



John Murray and Mayor Tania Mihailuk at the top of the Civic Tower.

Picture: NICK BLOUKOS

Bankstown turns 30

BIANCA MARTINS

OVER 30 years Bankstown has evolved from a small city to a thriving place rich with history and culture.

Since May 27, 1980, when NSW governor Sir Roden Cutler announced that Bankstown was a city, the area's population has increased by 25 per cent, with the number of homes growing by 20 per cent.

There are 8000 more people employed in Bankstown as the

local retail sector has more than doubled over that time.

The announcement in 1980 was made before Queen Elizabeth, with the then mayor Ray McCormack also in attendance at a civic ceremony in the Bankstown City Centre.

On Thursday Bankstown will celebrate 30 years since its proclamation as a city.

Mayor Tania Mihailuk said the Bankstown of 1980 was predominantly a suburban municipality on the fringes of west-

ern Sydney. "Today, Bankstown is a major metropolitan city in the heart of Sydney," she said.

"This milestone gives us an opportunity to reflect on our progress as a community and its many achievements."

Bankstown Sports Club president John Murray said it was a privilege for the club to be a part of this great city and to see it evolve over time.

"Today our club employs more than 500 people, most of whom live locally," he said.