

# What if we were a marginal electorate?

Our elected representatives would have to do more than offer us empty promises at election time.

- They would have to work harder to earn our support.
- They could no longer take us for granted.
- They would have to deliver real outcomes for our Community.
- They would have to listen to our concerns.
- They would have to give us real respect.
- Then they would have to stand up and defend our Community.
- Then they would have to fight for proper Infrastructure.

If these ideas appeal to you then you need to support our Battler Team in the Council Elections on Saturday, September 14<sup>th</sup>.



The battler supports campaigns against "Racism".

Battler Supporters come from a wide range of ethnic backgrounds. We see Auburn as a reflection of wave after wave of migrants and we celebrate our diversity.

What we have in common should be a stronger bond than our differences. It's what can make us great.

There is no reason for any group of migrants to think themselves better. We share this place and make it greater by working together.

Australia Post believes we are an easy target for closing the Post Office, they think we are passive and easy to walk over. It is our challenge to prove them wrong.

The **Battler** is produced by local community activists who come from a variety of grass roots organisations.

It is a waste of time threatening us with lawsuits because we are all low income earners and have no assets except our intelligence; which we are prepared to share with all.

Thank-you for reading **the Battler**. Get involved in our/your community and make it a better place to live.



[www.facebook.com/BattlerAuburnLGA](https://www.facebook.com/BattlerAuburnLGA)

Political comment authorised by Luke Ahern, 10 Campbell St, Berala, NSW 2141  
Printed by Battler Printing & Publishing 57A Northcote St, Auburn, NSW 2144



Auburn

August 2024

# battler

## AUBURN NEEDS A PROPER POST OFFICE

After 111 years of service the Auburn Post Office will close its doors on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> August.

Australia Post Boss, Paul Graham claims the Post Shop will close because profits have declined by 35% over the last four years. Residents say Auburn Post Office is always busy with long queues. Of course, the problem is that Australia Post management don't want to provide the many services that don't make big profits.



### NO COMMITMENT

Jason Clare MP our Federal Member of Parliament has announced that the Post Office will reopen some time in the future at a new Auburn site.

The problem is we have NO COMMITMENT when the new Post Office will open and will it provide the same necessary services.

### CORE SERVICES NEEDED

Auburn Post Office serves the needs of **41,757 residents**, our community is the most diverse in Australia with the largest refugee population and **16.7%** of our residents are over 60 years of age.

Many of the services are core to the proper functioning of our community – passport applications, witnessing documents, police checks, banking and bill paying services.

# PUBLIC SERVICE VS PRIVATE PROFIT

Australia Post is a Government owned business however the character of Australia Post has changed dramatically. Private Profit has become the priority in their corporate culture sweeping Public Service aside. They have made no secret of their plans to close a large number of post offices across Australia with closures at Campsie, Rockdale, a reduction of services at Silverwater and mail deliveries reduced to every second day.

## Not Enough Profit

Australia Post Boss, Paul Graham announced a half yearly profit of \$33.6 million but also warned that more post offices needed to close.

Paul Graham talks about Post Shops and not Post Offices, this is important because Post Shops are about just making money where Post Offices are traditionally seen as places that provide services that are really important to our community in Auburn.

## People are Important

It's the people who make an important difference at Auburn Post Office. It's the staff with multiple language and cultural skills, familiar faces that help with filling out our passport applications, witnessing Government documents, locating lost mail or parcels, assisting our seniors with paying utility bills.

These services might not make a profit but they're important glue in holding our community together.

## Increase the Pressure

It was an important victory for our community when Jason Clare MP, Lynda Voltz our State Member and Mayor Lisa Lake felt enough pressure to lobby Australia Post and force an agreement from them to open a new site in Auburn.

We need to increase that pressure to get commitments about the location of a new post office, a date for when it will reopen and a guarantee that it will keep the same number of staff to provide our services.

## Important Community Issue

Labor understands that the closure of the Auburn Post Office is an important community issue and we need to be cautious that the announcement of the new site was not a way to make the issue go away during the September Council Elections.

Our community can use the Council elections as pressure to get commitments on a new post office, the date it reopens and the services available.

## Looking for a new Post Office

We have walked the streets of Auburn Town Centre and we can't find a suitable site to replace the current site at Auburn Central.



Retail and Commercial sites in Auburn CBD have been in short supply and expensive for a long time.

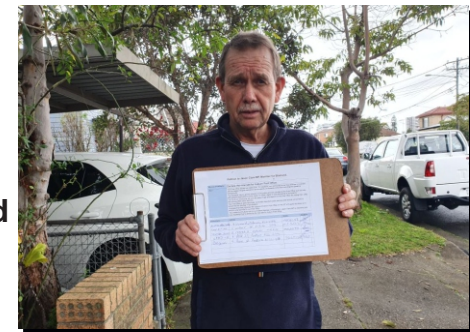
An alternative site could be the former Auburn Council Administrative building with entrances off Auburn Rd and Susan St, the advantages are the building is accessible and has off road carparking.

The Council would probably be able to offer a much cheaper lease than Auburn Central.

## SIGN the PETITION

A first step towards getting a commitment on the new Post Office and Services is signing the petition – Declare the new site for Auburn Post Office.

Letters to **Jason Clare MP for Blaxland**  
Suite 7, Level 1, 400 Chapel Rd,  
Bankstown 2200  
or email: [Jason.clare.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:Jason.clare.mp@aph.gov.au)  
and contact: 9790 2466



**We can help you write a letter**, contact: 0451 635 924 or  
email: [localbattler@live.com.au](mailto:localbattler@live.com.au) .

**Send a message to Labor that Auburn needs a “Proper Post Office”.**