



# Hawkesbury City Council

## attachment 2 to item 49

Hawkesbury Sister  
City Association  
Minutes of AGM  
9 November 2009,  
including the  
President's Report

date of meeting: 30 March 2010  
location: council chambers  
time: 6:30 pm.



# **HAWKESBURY SISTER CITY ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

**9<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2009.**

*Meeting Commenced at 7.30*

**PRESENT:** T.Tallack, Y. Whalan, S.Fava, , B. Russell, J. Peare, G.Stockton, L.Kuipers, N. Rudyk, R. Smith, C. O'Neill, Clr. C. Paine, J.Simpson, N. Lister, J.Thomas, J.Bonner and J.Nash.

**APOLOGIES:** R.Kuipers, L. Richardson and A.O'Neill

*Resolved on the motion by C. O'Neill and seconded by C. Paine that the apologies be accepted.*

## **CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES OF PREVIOUS AGM.**

*Moved that the minutes of the meeting being a true and accurate record moved by J.Peare and seconded by G.Stockton.*

## **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

- Membership fees
- Fees to stay at \$ 2.00 plus GST totally \$2.20.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT SEE ATTACHED AT BACK:**

*Moved by T.Tallack that the report be accepted, moved by R. Smith seconded C. O'Neill.*

## **REPORT ON SISTER CITIES AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL CONFERENCE ATTACHED:**

## **REPORT ON VISIT TO WEDDIN SHIRE ATTACHED:**

## **REPORT ON VISIT TO CARBONNE ATTACHED:**

## **TREASURER'S REPORT AGM ATTACHED AT BACK:**

*Moved by S. Fava that the report be accepted, moved by Y.Whalan and seconded by C.Pain.*



**SCANNED**

*Thanks given by C.Paine on an outstanding job completed by S.Fava and wish her well in her new ventures.*

*Thanks also extended by J.Peare.*

*S.Fava moved that the Auditors report be accepted, seconded by C.Paine.*

**ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:**

**PRESIDENT:** T.TALLACK

**VICE PRESIDENT:** C.PAINE

**SECRETARY:** Y.WHALAN

**TREASURER:** R.SMITH

**ASSISTANT SECRETARY:** B.RUSSELL

**HISTORIAN:** G.STOCKTON

**INTERPRETOR:** N.RUDYK

**CATERING OFFICER:** J.NASH

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:** A.O'NEILL, J.THOMAS. N.LISTER, R.KUIPERS,  
J.NASH AND L.RICHARDSON.

**YOUTH REPRESENTIVES:** J.SIMPSON AND C.O'NEILL.

*A vote of thanks to T.Tallack from J.Peare for doing an outstanding job during the year.*

**Being no further business AGM closed at 8.00pm.**

Minutes of the Meeting of Hawkesbury Sister City Association held on Monday, 9<sup>th</sup> November 2009, commencing at 8.00 p.m.

**PRESENT:** T.Tallack, Y. Whalan, S.Fava, L. Richardson, B. Russell, J. Peare, G.Stockton, L.Kuipers, C. O'Neill, Clr. C. Paine, J.Thomas, N.Lister, J.Simpson, N.Rudyk, R. Smith, J.Bonner and J.Nash.

**APOLOGIES:** R.Kuipers, L.Richardson and A. O'Neill.

*Resolved on the motion by J. Simpson and seconded by C. O'Neill that the apologies be accepted.*

*Thanks given by C.Paine to J.Bonne, for staying on the committe and hosting and L.Kruipers for the imput given by her over the years.*

**CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:**

*J.Nash moved that the previous minutes are a true and accurate record seconded by J.Simpson.*

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

- No further contact with Gemma's parents
- Moneys re sent to pay for phone bill

*Moved that the minutes of the October meeting being a true and accurate record moved by J.Nash and seconded by C.O'Neill.*

**CORRESPONDANCE INWARDS AND OUTWARDS ( see attached )**

*Moved by J.Peare and seconded by G.Stockton that the minutes be accepted.*

**TREASURERS REPORT:** See report attached to the end of these Minutes.

*S. Fava moved that the accounts to be passed for payment as at the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2009 be paid seconded C.O'Neill.*

