

# Council happenings . . .

with Mayor  
Harold Johnston

## **New film festival in Dungog**

As reported elsewhere in the Chronicle, the announcement from the Minister for Tourism, Major Events and the Arts and the Minister for the Hunter, George Souris, is very welcome news.

The announcement is for a three year investment deal to support the festival which will be held for the first time in August 2014.

What is particularly important is that Destination NSW regards this festival as a major event and recognises that it will deliver a significant economic boost to our Shire and our businesses.

I know organisers are working to make this a community event and will be encouraging and hoping that locals will get involved to help make this three day festival the great success that it deserves and will be.

It is important to note that this is a community owned event, or in other words for and by the community.

I would also like to publically thank Minister Souris for his support and faith in Dungog, the shire and its communities.

## **Dungog District Chamber of Commerce**

It is great to see that the chamber of commerce goes from strength to strength.

The chambers business awards will be held again this year on Saturday, May 24 and I am sure there will be more in the Chronicle over the coming weeks.

By supporting these business awards, you will help to raise awareness of the contribution local businesses bring to our community and reward those that have provided you with great service throughout the year.

The chamber is keen that you nominate even the smallest of businesses, as it is the attitude, quality and ability to promote our district that counts.

Categories include tourism and hospitality, rural producers, manufacturing and industry, professional services, trades, retail, outstanding employee, customer service, outstanding new business and business leader of the year.

Of course there is the Golden Axe, which recognises those businesses who, in going about their work, reduces the impact of their operations on the environment and or provide products or services that have a positive environmental impact.

There will be more about this in the Chronicle in the coming weeks and how you can nominate those people and businesses that do what they do so well.

I trust the chamber will be flooded with nominations.

12 March 2014.