



Mayors Message

19 February 2008

Newspaper Letters to the Editor

It's great that our paper prints the worries the general public has about Council. However I must say that I cannot respond to letters to the Editor of the Harden Murrumburrah Express and neither can Council staff.

If you are looking for information specific to Council you need to write to Council or Councillors for an answer. That way we will be able to give you an answer and avoid the angst of you publicly making comments that have already been answered, by staff or at Council meetings. This way the public gets the correct message, rather than creating mountains out of molehills!

Medical Centre Screen Competition

I am a little disappointed that we haven't been flooded with entries into the screen competition. This is your chance to leave your imprint on our great community for many generations to admire and discuss for years to come.

Entries remain open until 21 February 2008 so please give me a call if you would like to discuss your application.

Council Works

It's that time of the year again when our works staff are incredibly busy resealing our roads. We are placing adverts in the newspaper and on our website advising of each days intended program so that you can take an alternate route if possible, or plan your trip to include some extra time to allow for delays.

Please remember to obey all our road signs; they are there for your protection as well as our staff.

Once these works are finished we will be back to the road works along the Wombat Road. You will have already noticed our drainage pipes on the side of the road ready to install to allow the road to be widened. This work will be equally as impressive as that on the Back Creek Road, and will create a much safer road for you to travel.

Council Water Supply

Council received a response back from the Minister of Water Utilities in answer to Goldenfields request to takeover our water supply functions. The Minister has decided 'not to vary the present arrangements at this stage'. Great news for our residents.

The Minister has also announced a complete review of the water industry in non metropolitan NSW. The inquiry will focus on the most appropriate institutional and regulatory arrangements for the water supply and sewerage industry in NSW, in order to ensure that services are efficient, reliable, affordable and safe.

It's great to see this Minister is looking to differentiate between rural NSW and the rest of the state!

Harden Shire will be sure to be presenting a strong case to ensure that the water and sewer services provided in our Shire remain strong and viable for many years to come. We want to make sure you get the best services at the best price – no matter who is providing the service.

Council Elections

Its time for all residents and ratepayers to start thinking about being a Councillor on the Harden Shire. Local Government elections are scheduled for 27 September 2008, and all positions are open for election.

A career as a local councillor is not glamorous, or well paid, but it does have the gratifying rewards that you are contributing to the future of our community and shaping our future.

We will be providing more information regarding nominations and responsibilities of intending candidates as September approaches, but now's a great time to start thinking about your local government career!

Philip Hockney OAM
Mayor
19 February 2008