



First Council building being moved by horse to Cecil Avenue Castle Hill.



FROM HUMBLE BEGINNINGS

On 8 December 1906, the first Council of the Baulkham Hills Shire was elected, made up of seven men, each with a vision and a direction for the Shire.

Earlier that year on 6 March, the Baulkham Hills area was proclaimed as a Shire. The residents had their first elected Shire President, Councillor Bruce Purser, and their first Shire Clerk, Mr E.C Sherwin.

Today, The Hills Shire Council has had 30 different Council leaders, many serving multiple terms. Until the Local Government Act changed in 1993, the leader of the Council was known as the Shire President. The new legislation changed the title to Mayor, which remains today. The legislation also changed the Shire Clerk's title to General Manager.

PAST AND PRESENT SHIRE PRESIDENTS & MAYORS			
B Purser	1906 - 1908	B A Mullane	1963 - 1983
J P Hopkins	1908 - 1911	L J N Shore	1983 - 1986
C Cranston	1911 - 1912	J F Ferrari	1986 - 1987
A Whitling	1912 - 1913	B A Mullane	1987 - 1991
W B Lawson	1913 - 1914	P L Womersley	1991 - 1994
A Whitling	1914 - 1915	GL Brooke-Cowden	1994 - 1999
R Lowe	1915 - 1916	J D Griffiths	1999 - 2004
C Brown	1916 - 1917	S E Phillips	2004 - 2006
A Whitling	1917 - 1920	T Hay	2006 - 2007
N H Firth	1920 - 1920	S E Phillips	2007 - 2008
A Whitling	1920 - 1922	A J L Bolitho	2008 - 2009
H A Best	1922 - 1923	P Dimbrowsky	2009 - 2010
R Lowe	1923 - 1924	M G Thomas	2010 - 2011
J G Black	1924 - 1928	G Burnett	2011 - 2012
A Whitling	1928 - 1941	A J L Bolitho	2012 - 2012
A T Currie	1941 - 1944	M Byrne	2012 - 2014
W H Bruce	1944 - 1945	A Jefferies	2014 - 2015
A T Currie	1945 - 1951	M Byrne	2015 - 2016
J K Maher	1951 - 1952	Y Keane	2016 - 2017
H Lowe	1952 - 1956	M Byrne	2017 - 2021
A H Whaling	1956 - 1963	P Gangemi	2021 -

THE HILLS SHIRE COUNCIL CREST

MOTTO: "to strive for better things"

MOTTO & BOOMERANG: Together, the two signify that "the good we do returns to us"

STARS: The Southern Cross. It is the most easily seen star formation over Australia and helped guide Captain Cook to our shores.

GREEN HILLS: Represent the "Hills District" Governor Arthur Phillip led the first official explorers across the hills, starting from Rouse Hill and Parramatta.

SHIP: The sailing ship used by the first settlers to travel from England to Australia.

WATER: Represents the oceans over which the first settlers had to travel to come to Australia.

WATTLE: Australia's national flower.

WARATAH: State flower of NSW.

ORANGES: These were first grown commercially in New South Wales by George Suttor of Baulkham Hills. The Hills District became the Colony's principal citrus orchard district in the early 19th century, with the Hills farmers supplying fruit and trees to the rest of the colony.

KOOKABURRA: Australian native bird.

SHIELD WITH CROWN: Symbol of loyalty and the Shire's development that was founded and encouraged by England's Vice Regals such as Governors Arthur Phillip, John Hunter, Phillip King, William Bligh and Lachlan Macquarie (and to some extent French nobleman, Baron de Clambe who was one of the first settlers at Castle Hill).

1906: The year Baulkham Hills Shire Council started.



DID YOU KNOW?

The first Council met in different church halls before settling on a property on Old Northern Road, Castle Hill, as the first Council Chambers in 1908. The building was described in a local newspaper as a 'little wooden shanty'. The front portion was used for Council meetings and the back room was the office for the Shire Clerk, Assistant Shire Clerk and the Engineer.