*S.Fava moved that the report be accepted, seconded by J.Peare.*

### **GENERAL BUSINESS:**

- *Students are prepared to exchange with Kyotamba*
- *Discussion on students Farewell party*
- *Welcome home 17<sup>th</sup> December 2009 7.00pm – 7.30pm*
- *Students have received flu injections*
- *2010 exchange applicants Temple City 6 and 5 Kyotamba*
- *1 student applying for both*
- *Interviews 19<sup>th</sup> November 2009*
- *Information night 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2009*
- *Survey given to students at Farewell*
- *Discussion on attracting new students for further exchanges*
- *Web site to be updated*
- *Report on Carbonne( report at back)*
- *Report to Weddin ( report at back)*
- *Dates for meeting to say the same in 2010, 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday in the month starting in February 2010*
- *Report on visit to Weddin from C.Paine*
- *Discussion on dates for Christmas Party*
- *T. Tallack and Y.Whalan to decide what will happen for Christmas Party*
- *George to follow up via email communications with Kyotamba and Temple City, re visits*

*The Meeting closed at 9.25pm.*

**NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD ON MONDAY 14<sup>th</sup> December 2009 at 7.30 pm.**

**\*\*\*HAWKESBURY SISTER CITY AGM TREASURER'S REPORT\*\*\***

**1ST NOVEMBER 2008 TO 31ST OCTOBER 2009**

**INCOME**

Hawkesbury City Council	14400
GST Reimbursement	1300
Refunds	160
Bank Interest	16.65
Subscriptions	41.8
	<u><u>\$ 15,918.45</u></u>

**EXPENDITURE**

Catering	2266.36
Gifts	1039.93
Phone, Postage, Internet	1348.43
Fuel, Parking, Tolls	744.76
Entertainment	1064.71
Advertising	78.5
Accommodation	800.8
Travel	1450.7
Donations	45
Sundries	4184.28
	<u><u>\$ 13,023.47</u></u>

<b>Credit Balance as at 01/11/2008</b>	<b>6198.59</b>
Plus Income	<u>15918.45</u>
	22117.04
Less Expenditure	<u>13023.47</u>
<b>Credit Balance as at 30/10/2009</b>	<b><u>\$ 9,093.57</u></b>

**Reconciliation**

Credit Balance correct with Bank Statement as at 31/10/2009	<b>\$ 9,093.55</b>
<b>Giving a Credit Balance as at 31/10/2009</b>	<b>\$ 9,093.57</b>

**Sue Fava-Treasurer**

#### CORRESPONDENCE INWARDS :

Sister Cities Australia – Forwarding two copies of Sister Cities News.

Hawkesbury Regional Gallery – Forwarding information on public programs for October to November, 2009.

Don & Rae Bruce, Cabonne –Forwarding information on a learning experience on a farm in the Cabonne area for school students.

Tina Tallack – Forwarding copies of correspondence forwarded to committee members, schools and 09 Hawkesbury exchange students re applications for the 2010 student exchange programmes.

Mitzi Franco, Temple City S.C.A. – Advising that they are flexible as to the dates for Hawkesbury students to visit Temple City in 2010 but would prefer around the 28<sup>th</sup> March and on a Saturday if possible.

2009 Hawkesbury-Kyotamba Exchange Students – Copies of their correspondence to Kyotamba International Exchange Assoc. advising preferred subjects in school and club activities.

Megan Barrett, Cabonne Council – Attaching contact details for persons who met Tina Tallack in Cabonne.

#### CORRESPONDENCE OUTWARDS :

Hawkesbury Gazette & Courier – Forwarding advertisements for the 2010 Temple City, U.S.A. and Kyotamba, Japan student exchange programme and also notice of Annual General Meeting.

Kieran Hernage – Advising that applications for our exchange student programmes are available on our website.

Megan Barrett, Cabonne Council – Expressing appreciation for the contact list and the hospitality shown on a recent visit to Cabonne, also asking for a copy of the group photograph.



