

# Council happenings . . .

with Mayor  
Harold Johnston

## **2011 National General Assembly of Local Government**

The National General Assembly was held in Canberra from 19-22 June 2011. Among the resolutions passed were many that are important to this shire and include the following:

### Sustainable Asset Management

The Assembly calls on the Australian Government to substantially increase the current level of funding provided to Councils for the sustainable asset management of local roads and infrastructure.

### Roads to Recovery

The Assembly calls upon the Federal Government to continue with the Roads to Recovery (R2R) program and to further expand the R2R program to establish a specific funding pool for bridge and hydraulic infrastructure.

### Cooperative Partnerships

That the Assembly call on the Australian Government to establish, through cooperative partnerships between all levels of government, a clear vision and that sets a social economic and environmental vision for Australia, and to deliver effective services and infrastructure to support the projected growth.

### Environmental Sustainability

That the Assembly calls on the Commonwealth Government to adopt national standards for energy efficient street lighting and establish a subsidy program to fund local government to convert the existing street lighting to more efficient measures.

### Digital Switchover

The Assembly calls on the Federal Government to consider pooling the Satellite Subsidy Scheme that has been put in place to alleviate the financial burden of households in rural and remote areas for the purchasing and installation of satellite dishes and associated equipment as part of the digital television switchover. Further, that the Federal Government consider allocating the pooled Satellite Subsidy Scheme to Local Governments that manage self help retransmission sites if they decide to continue doing so to enable them to upgrade these sites if it is the most cost effective and efficient method of delivering digital television to their communities.

27 July 2011