

TRIBUTES TO HUNTERS HILL GM BARRY SMITH ON HIS RETIREMENT



Hunters Hill Council General Manager Barry Smith has had a long and distinguished career in local government.

The Weekly Times 11 April 2018 'Hunters Hill GM calls it a day'



Hunters Hill Mayor Mark Bennett "Mr. Smith not only has almost 46 years of outstanding service to Local Government but has been a prominent figure within Hunters Hill for the past 22 years, providing strategic leadership through difficult times."

"I want to publicly thank Barry for his service and dedication to serving our community."

Northern District Times 18 April 2018 'General manager to retire after 22 years'

Barry aged 64 suffered a heart attack last year and for health and family reasons has decided not to renew his contract when it expires on September 26. He lives at North Richmond and often endures a commute of more than two hours. He was most proud of the Council's sustainability. He said maintaining the finances would remain a challenge while the state and federal governments continue to shift costs.

The Weekly Times 18 April 2018 'Former Mayors pay tribute to Barry Smith'

Former Mayors Sue Hoopmann OAM and Richard Quinn together with community representatives were at the Hunters Hill Council meeting last week to congratulate Mr Smith on his 22 years of service to the heritage municipality.

Sue Hoopmann "I always valued your wise advice, particularly the expression that there are no problems, only solutions."

Richard Quinn "most of all, the quality I value is your personal integrity and your honesty."

Phil Jenkyn OAM on behalf of community "thank you for your support in the battle to save Hunters Hill."

Barry Smith in reply "It was not an easy decision to retire, but it was the right decision."

Deputy Mayor Clr Ross Williams at Council Meeting 9 April 2018



“Barry has a great deal of expertise and knowledge in local government.”
“I congratulate you on your loyalty and long service to the Hunters Hill community.”

“Your decision to retire gives this council an opportunity after all the merger distractions to move forward with fresh ideas and direction.”

“I congratulate you again on an outstanding career and wish you well for the future.”

Clr Justine McLaughlin at Council Meeting 9 April 2018



“Thank you for the support you have given the councillors, the council and the community.”

“I will always remember your saying – leave it with me, I will have a solution for that one.”

“As a council, I don’t think we could have got through the amalgamation issue without the tenacity, determination, knowledge and contacts that you were able to bring to the table.”

Former Mayor Sue Hoopmann OAM at Council Meeting 9 April 2018



“Barry’s words of wisdom – there are no problems, only solutions.”

“His high qualities always shone through – persistence, steadfastness, honesty, fairness, loyalty and getting the job done.”

“Barry played an important role in all Hunters Hill’s battles and achievements over many years, and a significant role in many local government organisations. His networking was unparalleled, and he always had the best interests of Hunters Hill at heart.”

Former Mayor Richard Quinn at Council Meeting 9 April 2018



“It is appropriate to acknowledge your service and commitment to this community – 22 years in Hunters Hill and 46 years in local government.”

“I particularly acknowledge your measured advice and wise counsel during the recent no forced amalgamations campaign.”

“The quality that has marked your term as general manager is your personal and professional integrity and honesty. Please know how much we appreciate all that you have done for this community. You will always be welcome here.”

Phil Jenkyn OAM at Council Meeting 9 April 2018



“You played a significant role in a number of Hunters Hill’s battles, including saving the former Defence sites in Woolwich and elsewhere, and Hunters Hill itself from forced amalgamation. The community thanks you as general manager, and the council staff and council for your combined strong support in those successful battles.”

“It is important for the council and community to now move forward after the recent battle, and look at everything afresh, including policies and priorities.”

Barry Smith General Manager at Council Meeting 9 April 2018



“Thank you all very much for your very kind words. It wasn’t an easy decision to make, but it was the right decision for myself and my family.”

“I have loved working here, I love what I do but it is just time to move on.”

“The last four years have been tough. I have had some fantastic staff and we have had a really good team.”

“We are a small council. My mantra has been – we do everything that everyone else does, it may take us a bit longer, but in the end we actually probably do it a bit better.”

“It is an exciting time really because for the last 2 to 3 years I feel we have been marking time, but now that the decision has been made we need to move forward.”

“I think there is a team in place here who will be able to do that for you. Thank you.”



Save Hunters Hill Municipality Coalition
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