

**ITEM NO: 1**

**SUBJECT: ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF SERVICE PROVIDED BY THE BLUE MOUNTAINS RECYCLING CENTRE**

**FILE NO: F00816**

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**Recommendation:**

*That the Council acknowledges the long-term contract service provided by the Blue Mountains Recycling Centre and thank them and their staff for almost sixteen years of service provision.*

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**Minute by the Mayor:**

**Introduction**

The purpose of this report is to acknowledge the long-term service of the outgoing contractor, the Blue Mountains Recycling Centre.

**Report**

The Blue Mountains Recycling Centre was the original contractor employed by the Council to undertake the collection and management of recycling material from domestic properties. They commenced the first contract on Monday 14th September 1992.

The Blue Mountains Recycling Centre subsequently won 3 further contracts resulting in almost sixteen (16) years of continuous service to the Council and its residents.

During the period since the service commenced, the Blue Mountains Recycling Centre has grown as the service has changed (various changes were made to the types of materials collected and the number of crates per property increased from one to two) and have managed an increase in material collected of over 75% (3,850 tonnes in 1995 to approx. 6,800 [est.] tonnes this year).

From 30 June 2008, the Council will be moving to a new form of recycling service which will better meet the expectations of most residents. While we are moving forward we should not forget the contributions of the previous contractor and their staff who provided a service that met the requirements set by the various contracts in an effective and satisfactory manner.

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**ITEM NO: 2**

**SUBJECT: AUSTRALIAN GUILD OF TOWN CRIERS – 2008 AUSTRALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP, MOREE**

**FILE NO: C02708**

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**Recommendations:**

1. *That our Town Crier, Mr. Dennis John Hitchen, be given approval to represent the City of Blue Mountains at the Australian Championship of Town Criers to be held in Parkes from Friday 12 September to Sunday 14 September 2008.*
2. *That Council pay for Mr. Hitchen’s travel, accommodation and incidental expenses to enable him to represent our City at these Championships.*

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**Minute by Mayor:**

An invitation has been extended from the Mayor of Parkes Shire Council, Councillor Robert Wilson, OAM, inviting our Town Crier to attend, and participate in, the Australian Championship of Town Criers to be held from Friday 12 September to Sunday 14 September 2008.

Dennis is a great Town Crier for our City and he is excellent at performing his duties. He has performed at many community events and recently at Foundation Day in Springwood.

It would be a wonderful opportunity for Dennis to represent the Blue Mountains by participating in these Championships and he would benefit greatly from this experience.

The Championships are held annually and this event is a means by which Council Town Criers can foster the message of friendship, fellowship and goodwill between Councils and Communities.

It would be appropriate for Council to have Dennis represent Council at the Championships. In doing so Council would pay for his travel, accommodation and incidental expenses to enable him to represent our City. The cost is estimated to be around \$900 and is available within the Councillor Support budget.

This request is consistent with the current practice of reimbursing Mr. Hitchen’s incidental expenses in relation to his Town Crier duties that has occurred in previous years. I am sure he will be a great Ambassador for the City of Blue Mountains.

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