\*\*\* HAWKESBURY SISTER CITY TREASURER'S REPORT \*\*\*

31-Oct-09

INCOME

NIL

EXPENDITURE

Sundries-Temple City

\$ 428.70

Credit Balance as at 30.09.09

\$ 9,522.25

Plus Income

\$ -

\$ 9,522.25

Less Expenditure

\$ 428.70

Available Funds as at 31.10.09

\$ 9,093.55

**\*\*Reconciliation\*\***

Credit Balance correct with Statement as at 31.10.09

\$ 9,093.55

Less Unpresented Cheques

Giving a Credit Balance as at 31.10.09

\$ 9,093.55

**\*\* ACCOUNTS TO BE RATIFIED \*\***

643809	Regional Publishers	242.56

**\*\* ACCOUNTS TO BE PASSED FOR PAYMENT \*\***

643810	Tina Tallack	897.00
643811	Jan Nash	50.00

## **Hawkesbury Sister City Association**

### **President's Report – November 2008 to November 2009**

Although one of the programs was cancelled this year, the past 12 months has still been quite busy, which can probably be attributed to the few hiccups we have encountered during the year.

Normally by November our annual student exchange program has been completed and we have already selected the students for the next year. However, at this time our reciprocal program with Temple City has been completed and our 2009 student delegation for Kyotamba departs later this month. Unfortunately, due to the H1N1 flu outbreak the visit to Kyotamba was postponed, and the visit by the 2009 Kyotamba student delegation to Hawkesbury was cancelled along with a visit by the head of the Kyotamba student exchange committee Mr Tanaka and Miyuki. As the decision was taken only days before the Hawkesbury students were originally scheduled to visit Kyotamba our students were extremely disappointed that their visit may be cancelled and I am grateful for the intervention by Hawkesbury Mayor Councillor Bart Bassett that saw the visit postponed and eventually reinstated.

Unfortunately the preparation for the 2009 Hawkesbury student delegation to Kyotamba has been disjointed but I am confident they are adequately prepared, and special thanks must go to Noriko Rudyk for the additional sessions she has undertaken with the students.

In regard to the visit to Temple City by the Hawkesbury student delegation, concern was raised about one of our students who spent the last couple of days of her visit with the Temple City Committee. Issues were also raised by the Hawkesbury student and these were investigated and could not be substantiated. There was the further issue of the use of a Temple City host family telephone by a Hawkesbury student and our Association has reimbursed these costs and is hopeful that the Hawkesbury exchange student will in turn reimburse HSCA.

Irrespective of these 'hiccups' the Temple City student exchange program was extremely successful on both sides, and I am sure the visit by the Hawkesbury students will also be a rewarding and beneficial experience.

The 2009 Hawkesbury exchange students to Temple City were –

- Luke Simpson of Hawkesbury High School
- Hugh Bonner of St Pauls Grammar
- Sharna Ford of Bede Polding College
- Joel Barrett of Penrith High School
- Gemma Carter of Richmond High School
- Nick Howard of Richmond High School

and the 2009 Temple City students and their host families were –

- Jonathan Ting host by the Simpson family of Ebenezer
- Megan Hubbard hosted by the Bonner family of North Richmond
- Desiree Davis host by the Ford family of Bligh Park
- Gabriel Jimenez hosted by the Barrett family of Bligh Park
- Steven Baroldi hosted by the Whalan family of East Kurrajong
- Jennifer Der hosted by the Lang family of Kurrajong

The 2009 Hawkesbury students visiting Kyotamba are –

- Sterling Thomas of Hawkesbury High School
- Elizabeth Thompson of Bede Polding College
- Rebecca Brown of Colo High School
- Zoe McMillan of Colo High School
- Sally O'Brien of Bede Polding College

In addition to the Japanese language and culture program run by Noriko, all the 2009 Hawkesbury exchange students also participated in a program to prepare them for their visits. Thank you to the Association members and past exchange students who participate in this program, and I would like to acknowledge and extend grateful thanks to Jo Thomas for her ongoing support in running the program and assistance with other student exchange issues.

The Hawkesbury students who visited Temple City and the students from Temple City presented with a certificate at the 28<sup>th</sup> July meeting of Hawkesbury City Council during which a representative of each student group addressed Council. All the students were very impressive with the way they conducted themselves and spoke and were well received by Council. At the conclusion of the 2009 student exchange visit to Kyotamba arrangement will be made to also introduce those students to Council.

A big thank you must go to the host families, schools and our hard working committee members who assisted with the visit by the Temple City students and the overall success of the incoming program.

Applications for the 2010 student exchange program have been called for and interviews will be held in the near future.

