

Mayor protests too much

It is a letter writer's dream to know that, at least, mayor Semenoff reads them (*Advocate*, 6 May). His continual berating of those, such as Mr Slater, who take an active interest in their district and who put up with the mayor's whimsical behaviour, does become tiresome but it is probably just the mayor's way of trying to be funny. Is this the same mayor Semenoff who told me early in his term that "I take no notice of letter writers"?

Methinks the mayor doth protest too much.

How reassuring it is that we also learn that the mayor is not a bully. And, Mayor Semenoff, it doesn't pay to believe everything you read in the papers — aside from yourself, it wasn't Mr Slater who used the terms "whingers, whiners and wafflers".

It must be grand to be as important as mayor Semenoff and be able to set the rules determining who can participate in a democracy. This is, of course, not bullying. Would mayor Semenoff decline to participate if I categorised him as negatively fixated and described him as an "insipid aimless windbag"?

To use a rugby analogy, which is very apt for this council, mayor Semenoff would do himself, and his district, a favour if he "played the ball and not the man" a bit more often. But, then, you'd probably have more chance of getting pigs to fly.

Now what was that debt level, Stan?

NORTHERN
ADVOCATE
11 MAY 2010

WAYNE DEEMING
Maungakaramea