



TWYFORD HALL INC
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Work will soon get underway on the Bega Valley's newest cultural icon, Theatre Twyford.

The new 200 seat raked theatre will be built next to the existing Twyford Hall above the existing Twyford Room and adjacent shops on Market Street Merimbula in 2019-2020.

Bill Deveril, President of the Twyford Hall Incorporated said he was delighted to announce that the funding of \$7.4 million has now been released by the NSW State Government from the *Regional Communities Development Fund*, following the initial announcement by NSW Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional Development, John Barilaro and Bega MP Andrew Constance in May 2018.

"The remainder of the project is being funded through Twyford Hall's own resources, private donations and corporate sponsorships, which will go towards completing the internal fitout of the new theatre." Bill Deveril said.

Twyford Hall Incorporated, which manages the Twyford Hall properties on behalf of Bega Valley Shire Council, has been lobbying various governments for 20 years to have the new theatre built.

Mayor Cr. Kristy McBain said this news was most welcome. "I know how hard the Twyford volunteers have worked to make Theatre Twyford happen. When built it will enhance the existing cultural, festival and conference infrastructure in the Shire, providing a valuable boost to our local economy."

"This project will extend the range and breadth of live performances possible in Merimbula. Its modern facilities will not only raise the bar for local performers, it will also attract more touring shows, which rarely come further south than Nowra." Mr Deveril said.

"Historic Twyford Hall, that has been serving the Merimbula community since the 1920s, will remain and continue to operate in a limited capacity during the construction phase, but undergo some internal changes to accommodate the new theatre's construction." he added.

Plans for the new theatre were developed by local architect Michael Marshman & Associates and Development Approval has been obtained for the work from the Bega Valley Shire Council. Successful tenders for the construction and project management of the theatre are expected to be announced by June 2019.

Construction of the theatre building shell is expected to be completed in early 2020. Work will then concentrate on internal fitout and the new facility will open in the second half of 2020.

More information is available at www.twyfordhall.com.au.

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