

## Important message to members from the Secretary

Dear Member,

You may have recently received a document making anonymous and misguided allegations against myself and the Assistant Secretary Lynne Russell about the overall management of our Union. Suffice to say, the allegations are hardly worth addressing. However, when I became Secretary of this Union, I committed to making our Union fully transparent, and so I feel that it is necessary to write to you on this matter.

My response is simple:

- Our Union has grown by 3,000 members in the last 18 months at a rate of 10%.
- The Union is debt-free.
- Union fees went down in 2013, and I have committed that they will not increase for another 10 years.
- The Union has, in the last 3 years, won campaigns stopping the privatisation of five public hospitals, won Death & Disability Insurance for Paramedics, and led the fight on aged care and the Aged Care Royal Commission. In addition, our staff assist thousands of members through enterprise agreements and individual issues.
- Since 2012, our Union has gone from having 49 staff to 120 staff.
- As with any organisation, the Union has staff who move on. However, as you can see, more people come than go.
- Union council minutes and financial statements are available here: <https://www.hsu.asn.au/governance/reporting/>

I always welcome feedback and debate and do not expect members to agree with every decision I make. However, I do expect members with issues to raise those issues directly with me, rather than take anonymous pot-shots that are demonstrably untrue.

If you have any questions about any matter relating to the Union's operation, as always, I would love to hear from you.

In unity,



Gerard Hayes  
Secretary, HSU NSW/ACT/QLD