



UPON REFLECTION

Perhaps I can be forgiven for reflecting with pride on that which has been achieved in the City of Ballarat during my Mayoral Term.

It has been a busy and memorable year, a year of responsibility, new challenges, a year of new experiences and learning what went with the honour of being Mayor.

It gives me great pleasure to present in this report a broad overview covering the activities of the Council for the past 12 months. It also affords the opportunity to reflect on the year and feel satisfied with the achievements and goals attained during the celebration of our 150th year.

The year 1988/89 was one of solid achievements and new initiatives. Of major importance was the establishment of a five year plan for major capital expenditure incorporating a commitment to build a new library in 1992/93.

The opening of Central Square Shopping Centre was a triumph for Council after years of negotiations with various developers and will most certainly provide customer comfort for citizens and visitors to our City.

Many projects were completed, as part of Ballarat's 150th anniversary and Australia's Bicentennial celebrations.

The reconstructed verandah on the Ballarat Fine Art Gallery extensions added another important feature to the famous historic streetscape of Lydiard Street North and I had the privilege of unveiling a commemorative plaque for this project.

The verandah is an exact replica of the original and includes some of the original verandah columns.

The installation of the Carillon on the corner of Bath Lane and Armstrong Street has been an exciting and fulfilling achievement for many people involved in this project and I extended high praise to all who assisted.



The Carillon, which was purchased in 1869 at the same time as the Town Hall Bells, is of immense historic value and interest and it is indeed pleasing that it is now fully operational.

I recall with pleasure the presentation of the lace jabot cuffs made by the lace makers of Ballarat for the Mayoral robes and the privilege of being the first Mayor to wear these exquisite accessories.

Widespread involvement of community groups associated with Bicentenary celebrations produced an event, on average, every two days, and brought \$300,000 into the City.

Apart from special Bicentenary and 150th celebrations there have been many projects and activities undertaken. Each of these projects required manpower, enthusiasm, time and energy.

I wish to thank staff at all levels of service who have worked to improve the quality of life for our citizens. In particular I thank the Chief Executive Officer and Departmental Managers for their input and support.

I wish to acknowledge and express my thanks to my Councillor colleagues who serve with dedication and enthusiasm, and that means all Councillors.

Widening responsibilities and increased workloads have added to their time and involvement with Council business.

However, I am confident that they share with me a sense of enthusiasm in the progress of the City over the past twelve months.

I also thank my Councillor colleagues for their contribution at the Council table and their support at functions I was unable to attend.

The many organizations and activities I attended this year are too numerous to list.

Trevor and I thank the people of Ballarat for the hospitality, courtesy, friendship, encouragement and support they have extended to us during my Mayoral term.

We are both proud to have served the City of Ballarat and reflect on the year of office with pleasure and gratitude.

I would like to express my appreciation for the unselfish support of my husband, Trevor.

He has managed a difficult role with enthusiasm and good humour and his attitude has assisted me greatly in carrying out my duties.

When I undertook the onerous task of Mayor 12 months ago, I was determined to enjoy it. The role has provided me with a rich and colourful tapestry of events, with each group and individual contributing to the picture of a community at work. To everyone — thank you for a memorable year.

— Wanda Chapman

WOMEN IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The year was one of "Women in Local Government".

In the immediate area Councillor Judith Coull was the President of the Shire of Buninyong, Councillor Kaye Dunn was the President of the Shire of Grenville, and throughout the State, women took up responsible positions in the area of Local Government.

During the year the Mayor of the City of Ballarat, Cr. Wanda Chapman had the pleasure of meeting two other women leaders in Local Government when she, and the Mayor of Ararat, Cr. Gwenda Allgood, attended an informal luncheon hosted by the Lord Mayor of Melbourne, Cr. Winsome McCaughey.

Also during the year, the City's first woman Mayor, Mrs. Jessie Scott, M.B.E., received recognition for her contribution to the community in the form of an Australian Bicentennial Commemorative Medal.

Mrs. Scott served the City as both Mayoress and Mayor. She was Mayoress in 1956-57 during her late husband Gordon Scott's term of office, and later joined the Council and was installed as Mayor in 1976.

Mrs. Scott's daughter, Cr. Janet Dale currently represents the Park Ward on the City Council.



Cr. Janet Dale (left) and the Mayor Cr. Wanda Chapman (right) congratulate Mrs. Jessie Scott, M.B.E., (Cr. Dale's mother) on her 80th birthday. Jessie Scott was the first woman Mayor of the City of Ballarat