

# We will continue to fight for our Local Council!

Happy New Year to all! I hope everyone had a wonderful, safe and restful festive season.

## Proposed Council Amalgamations

The New Year will be a challenging one for Hunter's Hill following the announcement on the last business day of the year and a week before Christmas of the NSW Government's plans for the proposed merger of Hunter's Hill, Lane Cove and Ryde Council's to form one new larger Council.

Based on current population figures, Hunters Hill Municipality will comprise of less than 10 percent of this proposed regional (not local) government area, and may well be represented by just one councillor on the new council.

Hunters Hill Council will continue to stridently oppose this proposal and I would urge all concerned residents to join in the fight to save Hunters Hill.

There will be some public consultation through the NSW Boundaries Commission process that will provide an opportunity for residents to make submissions or attend public hearings.

I would urge you all to take up those opportunities and also to write to our local Member of Parliament, the Hon Anthony Roberts MP, and to the Minister for Local Government, the Hon Paul Toole MP, to make known your views on the proposed merger.

In the coming weeks, we expect that the NSW Government will release further details about the process.

Information will be available on the Council website ([www.huntershill.nsw.gov.au](http://www.huntershill.nsw.gov.au)) as soon as it is released by the government.

## HUNTERS HILL HAPPENINGS with Mayor RICHARD QUINN



### Australia Day

Council will be again be celebrating Australia Day with a Civic Ceremony at the Deckhouse Woolwich on Tuesday January 26 commencing at 9am and I invite you to join us. RSVP essential on 9879 9430.

Our Australia Day Ambassador is Sam Cawthorn who is the 2015 Edupreneur of the Year and in 2009 was the Tasmanian Young Australian of the Year. He is a motivational speaker, accomplished author and philanthropist.

The ceremony will begin with the conferral of citizenship on twelve residents of Hunters Hill and this will be followed by the announcement of our 2016 Community Awards for the Hunters Hill Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year, Sportsperson of the Year and Community Event of the Year.

### Wildlife Workshop

If you are looking for something entertaining and educational for your children during the holidays bring them along to the Wildlife Workshop

on Friday 22 January 2016 at the CA Fairland Hall, 14 Church Street, Hunters Hill.

There will be real animals, games and interactive activities. The show includes slides, learning what to do if you find injured wildlife and most importantly real wildlife to get up close to.

It's a great way to learn about all the local wildlife. Bookings are essential and can be made by ringing council on 9879 9400. Parents are requested to accompany their children.

### Keep Australia Beautiful

Keep NSW Beautiful started Take the Pledge in 2014, operating on the principle that the solution to litter lies in behaviour change rather than in clean-ups.

The program is a move to influence NSW citizens to step away from a clean-up culture and towards education and awareness for lasting behaviour change – so that litter doesn't end up on the ground in the first place.

The campaign engages members of the public through the act of pledging – online or in person – to 'keep New South Wales Beautiful by not littering.'

You can help create a cleaner, healthier environment right now just by taking the Pledge online <http://takeethepledge.com.au/>. It only takes about 30 seconds.

**Best wishes for the year ahead.**