During the year we have held numerous functions. To our Catering Officers Jan Nash and Carlie O'Neill thank you for making these functions so successful and tasty, and to Yvonne and her husband Eddie thank you for opening your home to host functions. I would also like to acknowledge the many other members have been part of preparing gourmet delights or helping out with the catering, and also setting up and clearing away for the functions.

Association members and volunteers have again assisted the Meroo Conference Centre by providing participants at social gatherings attended by visiting Japanese groups. Thank you to those who have organised or participated and have again demonstrated the friendliness of the Hawkesbury community.

I was fortunate, along with Association Youth Representative Jessica Simpson, to attend the annual Sister City Australia conference in Tamworth which I found to be worthwhile and beneficial from both an organisational and personal perspective. Since the conference I have attended a meeting with representatives of other sister city organisations to discuss the possible development of regional networking groups being development to as both a networking tool and to address issues of a common nature.

During 2009 the Association took on the additional responsibility on behalf of Hawkesbury City Council of facilitating links and friendly ties between the Hawkesbury community and those of Weddin Shire and Cabonne Country with which Council has developed a formal City / Country Alliance.

In October I visited Cabonne during which I met with the Mayor and Councillors of Cabonne and also met community representatives interested in developing links with Hawkesbury City. Along with Chris Paine, Yvonne Whalan, Jan Nash, representatives of Windsor Rotary and the Hawkesbury Eisteddfod I also visited Grenfell in Weddin Shire and met with the Deputy Mayor, Councillors and representatives of the Weddin community. Both visits were extremely successful and will hopefully result in the development of programs to benefit our respective communities.

During the year George Stockton along with Carlie O'Neill have worked on developing and updating reports from Hawkesbury exchange students. These reports are an important part of our Association history and I would like to both acknowledge and thank George and Carlie for their ongoing efforts to obtain these records.

In my 2008 report I recommended that some reviews and discussion be held in respect to our role and programs. Some steps have been taken in this area, especially in regard to the City/Country Alliance relationships, but we have not yet had a review or discussion on the operation of our student exchange program. In view of some of the issues we have encountered during the year I think it would be advantageous to undertake a review early in 2010.

2010 is an important year for the Hawkesbury as we are an integral part of the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the naming of the first five Macquarie Towns. We have received word that delegations from both Temple City and Kyotamba will visit during our anniversary year although we do not have definite dates at this time. A visit from a Temple City delegation will also allow us the opportunity to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our sister city relationship which hopefully will include some form of official acknowledgement by Sister Cities Australia. In addition to visits by our international sister cities, now that our Association has made contact with our City/Country Alliance partners, hopefully representatives of both Weddin Shire and Cabonne Country will also join us during our year of celebrations.

During 2010 there is also the possibility that an educational based Hawkesbury delegation will visit Temple City and / or Kyotamba and thanks go to George Stockton who is coordinating this program.

In closing I would like to extend my thanks to Mayor Bart Bassett for his continued support, and Councillor Rex Stubbs for again undertaking the role of honorary medical officer and I would be grateful if Councillors Paine and Whelan could pass my thanks on to the Mayor and Councillor Stubbs. I would also like to thank Chris and Bill for their continued support as our Councillor representatives. Unfortunately Bill has had some health issues this year and I wish you good health in 2010.

To all the members of the Hawkesbury Sister City Association Management Committee I want to extend a big vote of thanks. I think we are a great team with everyone jumping in and sharing the load – I really appreciate all that you do and also the support you give me in my role as President.

To Vice President Christine Paine, thank you for your support, deputising for me when I am absent and for being such a great ambassador for our Association. To Sue Fava, thank you for being such an efficient Treasurer and we will miss you. Brian Russell thank you for keeping our meeting records and all the other things you do to assist.

Finally I would like to extend grateful thanks to Association Secretary Yvonne Whalan. When promoting Hawkesbury Sister Cities to Cabonne and Weddin recently I informed them that Yvonne is a walking, talking encyclopaedia on Hawkesbury Sister Cities. Yvonne, thank you for your advice, continued support, invaluable knowledge, and the enormous amount of work you do for the Association.

Team HSCA – congratulations on a great 2009, enjoy the summer break as 2010 looks like it's going to be bigger and better.



Tina Tallack  
President  
Hawkesbury Sister City Association Inc

9/11/09.

