

# Independence of municipality intact

**HUNTERS HILL HAPPENINGS**  
with Mayor **RICHARD QUINN**



**AS THIS** is my final TWT column as Mayor of Hunters Hill, I wish to thank the electors of Hunters Hill municipality for entrusting me with the privilege of serving as Mayor for the last five years.

So much has happened over that time and I have come to meet and work closely with many wonderful people who give of their time, talent and treasure for the greater good of our community.

I include in this my fellow Councillors who have given their time and expertise for little personal reward so generously over this five-year term of Council.

I acknowledge, too, the General Manager and staff of Hunters Hill Council for their ongoing service to and support of our community. The Weekly Times has been outstanding in its coverage and ongoing support of Hunters Hill municipality, and I congratulate the Editor and staff for 96 years of news, entertainment and most of all, support for the municipality of Hunters Hill.

As Mayor, it has also been a great privilege to affirm the citizenship on more than 200 new Australian citizens and to publicly acknowledge our Hunters Hill Citizens of the Year and other Australia Day Award winners.

It is also very satisfying to complete this term with the independence of Hunters Hill municipality intact and the latest threat of forced merger without community consent thwarted.

I will not rest until legislation is passed that requires a compulsory plebiscite for any future merger proposal.

Communities must have a direct say in how they are governed. Hunters Hill municipality is a very special place in our global city, and I strongly believe that each of us needs to be constantly vigilant to ensure that the particular built and natural environment and sense of place that have been fought for over many decades remain a high priority for Council and our community.

What we have today in Hunters Hill municipality is the result of the resolute commitment of those who have gone before us, and it is our responsibility to leave a similar legacy for future generations.

I leave the role with some unfinished business, and hope that the new Council can bring these matters to a satisfactory conclusion, including the remediation of the contaminated site at Nelson Parade which successive NSW Governments have failure to deliver, and an acceptable resolution of the proposed development at Gladesville Shopping Village. I look forward to these matters being resolved in the next term of Council.

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**This** Saturday September 9 the electors of Hunters Hill municipality have very important choices to make in casting their votes for Mayor and Councillors for the next three-year term.

I urge you all to closely consider the personal and professional background and community service record of each of the candidates, and to vote for candidates who are committed to and have a track record of community interest, not self-interest.

Voting is compulsory and Polling places are open from 8am to 6pm. If you can't vote on Saturday you can do a pre-poll vote at the Hunters Hill Returning Officer's Office at 9 Church Street Hunters Hill (cnr Herberton Avenue). Postal vote applications closed on September 4. The NSW Electoral Commission is managing the election. For everything you need to know about the election visit the NSW Electoral Commission website at [www.votensw.info](http://www.votensw.info) or phone 1300 135 736.

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