



**SHE'S ALL APPLES:** Tallong turned it on for its annual Apple Day yesterday, with thousands visiting the village to sample the many delightful stalls and activities the event had to offer. Young entertainers (from left) Georgia Baker, Lorna Anderson, Sarah Gilson and Felicity Corney, all from Tallong, kept the punters entertained with their clown and apple-pie throwing routine. Organisers reckon close to 3000 people attended Apple Day, making it a record crowd.

■ More Apple Day (and Pumpkin Festival) photos in Wednesday's paper

# 'Heaven' a step closer

By LOUISE THROWER

**A** DEVELOPER'S 10-year battle to establish what one councillor describes as "a tree change heaven" may be one step closer.

Bureaucracy and plan changes have thwarted Sydney man Kim Clarke's bid to develop the Medway residential estate at Marulan since 2002. They may do so again.

## At a glance

- Goulburn Mulwaree Council is amending some aspects of its LEP.
- A developer is pressing for 10ha lots, "appealing to tree changers" at Marulan's Medway estate.
- Some councillors feel it will split Marulan.
- Ultimately the state government will decide.

Cr Geoff Peterson described it as a saga at last week's meeting, which discussed amendments to Council's Local Environmental Plan.

He bucked planners' recommendation to only allow 20ha blocks on Medway, saying smaller lots would entice tree changers.

"And I don't agree this will diminish the social cohesion of Marulan. We all know there is reasonable demand for 10ha lots," Cr Peterson said.

Mr Clarke, of Xcel Properties, argued he should be allowed to subdivide Medway on the eastern side of the Hume Highway at Marulan into twenty-three 10 hectare lots, catering for people who wanted small rural lots. He's also asking for a 40ha lot preserving vegetation and a general industrial zone on one side.

In 2006 he won approval to split the land into seven 40ha lots but Mr Clarke believed this no longer met the market.

"My argument is that keeping the 10ha is the key to affordability," he said.

"...I've always felt that Medway is suitable for Sydney people looking for 10ha. It brings employment and creates economic stimulus for the area. Having 20ha is not a marketable situation, I believe."

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