## **Report on Sister Cities Australia National Conference**

### ***"BACK TO BASICS"***

**19<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2009, held in Tamworth NSW**

I attended the conference with Jessica Simpson who attended the Youth Conference. We travelled up to Tamworth on the Sunday in time to register and attend the Welcome Cocktail Reception at the Tamworth Regional Art Gallery. The Welcome Reception was an opportunity to meet up with old friends and meet new ones, and I was pleasantly surprised to see an old friend who is the Chairperson of the Penrith Sister City Association.

Overall I found the conference to be worthwhile and beneficial from both an organisational and personal perspective.

The majority of sessions were excellent and well presented. There was a focus within the adult conference on personal development and communication which I found extremely beneficial.

Meeting and liaising with other people interested in the sister city movement provided an opportunity to gain useful contacts as well as share information and views. One outcome of the conference is the development of regional networking groups being development and since the conference I have attended a meeting with representatives of other sister city organisations to further discuss this matter and Matt Jessop of Bankstown City Council in liaison with Peter Filmer, in his role as a member of the SCA Executive are further developing this idea.

An overview of the conference sessions is as follows –

- Keynote Address by Shannon Dolan "Who we are, our brand, and how to send out the message with clarity, confidence and inspiration." I expected this session to focus more on tips to promote our Association, but it was a personal and professional development session. I found it extremely useful as it focused on personal confidence building and speaking. While I have had experience speaking in front of a crowd and introducing people, I do not have experience in being the person who is introduced and makes the speech, so I was grateful to have the opportunity to participate in this session.
- Workshop Session 1 – Greg Hammond "The Art of Communication". Again this was more of a personal and professional development session that again was extremely beneficial. This session really did go down to the basics and started off with the fact that the meaning of life is individual, the process of life is universal as we all have



choices, consequences of those choices, and dealing with the consequences, and covered various aspects of communication, especially when as a team leader.

- Keynote Address by Mayor of Gunnedah Shire Adam Marshall "Teamwork & Politics; How to Get the Best Out of Your Committee". Adam is currently the youngest Mayor. He did have some good tips but I found his style to be a little overbearing which I think would counteract some of the suggestions he made for working with committees. As a leader I think he would get a lot out of a professional development session with Greg Hammond.
- Concurrent Session – I chose "Social Networking" which was given by Dominic Thurbon. He explained types of "social networking" and how it can be an effective tool. We were about the only group who already use social networking. In addition to facebook we could look at doing an entry on Wikipedia about HSCA.
- Address by Pam Fayle (former Australian Ambassador to Germany) – Pam is a local Tamworth girl and her presentation was interesting, inspirational and uplifting. Pam spoke of the importance of being an ambassador, not just at her level, but how we all represent where we come from and as ambassadors create and image. She spoke of the importance of 'people to people' diplomacy and how Hillary Clinton is using it within her 'smart power' policies. Pam also gave some examples of lasting global friendship which were quite inspiring and hopefully I can get a transcript of her address.
- Workshop Session 2 – Greg Hammond "The Art of Communication". We identified different types of communication styles, including our own. Again, I've never done this type of exercise before and found it very usefully and I will hopefully be more tolerant in the future!
- Address by Wilton Boyd – "Converting Non Believers". This wasn't a very well presented session and only reinforced things that our Association already does, such as giving examples of successful programs and outcomes.
- International Panel Session – CLAIR (Japanese Local Government Centre) this included the order of importance of Japanese visitors, as follows –

Mayor

Chairperson of the Assembly

Deputy Mayor

Superintendent of Education

President of Exchange Association

(but if a visitor previously held a high level position then they may need to be put up the list)

