

PETER DRAPER

INDEPENDENT MEMBER FOR TAMWORTH

MEDIA RELEASE

\$10,000 bonus for Hanging Rock Hall

April 23

A \$10,000 grant from the NSW Government will assist Hanging Rock Progress Association to make improvements to its local hall, Member for Tamworth Peter Draper announced today. Mr Draper made initial representations to Premier Bob Carr in November 2003, and has met with the Premier's senior staff on several occasions this year to progress the funding application.

"I am delighted that the Premier has recognised the importance of supporting this project," Mr Draper said.

"I attended the Oktoberfest celebration in the Hanging Rock hall last year, and was very impressed with the vision and determination of the community," he said.

"The long term plan is to develop an Information Café at the hall, but the funding from the State Government will help redevelop the kitchen facilities and make the hall more amenable for local functions."

Hanging Rock is a community of some 150 residents from a wide variety of cultural backgrounds including German, Bavarian, Swiss, Chinese, Finnish, Aboriginal and Russian. The community hosts around 200 visitors per week to enjoy the Sheba Dams, the unique flora and fauna, as well as the spectacular views. The Progress Association has over 25% of the residents as members, and they conduct regular events in the hall such as Christmas in July, Oktoberfest and concerts.

"This hall is the social and cultural focal point for the community, and it is pleasing to see the State Government fund structural work that will open up further opportunities for the residents," Mr Draper concluded.

End Release

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