







# GUNNEDAH MEMORIAL POOL RENEWAL PROJECT NEWSLETTER

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## IT'S TAKING SHAPE!

Since work on the project resumed following the Christmas/ New Year break, the contractor – Hines Constructions – has made considerable progress on the construction of the new 50 metre, eight-lane pool and commenced construction works on the new main pavilion.

All major excavation works on the site have now been completed. The excavation has involved considerable rock hammering with the new 50 metre pool, kids wet play area and main pavilion being founded on 2000 kpa rock.

Fill concrete has been poured as a blinding layer to shape the underside of the 50 metre pool to permit installation of water feed lines, hydrostatic pressure relief pipes and the large balance tank

(water tank) at the western end of the pool. Reinforcing steel work for the floor and walls of the 50 metre pool is presently being placed, with the concrete for the floor to be poured in six stages over the next fortnight.

With completion of demolition works, construction on the new main pavilion started mid-February with the drilling of support piers across the foot print of the building. As part of this drilling program, retention work to ensure the stability of the existing war memorial tower has also been carried out.

Below ground, significant civil works, associated with stormwater drainage, filtration feeds and water supply have also been commenced to support the general construction program.

The project is currently on time, with the upgrade contract scheduled for completion mid-October.





## HOW THEY DID IT IN THE OLD DAYS

The recent demolition and excavation works have highlighted the site challenges faced in 1955 when the main pavilion for the Memorial Pool complex was built.

The pool complex reserve is on a rock shelf that slopes towards Eighth Division Memorial Avenue. In order to level the area for the original pavilion, concrete piers (2m x 0.6m x 0.6m) were formed and poured on top of the rock shelf to support the building and the area was then back filled with river gravel.

The concrete floor for the pavilion, with integral beams, was then poured across the levelled area. Some of the old support piers have been removed in the recent demolition process and are shown in the picture opposite.



## WHAT IS A BLINDING LAYER?

The excavation of the new 50 metre pool required over one metre in depth of rock removal to occur in various locations of the pool foot print, particularly at the deep end to permit a new FINA compliant water depth of 3.9 metres (previously 3.3 metres), provision for water feed lines and installation of the water balance tank and sump across the western end of the pool. The sump is fully encapsulated in the rock at 2.5 metres deep.

With the rock hammering resulting in an uneven and variable excavation depth and surface for installation of service pipes, form work and reinforcing steel, a blinding layer of 15MPa mass concrete has been poured over the rock to form the shape of the pool underside to support subsequent infrastructure installation. Almost 500 cubic metres of concrete has been poured as a blinding layer under the new 50 metre pool as shown in the picture below.





# KIDS' WET PLAY AREA

Here is a sneak peek at the proposed kids' wet play area layout and equipment. It sure looks like being a winner with all members of the family – not just the kids!



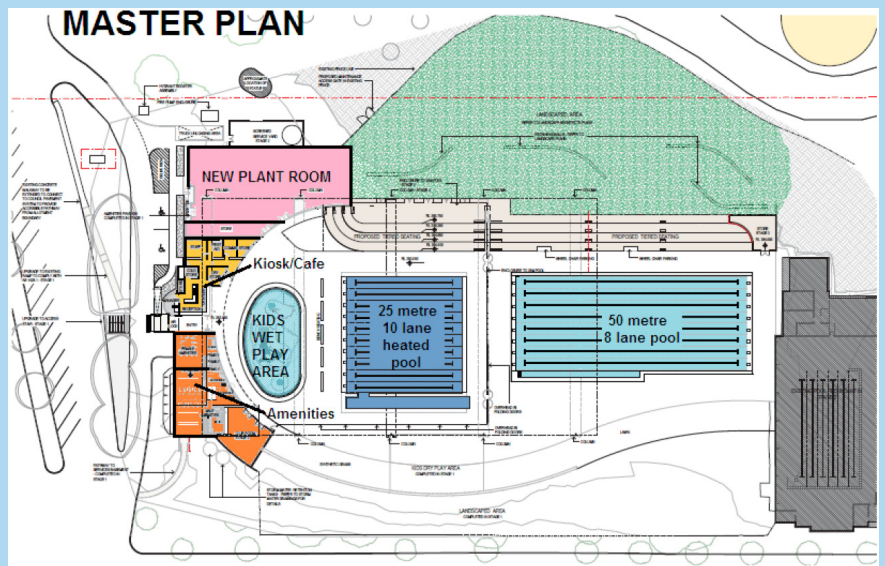


## FUTURE 25 METRE POOL

Council has decided to assess the cost of excavating the location in the Complex Master Plan of the future 25 metre heated pool to avoid possible collateral damage in the future to the infrastructure currently being built.

The contractor is assessing the quantities of rock required to be excavated for the future pool.

Following excavation, the area will be back filled with material that can be easily removed in the future when a decision to build a new 25 metre, 10-lane heated pool.



## PAVILION REMNANTS

Apart from the War Memorial tower, the old basement gymnasium and a section of external wall on the south west corner of the existing pavilion will also be retained in the renewal of the main pavilion building. The retention of the basement is to maintain a level footprint for the renewed building by not rebuilding the basement section. The old basement will be refurbished and have a new external access installed. The area will house service equipment and be used for storage.

Through the blending of new brickwork with the existing and the intersection of rendered and metal finishes the renewed main pavilion will have a homogenous and striking appeal when completed.