- Keynote Address – Dominic Thurbon “Gen Y “. A very lively and inspirational speaker. Don talked about Gen Y and future students. Research suggests that while the Baby Boomers and Gen X will change jobs 0 to 9 times; Gen Y will change 25 to 40 times, over 15 different industries, but four of them don’t exist yet. The workplace will have a small core of employees and be made up of project contracts. Possible that in the next 10 years 50% of kids will be obese, 10% will be on ADHD medication, 5% will have anxiety and 9% depression, but that the economic downturn will impact Gen X not Gen Y. Dominic
- Youth Debate was held discussing if the adult and youth conferences should be joint or separate. Overall the general consensus was that some joint and separate sessions would be best. I felt that one area that could be more integrated was the dinners as the adults and youth were separated as the adult tables had alcohol, whereas the youth tables did not. I suggested to a SCA Representative that I would prefer alcohol free dinners and have the youth and adult delegates sit together as meals provide an excellent opportunity for socialising and meeting new people.
- Award presentations – there were some excellent presentations, but unfortunately the youth delegates didn’t see them. In particular the project between Willoughby and the Jinniu District in China that saw Willoughby send a gift of 1,000 cranes to Jinniu after devastating earthquakes hit the Province as a symbolic token showing that “we are thinking of you and wish you well”. Children from Jinniu then painted a mural showing friendship between the two regions and sent it to Willoughby. While there was also a fund raising effort, it was evident from the video of the children painting the mural that the token of friendship from so far away aided them cope with the devastation around them.



Other possible areas of exchange / links / participating are -

- Show girl exchange
- Mens' Shed
- Art and craft
- Garden Club
- Henry Lawson Festival
- Bird watching
- Sport (including golf)

We met up for dinner at the Railway Hotel where we met the Mayor of Weddin and had the opportunity to continue dialogue on ideas for exchange and also to have a chat and get to know the leaders of the Weddin community. At the conclusion of the evening Chris thanked the Weddin Mayor and community and I presented them with a small gift as a token of friendship from our Association.

On the Sunday the HSCA group visited Len Wallace's garden and gallery which consists of an amazing collection of sculptures created from waste metal and other 'bits and pieces' such as spark plugs and brushes. The pieces are quirky, intricate, amusing, cute but basically amazing – some small, some in trees, some making a statement, and some so incredibly intricate. It was certainly a worthwhile visit and if you want to see any of his artworks you don't have to go all the way to Weddin, just call into Chris and John Paine's garden! We then went to another artist who also creates sculptures from mechanical waste and again found a wonderful collection of quirky and creative items.

Chris and John (with a car full of purchases) headed off for home, and the remainder of us left Grenfell and travelled home via Landra Castle (near Greenethorpe) which luckily was open to the public. With the roses in bloom it was certainly a spectacular sight.

The weekend was certainly enjoyable and successful with programs already been set up and many ideas for exchange being identified.

## Report on visit to Weddin Shire – 31<sup>st</sup> October / 1<sup>st</sup> November 2009

A group of Hawkesbury community representatives visited Grenfell to get to know the Weddin Shire region and community, and discuss opportunities for exchange and links between our respective areas.

Weddin Shire is situated in the central west of NSW approximately 4 hours drive west of Sydney with Grenfell being the major centre of the Shire. The Shire has a population of 3698 and an area of 3427 sq kms and is divided into 5 Wards with two (2) Councillors for each Ward.

The Hawkesbury contingent was made up of HSCA reps Councillor Christine Paine, Yvonne Whalan, Jan Nash, myself and our husbands Ed, Geoff, and Peter; Eisteddfod reps Gillian Wilkins and Carolyn McKenzie and their husbands John and Ron, and Windsor Rotary reps John Paine and Doug Stoneman, and Doug's wife Pam.

Upon arrival we were met by the Weddin Deputy Mayor and other representatives at the 'Community Hub' building in Weddin that houses the library, community art gallery and a meeting room that also serves as the local picture theatre among other things. The art gallery was a very impressive venue considering the small size of the town and it became apparent during our stay that Grenfell has a very artistic community. After a few words of welcome and some refreshments we went on a bus tour of Grenfell which is famous for being the birth place of Henry Lawson. The tour showed many historic buildings in Grenfell, some of which looked quite similar to those in the Hawkesbury. We also visited the Mens' Shed, which was the first Mens' Shed in Australia.

After the tour a meeting was held to discuss possible areas of exchange and the following are already being considered –

- Participation by Henry Lawson High School Band in the Hawkesbury Eisteddfod. After discussion between the school principal, music teachers and Eisteddfod reps it was identified that the 16 / 17<sup>th</sup> September 2010 would be suitable dates. The HSCA reps indicated we will assist with accommodation and tour arrangements if required. The students will stay as a group and not be billeted, and tours could include UWS, historic tour of Windsor, visit to Oasis Leisure Centre, bowling. (The high school has approx 210 students and 24 teachers. There are around 60 students in the choir and band and approximately 40 students will be in the band attending the Hawkesbury Eisteddfod.)
- Walking group – Jan Nash is liaising with a member of the Weddin Walking group, who was also our tour guide.

