



PRESERVING AUSTRALIA'S OLDEST GARDEN SUBURB

P.O. Box 85, HUNTERS HILL, N.S.W. 2110

3 December 2013

Barry Smith
The General Manager
Hunters Hill Council

Dear Barry,

**Re DA 2013-1120
Extensions of hours of operation
Hunters Hill Hotel**

The current opening hours of the Hunters Hill Hotel are from 10am to Midnight seven days a week. The Development Application is for an extension of these hours for Monday-Friday to 10am – 4am, Saturday: 8am - 4am and Sunday: 8am – Midnight.

The Hunters Hill Trust is opposed to this DA.

We are opposed to **any** extension of the current operating hours of the hotel. Under the current hours “*Last drinks*” is called around 11.30pm, which, for a hotel in any residential neighbourhood, is the very latest it should finish up its activities.

The HHH is a family oriented place where you can go for a drink, have a meal and watch sport on TV with friends. It is the *local* for people in the surrounding area.

Extending the hours of operation, particularly taking the closing hour to beyond midnight, will radically change the character of the hotel. It will become a place for those people still roaming around looking for a drink after all the other pubs have closed or who are looking for a place where they can score drugs. Some will be already drunk and raucous.

As the makeup of the clientele changes the character of the hotel will also change. The locals who saw the pub as a family-friendly place to hang out will gradually stop coming and the community benefit of the place will be diminished.

Extending the operating hours will also have an adverse impact on the amenity of the surrounding neighbourhood and in particular on the amenity of the people who will be living in the units still being constructed immediately next door as well as in those still to be built along Gladesville and Ryde Roads.

The adverse impacts of late night trading on the surrounding residential area will include an increased potential for:

- Drunkenness and rowdy behavior extending through until the early morning
- Drink driving because of the scarcity of taxis and buses after midnight
- Property damage to houses and vehicles parked in the surrounding streets

- Robbery and random acts of violence
- Pub patrons using the local streets for parking until morning and even later
- Prostitution operating out of cars in leafy back streets

Furthermore, any extension to the hours of operation will not be in keeping with the objectives in Clause 4.2.5 of the Hunters Hill Development Control Plan:

- To ensure that future development respects and enhances the environmental character of the Hunters Hill Village
- To protect the amenity of residential neighbourhoods that surround the Hunters Hill Village.

Finally, it is essential that all those people who have already bought off the plan in the adjacent unit development should also be advised of this proposal and given the opportunity to make submissions to Council.

We urge Council to reject this application out of hand.

Yours sincerely,

Tony Coote

Vice President
The Hunters Hill Trust