a sea change and is only too happy guide the council into bigger, not better.

Perhaps, Barrie, the council has something bigger planned for your Salisbury Street footpath - a suspension bridge or four-lane bypass, possibly.

As long as it is ratepayer and taxpayer-funded, what does it matter if it's a total overkill and isn't what is actually needed?

You may need to apply to freedom of information for more details.

It certainly is a sorry state when you feel somewhere along the path of communication, Chinese whispers change our requests from 'please fix it', to 'Nah, bugger the lot of them, what do they know, they're only ratepayers, I'm in charge of this show'.

Good luck with your footpath, Barrie!

Yours etc.,  
Julie Parker,  
Mallacoota.