- Sport (children) – Again, it was agreed that a sporting exchange could be held on a one-day basis without the need to organise overnight accommodation. A possible exchange could be a pre-season friendly game, perhaps one year in Cabonne and the alternate year in Hawkesbury. Cabonne indicated they are strong in hockey, soccer, cricket and pony club. Cabonne will speak with their sporting clubs and HSCA can approach our clubs. I also suggested a non-sporting exchange for children may be something to consider and will speak to Blacktown Council to ascertain how they run their 'tournament of the minds'.
- Annual activities – Yeoval, childhood home of A B 'Banjo' Paterson, runs the annual 'Mulga Bill' Festival which includes the Mulga Bill Bike Ride. The festival coordinator Alf Cantrell is familiar with our Hawkesbury Show as he was a committee member some 30 years ago. Alf though there may be opportunity for a link between our activities, plus it may be a good time for citizens delegations. Alf already promotes the event to Hawkesbury bicycle clubs and shops.
- Golf – opportunity for a link between golf courses / clubs.
- Art – Jayes Gallery & Café in Molong hold regular exhibitions and suggested there could be an artist in residence exchange. Gallery Director Libby Oldham is speaking with Fiona Mann who can refer her onto our regional gallery. There may be other opportunities with community art and craft groups.

At the conclusion of the meeting I presented the Cabonne GM with a small framed picture of Rose Cottage as a token of friendship from HSCA to the community of Cabonne, which resulted in a photograph being taken of the group which Cabonne indicated they will issue with a press release to their local media.

I attended dinner that evening with the Cabonne Mayor Cllr Kevin Duffy, GM Graham Flemming, Ec Dev Manager Gretchen Armitage, Hawkesbury Mayor Cllr Bart Bassett and GM Peter . We attended a wine tasting dinner at 'The Convent' which was part of the region's wine week.

On Tuesday I attended the Field Day and had the opportunity to speak to some more members of the local community including Don Bruce who operates a program on acid soil and salinity for Year 9 students. He indicated he would be happy to offer information to students on farming in the Cabonne area and has forwarded information on his program.

## Report on visit to Cabonne – 19<sup>th</sup> / 20<sup>th</sup> October 2009

As the Hawkesbury Sister City Association Committee is already aware, when I attended the planting of the Macquarie Rose earlier this year I met Cabonne Mayor Kevin Duffy who extended an invitation for me to attend a meeting of Cabonne Council, which resulted in my recent visit to Cabonne.

Cabonne is about 260klms from Sydney and covers an area of around 6000sq km. It extends from Eugowra in the west, through to Molong, Boremore and Mt Canobolas in the east; Canowindra in the south and Yeoval in the north and has a population of close to 13,000 people

The Cabonne Council Chambers are in Molong and a new Community Centre is nearing completion next to the Council building. I was introduced to Council during their meeting and then attend lunch with the Councillors. At the conclusion of lunch I addressed the Councillors and provided them with a copy of a handout about HSCA. In speaking with the Councillors I used the opportunity to highlight how our Association operates, its relationship to Council, our role and activities. I also informed them about both the history of Sister Cities and our own Association history including notable members such as Bruce Brown, Jean Peare and Yvonne Whalan.

During the afternoon I met with members of the Cabonne community interested in developing links, and some Council officers. I pass out the HSCA information sheet and gave the group an overview of the history of sister cities and our Association, our structure, role and activities, information about Hawkesbury City, and positive outcome of sister city relationships such as –

- Making friends
- Experiencing and gaining an understanding of the lifestyle of another community
- Networking and sharing experiences
- Providing opportunities for our youth

Discussions were held on possible areas of exchange and the following identified –

- Mens' health – Cabonne has a number of 'Mens' Sheds' and would like to undertake dialogue with other similar groups and mens' health networks.
- Schools – It was agreed that developing school links would be worthwhile as visiting can be undertaken in a day so there is no need to organise overnight accommodation. Cabonne will provide some feedback on suggested areas of 'exchange' and the HSCA can then forward the information onto the appropriate school or contact person.