

# Alby calls it a day

By GERARD WALSH

**A**FTER months of speculation about his political future, Alby Schultz announced yesterday he would not seek re-election for the Federal seat of Hume.

Mr Schultz, 73 next month, has been a Liberal MP for 25 years – first in the NSW State parliament, then in Canberra.

Announcing his decision not to contest the up-coming Hume pre-selection, and to retire from politics, he said it was “time for him to move on.”

This was despite wanting to continue serving the electorate he felt “so deeply and passionately” about.

“I look forward in my spare time to giving my son Grant my full support, should he be pre-selected as Liberal candidate for the Gilmore electorate (at the next Federal election),” Mr Schultz said.

He said by not contesting his party’s Hume pre-selection, it would “allow the Liberal brand to be maintained in Hume by a capable committed Liberal.”

Mr Schultz said he’ll miss “the human side” of being a local state and federal member.

Whether that was helping drought-stricken families, sick babies needing humidicribs or constituents who needed urgent access to medical facilities.

“As an MP, I was always grateful for the infrastructure that occurred in the electorate as a result of my rep-

resentation,” he told the *Goulburn Post* yesterday.

He recalled lobbying heavily for the rail coach interchange at Cootamundra, for the first tech high school at Young, for the Junee Jail development and fighting fiercely against the wilderness proposals in the Kosciuszko National Park.

Mr Schultz revealed the recently retired Wilson Tuckey and former member Wal Fife were major influences in his formative political years.

“Wal Fife is the reason why I went into politics,” he said.

“He guided and nurtured me and is still giving me advice.”

Former Howard adviser Graham Morris was also a loyal confidant.

But the greatest support of all has been his wife of 50 years Gloria.

“This is our golden anniversary year and now I can spend more time with the woman I’ve loved all my life,” Mr Schultz said.

Mr Schultz said he had decided not to contest the Hume pre-selection (the process will culminate on May 12) after “much thought.”

“I believe a new Liberal candidate in Hume will have a fresh approach, and a willingness to work hard in Hume,” he said in his retirement statement.

“As the longest-serving Member for Hume since Federation, it is with mixed feelings that I have reached this conclusion.

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## Time to rustle up those autumn leaves

YOUNG Goulburn girls Gemma Hollands (left) and Alicia Hollands are getting ready for Goulburn Mulwaree Council’s annual leaf collection which starts on April 30.

Bags are available from the council’s customer service desk at the Civic Centre and are limited to three per residence.

Council staff last year collected 1706 bags of

leaves during the collection, at an average of 244 bags per week.

Many of the leaves collected are used as mulch in some of the council gardens.

Council asks that only leaves are placed in the bags and that they’re tied securely before being placed near the footpath.

The collection ends on June 12.

# 50 months

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