

8th October 2010

Mayor congratulates school leaders

Shoalhaven City Mayor Councillor Paul Green recently held a morning tea in the Administrative Centre's Reception Room for the leaders of schools in the Shoalhaven.

Over 50 students attended, from primary and high schools around the city to be honoured by the Mayor and others for their commitment to leadership.

Special guests were Joanna Gash Federal Member for Gilmore, and local business leader John Lamont. Along with key staff members, Joanna and John spoke of the three most important elements of leadership in their experience.

Principals and other staff from schools around the area also came in support of these young captains and prefects. One highlight of the event was a group photo with the Mayor, Clr Green. In his opening speech to the group, Clr Green pointed out that it's not always easy or popular to be a leader but you must believe in what you are working towards to stay focused and achieve outcomes.

Shoalhaven City Council's Assistant General Manager Mr Rob Donaldson drew from the famous speech by Nelson Mandela as an example of what it means to be a leader.

"There's nothing enlightened about shrinking so that other people won't feel insecure around you. We are all meant to shine, as children do. We are born to make manifest the glory of God that is within us. It's not just in some of us, it's in everyone. And as we let our own light shine, we unconsciously give other people permission to do the same. As we are liberated from our own fear, our presence automatically liberates others." (Mandela, 1990).

Clr. Green said, "This was the first time council had done something like this, but I think it was extremely important to thank these young people for their interest in the future of their schools and the welfare of their classmates. These are tomorrow's leaders and they should be acknowledged, supported and encouraged to continue their efforts in leading our future generations.

CONTACT: Shoalhaven City Mayor Councillor Paul Green

(02) 4429 3251

0423 881 873