

We're going to court to ensure a lawful, transparent & fair process

FOLLOWING A formal refusal by the NSW Government to provide Hunters Hill Council with a copy of the KPMG Report and Delegate's Report to the Boundaries Commission, it is with regret that Council has now had to take legal action to ensure that a transparent democratic process be undertaken in accordance with legal requirements and Council be afforded the opportunity to make an informed submission on it.

All we ask is that the details and reports underlying the NSW Government's council merger agenda be disclosed, and that the process be lawful, transparent and fair.

The refusal by the NSW Government to allow access to and scrutiny of these key reports, together with a flawed consultation process that did not include a poll, has totally undermined the community's expectations of procedural fairness and confidence in the democratic process.

We will continue to fight for our JRA model, which can deliver the savings and efficiencies the Government is seeking without a loss of local identity and grassroots representation.

ALTHOUGH SMALLER than last year's Centenary of ANZAC event, the 93rd Annual Combined ANZAC Eve Memorial Service held in the Hunters Hill Town Hall on Friday evening April 22 was very well attended and I thank everyone who participated in this tribute to our past and current service personnel. Immediately prior to the service and march, Chaplain Jim Cosgrove from HQ 17 CSS Brigade at Randwick, officiated at a dedication ceremony of a newly constructed memorial wall at the Hunters Hill RSL Sub-Branch with plaques representing the Combined Services, the Western Front, the Returned Services League and the Australian Women's Services.

Parliamentary Secretary, the Hon. Daryl Maguire MP, Mr Trent Zimmerman MP joined our guest speaker, Col Ken Duncan (rtd), Patron of the 32 Small Ship RAE Association, who spoke about the operations of the 32 Small Ship Squadron and gave an account of some of the more unusual or interesting tasks they performed supporting the Australia forces during WW2, South Vietnam and the New Guinea offensive.

Marist Sisters College Year 12 captains Madison Toohev and Lucv Masters

HUNTERS HILL HAPPENINGS with Mayor RICHARD QUINN

provided their view on What Anzac means to Youth.

Thanks to Ida Ozoux-Blessing and our musicians Ian Cox, Mark Trill and Piper James Bruce and all who assisted in the organisation of this important event.

THE ANNUAL Hunters Hill Art Exhibition (May 6-15) has received 968 amazing original Australian art works of which 350 will be displayed over three locations - Hunters Hill Town Hall, Vienna Cottage and Hunters Hill Congregational Church.

Opening night this Friday May 6 is always an exciting event and sees buyers and collectors arrive early to discover a new work or artist, with many well priced art works snapped up.

Opening night is from 7pm (\$20) or the Buyers Preview from 6pm (\$25).

Exhibition is open Monday-Friday from 10am-4pm, Saturdays 10am-7pm and Sundays 10am-5pm. General admission is \$5.

The Festival of Art Weekend (May 14-15) is a new initiative being held over the final weekend of the Art Exhibition which will feature a street festival, a Pop-up



bar, food, LIVEart, Gypsy Dub Sound System, Susan Maranty, Pop Up Galleries, art and history tours, free art classes and kid's fun. Further details are available online at huntershillart.com.

THE INDEPENDENT

Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART) has begun consultation on a review of the NSW local government rating system. An Issues Paper released on 13 April seeks feedback and submissions by 13 May from councils, the community, business, government and charitable institutions on the rating system, and a range of possible changes to the way rates are levied across and within different communities. Hunters Hill Council will be submitting its response to this review. Further details are available on the Council website.