

Backgrounder

The Sunken Gallery is a unique underwater sculpture experience to be established at The Dell, Clifton Springs on the Bellarine Peninsula, approximately ½ hours drive from Geelong.

Developed jointly by the City of Greater Geelong and Tourism Greater Geelong and the Bellarine, it aims to encourage the local community and visitors of all ages to put on a mask and snorkel in a safe and family-friendly environment and explore the unique colour and diversity of the southern Port Phillip.

The installation will be a living canvas, featuring a series of underwater sculptures, becoming a magnet for marine life, evolving and changing over time. It will provide a safe and family-friendly environment where people can learn to snorkel and scuba dive.

The Sunken Gallery will be positioned as a world-class tourism asset for Victoria, fusing arts, sport, environment and cultural heritage, complementing the existing suite of marine-based experiences in the area.

The location at The Dell was chosen because it offered a calm and safe marine environment featuring diverse sea life. It offers good visibility with an easily accessible beach already supported by existing public amenities.

Consultation has been undertaken with relevant public land, port and heritage management agencies and approval for the project has been given in principle. Community and local tour operators were also surveyed to understand considerations for designing and planning the project.

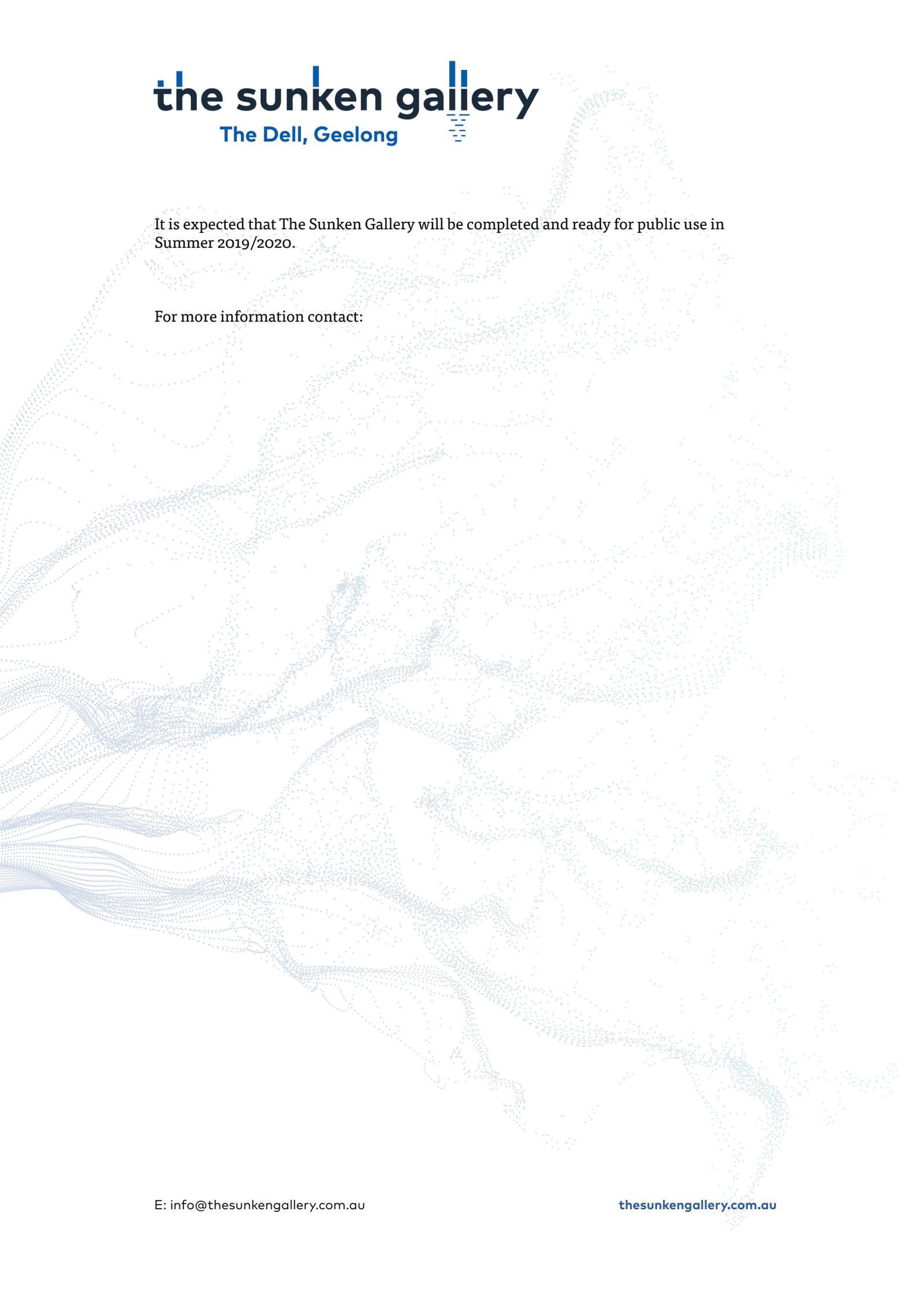
The unique underwater installation will form part of on-going works at this highly valued public space, to ensure the visitor, heritage and environmental values of the area are preserved. These works include shoreline stabilisation, the installation of a boardwalk, a wave attenuation works, moorings and a haul-out platform.

The Sunken Gallery will become a significant asset for the region delivering compelling and sustained benefits for the local and wider community while also providing a significant return on investment. Initial development funding has been provided by the City of Greater Geelong and Tourism Greater Geelong and the Bellarine with further funding being sought from the State Government, philanthropic organisations and private organisations.

The project team is currently detailing the site design and securing approvals before developing a program of works. A call for expressions of interest will be released to artists in Spring 2018 after which finalists will work with experienced coastal managers to guide sculpture form and ensure the use of resilient materials and an enduring installation.

the sunken gallery

The Dell, Geelong



It is expected that The Sunken Gallery will be completed and ready for public use in Summer 2019/2020.

For more information contact: