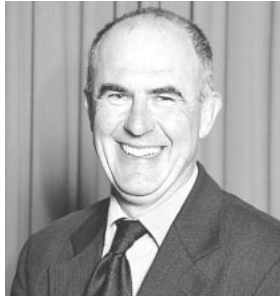




## ■ Mayor's Message



### "A Conversation With Community"

This is the first column where I have had any time to stop and think in regard to the content and role of the column within our many and varied Communities. Last week I was given very short notice to put something together and it was done with the valuable assistance of the staff.

On reflection I have thought that this column should be a little more relevant to the people of Moorabool in regard to the relationship between Council and the Community. What can happen in Local Government is that the Councillors tend to be considered by the community as merely an extension of the bureaucracy. Nothing could be further from the truth. I can safely say that all Councillors work diligently on behalf of their respective communities sometimes a little too hard and passionately which at times is our own undoing. Of the many roles performed by a Councillor, one is to act as the conduit between the ratepayer and the organisation. Unfortunately this does not mean that all requests can be granted. As Councillors, we act for the greater good of Moorabool. It can be extremely difficult for Councillors to support a decision they well know is going to have a negative effect on an individual, sometimes your friend and neighbour. However Councillors are all committed to decision making which is for the betterment of the community as a whole. Hence the reconsideration of the role of this column.

I would like to see this column used as a vehicle to publicly air and discuss the many facets of Local Government as it affects us all. I am not suggesting that it become a vehicle for complaint but an opportunity for the community to table questions publicly and receive a public response. These issues need to be of a broader perspective, the big picture type - "where do you want Moorabool to be in twenty years", that type of question.

To facilitate this conversation with the community you are invited to write to the Mayor, Moorabool Shire Council PO Box 18, Ballan 3342 or email [mayor@moorabool.vic.gov.au](mailto:mayor@moorabool.vic.gov.au) I look forward to some of the challenging issues that I am sure will arise. This column will still continue to promote and highlight significant events and successes for your information as it has historically done.

On significant events, last week I had the privilege of opening the Ballan Autumn Festival and Rotary Art Show, now in its 28th year. Once again the Festival was a huge success, and as Mayor, I was given the opportunity to purchase a piece of art from the show for the Moorabool Shire Collection. I chose a painting that depicts a Saturday market scene in Ballan. The painting will be on display in the Ballan office for the next two weeks and then it will be in the Bacchus Marsh Office for the two following weeks. Please feel free to come into the offices to view the painting. The Ballan Autumn Festival, as with any community, event enlists the help of many people and organisations. I extend congratulations and thanks to everyone involved with the success of the Ballan Arts Festival. Events such as this go some of the way to quantify the enormous volunteer contribution into making Moorabool what it is today.

Till next week

Regards John Cutler

## ■ Public Notices

### Council Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the next Ordinary Meeting of the Moorabool Shire Council will be held in the Council Chambers, 15 Stead Street, Ballan on Wednesday 9th April, 2003 commencing at 7.00pm.

**Members of the public are most welcome to attend**

### Dog of the Week



I'm a heeler-staffi cross and my name is Buster, found in Bacchus Marsh with all the courage I could muster, I'm nearly two and known to be calm, So if you call Council's Ranger, I'll be happy to stay in your home or on the farm!

**Council's Compliance Officers 5366 7100**

### Pet Registrations Closing!!

Under the Domestic (Feral & Nuisance) Animal Act, dogs and cats over the age of six months must be registered.

Any resident who fails to register their dog or cat may be issued with an infringement notice of \$200.00.

**Animal registrations for the year 2003-2004 are due on Thursday 10 April 2003.**

**Please be aware that although you have been issued with your new tag, your dog or cat's registration does not become effective until payment has been received.**

Details on how to make your payment(s) are shown on the Animal Registration Form.

If you have any further enquires, please contact Customer Service on 5366 7100.



### Easter Garbage/Recycling Collection - 2003

The Western Zone collection, south of Old Melbourne Road, that would normally be collected on **Friday 18th April, 2003, (Good Friday), will be collected on Thursday 17th April, 2003.**

Bacchus Marsh Township Commercial collection that would normally be collected on **Friday 18th April, 2003, (Good Friday), will be collected on Thursday 17th April, 2003.**

There may be some delays in the collection of your garbage/recycling on the above nominated day and Council thanks you for your patience and understanding.

**All other garbage/recycling services within the Shire over the Easter Period will be collected as normal.**

## ■ Planning Matters

### Notice of Planning Application 2002-314

The land affected by the application is located at -

Location: **Manning Boulevard,**  
Title Details: **Lot N on PS 305521W**  
Town Name: **Darley**

The application is for a permit to: **Staged Subdivision**  
The applicant for the permit is - **Oupan Resources Pty Ltd**  
The application reference number is - **2002-314**

### Notice of Planning Application 2003-082

The land affected by the application is located at -

Location: **Bences Road,**  
Title Details: **Lot 2 on PS 432900C**  
Town Name: **Merrimu**

The application is for a permit to: **9 Lot Subdivision**  
The applicant for the permit is - **Philip Farnell & Associates**  
The application reference number is - **2003-082**

You may look at the application and any documents that support the application at the office of the Responsible Authority:

**Moorabool Shire Council, 197 Main Street,  
Bacchus Marsh  
Postal Address PO Box 18, Ballan**

This can be done during office hours and is free of Charge.

Any person who may be affected by the granting of the permit may object or make other submissions to the Responsible Authority.

An objection must be sent to the Responsible Authority in writing, include the reasons for the objection and state how the objector would be affected.

The Responsible Authority will not decide on the application before - **22 April 2003**

If you object, the Responsible Authority will tell you its decision.

**Date: 8 April 2003**

## ■ Council's Diary Dates - 2003

- 9 April Ordinary Meeting of Council, Council Chambers, Ballan 7:00pm
  - 10 April Animal Registrations due
  - 10 April Pentland Riding Community Consultation Meeting, Balliang Hall, Balliang 7:30pm
  - 18 April Good Friday - Council Offices Closed
  - 21 April Easter Monday - Council Offices Closed
  - 23 April Ordinary Meeting of Council, Quamby Room, Bacchus Marsh 7:00pm
  - 25 April Anzac Day - Council Offices Closed
- Reminder: 4th Rate Instalment due on 2 June, 2003