

Nine year old Emily inspires Hunters Hill Council to fight on



*Emily Edwards is congratulated on her passionate speech by Hunters Hill Emeritus Mayor Sue Hoopmann OAM after the Council meeting.
TWT on-the-spot PHOTO*

On Monday 10 October 2016 nine year old primary school student Emily Edwards delivered an inspiring and passionate speech to Hunters Hill Council.

Emily wants the Council to save the place she loves – Hunters Hill.

There were a number of other speakers in support of Council appealing the court decision over the proposed forced merger with the City of Ryde and Lane Cove.

Former Mayor Sue Hoopmann OAM, Hunters Hill's first popularly elected Mayor, was one who delivered a strong and significant speech.

The Council by 5 votes to 2 resolved to appeal to the NSW Supreme Court.

Below is the speech Emily Edwards delivered to the Hunters Hill Councillors.



Hunters Hill Councillors Justine McLaughlin, Dr Meredith Sheil, Mayor Richard Quinn, Deputy Mayor Mark Bennett and Peter Astridge, resolved to appeal. TWT on the spot PHOTO.

“Good evening Mayor, Councillors and Hunters Hill community.

My name is Emily and I am here to give my opinion as to why I think council should appeal.

I might only be 9 and unfortunately cannot vote, but I care deeply for Hunters Hill and am aware enough to realise what will happen if we become a mega council.

Hunters Hill is like no other, it is unique. It has invaluable history, buildings and trees. It has foreshore parklands. All of these are put at risk if we amalgamate.

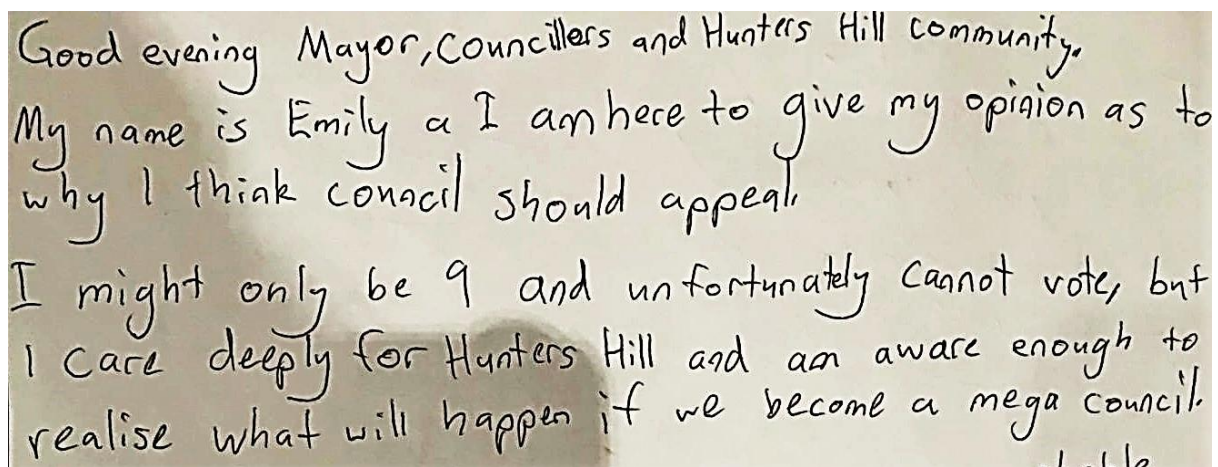
Unfortunately, it is not about becoming more efficient, but is about money and development.

Hunters Hill will change forever if this happens.

I love Hunters Hill and want you to fight for our community. We can still save our 155 year old municipality.

Please don't give up. It might cost a lot of money to appeal, but it is money being used to fight for our community. If we don't appeal that money would be sucked up into the mega council and we would never see it.

We might be small, but we fight for what we believe in and I hope Hunters Hill municipality will be here for another 155 years."



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A section of Emily's notes

See also:

Article - 'Hunters Hill Appeal inspired by Emily Edwards and Sue Hoopmann' The Weekly Times 12 October 2016 [here](#).

Letters - 'Nine year old Emily's speech to Council inspires residents' The Weekly Times Letters 19 October 2016 [here](#).

Interview - Emily Edwards and Phil Jenkyn on Radio Active 2RRR 88.5FM 26 October 2016 [here](#).

SHHMC 26 October 2016