



REPRESENTATIVES of the successful recipients who will receive funding from Shenhua Watermark as part of its community fund were honoured at a special morning tea at the miner's Gunnedah offices yesterday.

Shenhua money to fund important local projects

THE nineteen successful recipients of Shenhua Watermark's final round of community funding gathered for a morning tea in Gunnedah yesterday.

The Chinese miner received many submissions for the final \$1 million, however the successful projects were selected for the development of local educational, medical, indigenous and environmental programs.

Shenhua Australia Chairman Mr Liu Xiang said even though the final round of \$5 million in funding has come to an end, the company will still support the local community.

"This does not mean the end of our local contribution to the community," he said.

"We have a strong intention of being an active member for the development of this community, and promise to work closely with you to continue local contributions over the next 30 years and years to come."

One of the big winners of the final round of funding is the Rotary Club of Gunnedah which will receive \$243,690 to go towards the completion of the Gunnedah Riverine Improvement Scheme, including funds to plant trees and install fencing and bollards to help secure the riverbank area.

"These funds will allow us to complete Stage 3 of the Riverine Project and go a long way into Stage 4 which will see the riverbank area of the Namoi River protected and beautified on the Western end of our current project," Rotarian Bob Leister said.

Meals on Wheels in Gunnedah will receive \$19,000 for the upgrade of its kitchen facilities and meet new government regulations that are required to continue providing the much-needed service in the local community.

"This funding is essential for the organisation to meet the new changes in government legislation in regard to food handling and will allow us to provide further improve-



LIVERPOOL Plains Shire Council Mayor Ian Lobsey, left, Gunnedah Deputy Mayor Gae Swain, centre, and Shenhua Australia Chairman Mr Liu Xiang cut the cake in honour of the successful projects to receive a slice of \$1 million.

ment to the meals we deliver to the local community," MOW Business Manager, Andrew Cherry said.

Winanga-Li Aboriginal Child and Family Centre will receive \$235,000 to support the building of an additional community room.

"We are sincerely appreciative for Shenhua Watermark's support as this is something we could only have dreamed about, now it is a reality," Centre Manager of the Winanga-Li Aboriginal Child and Family Centre, Wayne Griffiths said.

"The additional room will provide us with an opportunity to deliver increased services to our Kamilaroi and other disadvantaged children and their families, and therefore make further progress towards closing the gap on indigenous health outcomes."

The Red Chief Aboriginal Land Council will receive \$10,000 for improvements and modifications to the Keeping Gallery.

"I would like to take this opportunity to thank Shenhua Watermark Coal for their generous donation. The Keeping Gallery houses many traditional Aboriginal artefacts that are used to educate the visitors that come through the gallery on the oldest living culture in the world," Red Chief Aboriginal Land Council Chief Executive Officer Toni Comber said.

"Without these significant upgrades we wouldn't be able to expand on what already is one of the best Keeping Places in Australia."

Shenhua Watermark Project Manager, Paul Jackson said while the announcement marked the end of the Watermark Community Fund, Shenhua had every intention of continuing to be an active supporter of the local community into the future.

"We're looking forward to continuing to support the region over the life of the Project in line with our vision to see our communities grow in the next 30 years," Mr Jackson said.

Liverpool Plains Shire Council: \$165,000 (Rehabilitation of Riparian)

Rotary Club of Gunnedah: \$243,690 (Completion of Gunnedah Riverine Improvement Scheme)

Winanga-Li Aboriginal Child and Family Centre: \$235,000 (Building of additional community room)

Gunnedah Public School: \$54,954 (Installation of kitchen in school hall)

Walhallow Public School: \$50,000 (Improvements to playground area)

Friends of Quirindi Library: \$4,534 (Purchase of Early Childhood book sets)

Werris Creek & District Pre-School: \$27,500 (Upgrade outdoor playground equipment)

Quirindi Rural Heritage Village: \$25,852 (Design, construct and operate a model railway based on NSW State Railway from 1930's)

Gunnedah Jockey Club: \$45,000 (Upgrade effluent management system)

Werris Creek Public School: \$34,570 (Installation of two rainwater tanks)

Paint the Town REaD: \$20,000 (Purchase of literacy books)

Liverpool Plains Shire Council: \$5,500 (Erection of environmental signage)

Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service: \$30,000 (Installation of gantry crane)

Meals on Wheels: \$19,000 (Upgrade kitchen to meet new Government standards)

Breeza Progress Association: \$17,500 (Air condition Breeza Community Hall)

Ooranga Out of School Hours Care: \$22,000 (Develop outdoor playground area)