

A. R. BLUETT MEMORIAL AWARD 2008/2009

**SHIRES ASSOCIATION SECTION WINNER
TEMORA SHIRE COUNCIL**

MAYOR: CR. PETER SPEIRS

GENERAL MANAGER: GARY LAVELLE

POPULATION: 5,853

AREA: 2,812 sq km

WEBSITE: www.temora.nsw.gov.au

CITATION

Temora Shire Council is a worthy winner of the A.R. Bluett Memorial Award for 2008/2009 and has impressed the Trustees with the excellence of its ongoing management and development of the Temora district in challenging economic times and under the stresses of continuing drought conditions.

The council provides a commendable range of local services, balancing its core responsibilities for infrastructure maintenance and improvement, with diverse economic, social and community services programs. The council is particularly adept at engaging with its community through a variety of strategies including public consultations, an approachable website and surveys.

The Trustees appreciated the succinct and informative submission provided by the Council. The Trustees have previously visited Temora and have noted the Shire's continuing progress and development.

Some of the major projects and initiatives achieved in the period of review were:

- Completion of the impressive Temora Airport Estate and associated caravan park
- Completion of stage 1 and commencement of stage 2 of the Town Hall upgrade
- Employment of a full time Community Services Officer, youth services expansion and cultural development programs
- The council's well researched 10 year strategic plan, underpinning Council's sound financial planning outcomes and infrastructure maintenance program
- Completion of a new Works Depot
- Award winning environmental projects; including a native botanical garden and a man-made wetland
- An innovative effluent recycling program using advanced telemetry to monitor and control the entire system
- The progress made with a new Local Environment Plan; noting the extensive public consultations using a designated website for the LEP

The Trustees congratulate Mayor Peter Speirs, General Manager Gary Lavelle, Councillors and staff of Temora Shire Council on an outstanding achievement.

(For comment: John Flannery, Chairman A.R. Bluett Memorial Trust, 0419 422 001 or jflannery@hunterlink.net.au)