

**Anglican Parish of Hunters Hill
Media Release**

Federal Election Forum

The Anglican Parish of Hunters Hill will host a **forum between candidates** for the **Federal Seat of North Sydney** from **2:30pm to 4:30pm on Sunday, February 24th** at **All Saints Church Hall, Ambrose Street, Hunter's Hill, 2110**.

The Parish often hosts such forums as part of its regular series of seminars called "Soundings".

Soundings has a long history within the Parish, seeking to link contemporary issues of the day with the teachings of Jesus. Soundings is therefore an appropriate place for the people of Hunters Hill to meet with those who would seek to represent us and hear their views on a range of issues, and ask questions about the way they intend to represent us if elected.

Candidates from the Liberal Party (Mr Trent Zimmerman MP), the Labor Party (Mr Brett Stone) and the Greens (Candidate yet to be announced) have committed to come and participate in the forum.

Mrs Alice Oppen OAM, who has convened many of these forums, said that "the opportunity to participate in our democracy, and to ask questions of those who seek to represent us, is crucial if we desire for candidates to truly reflect our views, and to offer real leadership on issues that matter."

Mrs Oppen further reflected that previous forums have been wonderful opportunities to raise local, national and international issues with candidates, and to "cut through some of the rhetoric that we often hear in media grabs, and to see and hear for ourselves how well the candidate may share our views, and therefore represent us in the parliament".

Rev'd Michael Armstrong was asked about this forum being hosted within the Church, and said "Jesus never backed away from raising political issues with those in power, and as the Church we too are concerned for those who are especially poor, marginalized or unable to speak. I believe these forums are a great gift to our local community, and we seek to host them in a manner that is respectful to all, which we know therefore allows the candidates to speak with further freedom and passion than what they may do in other forums".

- Media Release Ends -

For further information or for comment please contact Mrs Alice Oppen (0428 866 491). Please do not print this name and number. Further details available to the general public through the Parish web page below.

St Mark's & All Saints
The Parish of Hunters Hill
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