

# Riverine Project a step closer to completion

BY MARIE HOBSON

**THE Riverine Project on the banks of the Namoi is almost complete with internal roads tarred for easy access and a pathway installed for walking and cycling.**

The project became a reality after the Rotary Club of Gunnedah received a funding grant from Shenhua Watermark Coal, to the tune of \$124,000, backed by a Federal Government grant of \$165,000 to install a gross pollutant trap to remove debris from the Marquis

Street stormwater discharge and install traffic control bollards.

Rotarians pitched in with labour to expand the Donnelly Playing Fields near Cohen's Bridge by moving existing fencing about 20 metres to make way for another playing field.

The Shenhua funding also enabled council to install a concrete driveway from Maitland Street and seal the internal road with bitumen, making it easier for RVs and people using the playing fields to access the area.

Director Planning and Environmental Services, Mike Silver, said council is delighted with the support of Rotary and has been working with the group to deliver an important environmental project for the community.

"We have had some problems with people in 4WDs crashing over the removable bollards and smashing them," Mr Silver said.

"We are disgusted with these environmental vandals and are now redesigning the bollards to prevent this happening again."

Rotary also had problems with vandals early last year with borrowed safety fencing installed to protect the public, stolen from the riverbank project.

The northern riverbank has also been given a facelift with rubbish and 4WD tracks removed.

Mr Silver said more bollards will be installed at the eastern end of the cyclepath and with the support of the Gunnedah Urban Landcare Group (GULG) a number of trees and shrubs will be planted.



*THE walking and cycle path installed with funding granted to Rotary by Shenhua Watermark Coal.*