

Council happenings . . .

with Mayor
Glenn Wall

Black Spot Funding

Next financial year, Dungog Shire Council will receive a grant of \$213,000 under the federal Black Spot program for much needed road safety improvements.

Works include the removal of roadside hazards and delineation improvements on Dungog Road from Gostwyck Bridge to the intersection of Gresford Road. (\$112,000); Limeburners Creek Road from Clarence Town Bridge to Glen Martin Road. Also along East Seaham Road (\$60,000); and traffic calming devices at the intersection of Lord and Mackay Street, Dungog (\$41,000):

The Federal Member for Paterson, the Hon Bob Baldwin MP, announced the funding as part of the \$44.5 million AusLink Black Spot Programme. He welcomed the funding and acknowledged the co-operative effort between Australian, state and local governments, in partnership with local communities, to reduce the national road toll.

The New South Wales consultative panel, which reviews priorities for the programme, includes representatives of the NRMA, Federation of P&C Associations of NSW, Council on the Ageing, the Institute of Public Works Engineering Australia, NSW Police and state and local government.

The Black Spot programme, now in its twelfth year, continues to ensure work is carried out at some of the high casualty accident areas across the nation. Fortunately, the Australian Government has extended the programme for a further two years from 2006-07 to 2007-08 at a cost of \$90 million.

I would offer thanks to council staff for their continuing efforts to obtain extra funding for our roads, and to Mr Bob Baldwin and the Federal Government we are extremely grateful.

International Women's Day

Council has again been successful in obtaining a grant from the NSW Government to celebrate International Women's Day. The grant will provide an opportunity for councils to work with local community groups to recognise and celebrate local women's achievements and the contribution they continue to make to their area.

This year's theme, Valuing Difference Leading Change, encompasses the achievements women in NSW have made towards championing diversity, leading the community towards respect and responsibility, and exploring new directions in innovation.

Council has innovative and exciting concepts similar to last year, where with the cooperation of Dungog High School and many local women's groups, we implemented the highly successful function called: "We're Not Just Girls".

This program enabled older and younger women to share experiences with the senior high school girls and have fun together

A list of community events celebrating International Women's Day can be found at www.women.nsw.gov.au/events and further information can be obtained by contacting Mrs Tracey Lowrey on 4995 7777.

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