



# Mayors Message

## 11 December 2007

### **Public Meeting – Childcare**

We had a very successful public meeting with 40 members of the community coming together to discuss the child care requirements of Harden Shire. From this meeting 15 people have agreed to work together on a taskforce to explore the best options for childcare in the community. This meeting showed that there was a definite need for a range of childcare in the community ranging from long day care, preschool, before and after school care and vacation care.

The taskforce consists of local volunteers who welcome your input into their research, for full details of the group, the issues they will address and who you can speak with to discuss your comments please visit Council's website [www.harden.nsw.gov.au](http://www.harden.nsw.gov.au). As the newspaper is breaking for Christmas and the Post Office is flat out before Christmas, Council's website will have all the up to date information being prepared by this group.

This group proposes to have its last meeting on 31 January 2008 and will follow this with another public meeting to discuss their findings and recommendations on moving forward.

### **Swimming Pool News**

As a result of the continued construction of the Harden Murrumburrah swimming pool Council has decided that for this year if you purchase a season ticket for the pool you will be able to use it at both the Jugiong Pool and the Harden Murrumburrah Pool when it opens.

Council are also looking at options to transport people to and from Jugiong over the Christmas period to use the Jugiong Pool, we will have further details regarding these arrangements for you next week, and I will update you on the construction at the Harden Murrumburrah Pool.

### **2008-2009 Management Plan**

Council is calling for your thoughts on what direction it needs to take in the 2008-2009 Management Plan and Budget. The management plan is the focus guide for our staff to plan activities for the year, so it is important that we really know what YOU want so we can give them clear directions. From your submissions Council will co-ordinate the most significant needs at a workshop early in February and then put the plan on public display so that you can make further comments.

Please write your submissions to Council before 23 January 2008 to have them included in this plan.

## **Medical Centre**

The AMFM crew are certainly working hard on the new medical centre with both slabs now poured and the floor of the hydrotherapy pool room to be completed prior to Christmas. After Christmas the steel will go up and the building will start to take shape. We are right on track with construction and are still intending to open in August 2008.

## **Murrumburrah Footpath**

Council found itself in the strange place of not having to match funding for the RTA PAMP program this year and therefore have some additional monies to be spent. While its only \$10,000 at this stage its not enough to fully commence any streetscape works, however Council have decided to commence works on the southern side of Albury street to alleviate some of the shop keepers problems with the current surface unevenness and ponding after it rains.

This work will be the foundation work for the future landscaping to be undertaken.

**Philip Hockney OAM**  
**Mayor**  
**11 December 2007**