



# Mayors Message

## 4 March 2008

### **Heritage Study**

Council agreed at its February 2008 meeting to undertake a community based heritage study of our Shire. This study is the first step in identifying, assessing and managing heritage items. We can then move onto determining their significance, and recommendations on how best the items can be managed. It will also provide access for the owners of the buildings or items to apply for grants to maintain them into the future.

The great part about this study is that it is community based, and will be driven by passionate members of the community. Council will be calling for interested people to be part of this study in the coming weeks. This committee will be actively involved in researching and nominating items of heritage significance and making recommendations for the future management of these items.

### **Grant Programs – more good news!**

Harden Shire has been successful in obtaining a grant for the completion of a natural disaster mitigation strategy. We are sharing this funding with Boorowa, Young and Yass Valley Shires.

This strategy will form a vital part of the local and regional emergency management committees in forming strategies to enable a better response to emergencies within our Shire – ultimately it means that emergency services personnel will be able to do their jobs better, giving greater protection to our community!

### **Local Environmental Plan**

Council resolved at its February 2008 meeting to move forward with a conversion LEP. This means that many of the current features of the IDO from 1976 can be rolled forward into this plan, a few minor adjustments to the identification of areas in the Shire can occur to allow for growth, and Harden Shire will have a functional LEP in the format required by the State Government!

After this LEP is adopted and gazetted by the government Harden Shire Council can review it at any time, but must do so each 5 years. This is a great step forward for Council to take and will allow staff to get on with preparing the required documentation.

### **Harden Gym's On The Move!**

It's great to see that when one door closes another opens! When De Te Aho left town, the gym closed in the railway building. With some great organisation from local individuals, aerobics classes are now up and running at the Country Club.

If you would like to take advantage of these classes please telephone the Country Club on 6386 2483 or Karen Fuller on 6386 2988.

Council are still negotiating how the heavy gym equipment can be used into the future, keep watching this space I will have some updates on how this is progressing in coming weeks!

**Philip Hockney OAM**  
**Mayor**  
**4 March 2008**