JUNCTION BRIDGE HISTORY
BOARD UNVEILED

Local community members and visitors to the Junction Bridge at Tumut will now have a better understanding of its heritage with the installation of an information board this week.

The board, next to the bridge in Lions Club Park, provides a permanent record of the bridge’s history.

Member for Wagga Wagga Daryl Maguire said the board was developed and designed by Roads and Maritime Services (RMS), to showcase the heritage significance of this important local structure and the changes to its design and materials in the past, including the restoration work carried out in 2006.

“The Junction Bridge is the state’s second most important example of a McDonald truss bridge and is listed on the NSW State Heritage Register,” Mr Maguire said.

“Designed by prominent engineer, John A McDonald, it features the only existing triple span arrangement of the McDonald timber truss in New South Wales.

“Interestingly, there is a local story associated with the bridge’s name. The bridge was officially opened by Mrs Brown, the wife of the local member of the time, in honour of her mother, Mrs Amelia Shelley, the wife of early Tumut settler George Shelley.

“For years it has been known as both Shelley Bridge and Junction Bridge although Junction Bridge has remained its most common name,” Mr Maguire said.

The information board is protected by a graffiti-proof perspex cover and was installed by members of the Lions Club of Tumut.