

Nine year old Emily outsmarted Councillor!



Hunters Hill resident Jim Sanderson

I was privileged to hear nine year old Emily Edwards address the recent Extraordinary Meeting of Hunter's Hill Council, which delegated authority to the Mayor and General Manager to continue legal action against the Baird Government's proposal to merge Hunter's Hill with Lane Cove and Ryde.

Emily very sensibly reasoned that: "it might cost a lot of money to appeal, but ... if we don't appeal that money would get sucked up into the Mega-Council and we would never see it."

Emily is absolutely right – if we do not appeal, Hunter's Hill Council will be dissolved seven days after the Court of Appeal delivers its judgment in Woollahra's Case.

Regrettably Liberal Councillor Zac Miles, while professing to support the continuation of Hunter's Hill Council, appeared unable to comprehend the reality as explained by Emily, arguing that it was both unnecessary and wasteful for Council to continue its legal action – implying somewhat astonishingly that Hunter's Hill Council could survive without further expenditure on legal fees.

When asked by the Mayor how this could come about, Clr Miles was not able to provide a coherent explanation.

Does this mean Clr Miles understands, like most, that when his State Liberal mates are inevitably booted from office in March 2019, the incoming Government will hold plebiscites and de-amalgamate areas that vote to do so?

Given Clr Miles' concern about expenditure, would it not be better to spend whatever is necessary to prevent amalgamation and avoid the greater cost of amalgamation, plebiscites and de-amalgamation?

It is time for Clr Miles to mature and understand the importance of coherently representing community views. If he genuinely believes that the Municipality of Hunter's Hill should continue, he must present a more reasoned case for his position, which if followed would see the Municipality dissolved within weeks.

We have too many career politicians who put the party line ahead of community views.

I hope sometime in the future, I will be able to vote for Emily.



Nine year old Emily Edwards is congratulated on her passionate speech by Hunters Hill Emeritus Mayor Sue Hoopmann OAM during Monday night's Council meeting. TWT on-the-spot PHOTO

Our future is in good hands

Gladesville resident Mrs A Turner

I've just read your article about nine year old Emily Edwards, the brave little girl from Hunters Hill who spoke at last week's Hunters Hill Council meeting.

Isn't it wonderful that we have such well informed and well-presented young people in Hunters Hill.

It gives us all hope for the future that our next generation cares about the things we value in our community and have the courage to speak out to defend them.

I hope the Baird Government – which declared Hunters Hill to be unfit for the future – takes the time to read the TWT article on Emily and realises that Hunters Hill is not only fit for the future but has a great future in the hands of our next generation.

Well done Emily.

Like you, we all want to keep Hunters Hill just the way it is.

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Letters to the Editor