



Speech by

**Barbara Stone**

**MEMBER FOR SPRINGWOOD**

Hansard Wednesday, 20 May 2009

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## **CHATSWOOD HILLS TAVERN**

**Ms STONE** (Springwood—ALP) (11.48 am): I wish to inform the House of the objection of the Springwood community to the application for extended trading hours by AHL group/Aceridge Pty Ltd, trading as Chatswood Hills Tavern, Springwood. The company is requesting an extension to open to 3 am.

The Chatswood Hills Tavern is located in a small suburban shopping centre. That shopping centre—and the hotel—is in the centre of a residential area. It shares its boundaries with homes and town houses. In fact, the tavern's fence line is shared with a town house complex.

The close proximity of these residences is just one of the reasons the community and I believe a 3 am closing time for the tavern is unacceptable. Other than travelling in private cars, there are no transport options for patrons. Therefore I envisage a large number of patrons having to walk past residences, which will create disturbances and affect the lifestyles of my constituents. This also increases the risk of drunk drivers on our local roads. In the past I have received complaints from residents who live close to the tavern and along Chatswood Road about antisocial behaviour and hooning. I must say those complaints usually arise from incidents that occur around the tavern's closing time.

The Chatswood Hills Tavern does not service any factories, services or businesses that have a late-night or 24-hour operation. It is located in a small suburban shopping centre that is only open during shopping centre hours. It is in the middle of a residential area and is known to the community as a family tavern, not a late night hotel/club venue. It can be best described as a tavern where you can go to have a meal, play the pokies or have a bet at the TAB. It certainly does not have the reputation of a late night or early morning venue.

While I understand the importance of having late-night venues for entertainment, I do not believe this tavern is a suitable location or venue for such activities. I thank Eric Rostron, Mike Smalley, Maria Licence, Ted Burnett and Mal Whatmore for their hard work obtaining signatures on a petition that I will be tabling in the House later this week. The petition strongly demonstrates the community's objection to this application. I hope that it will be looked on favourably.