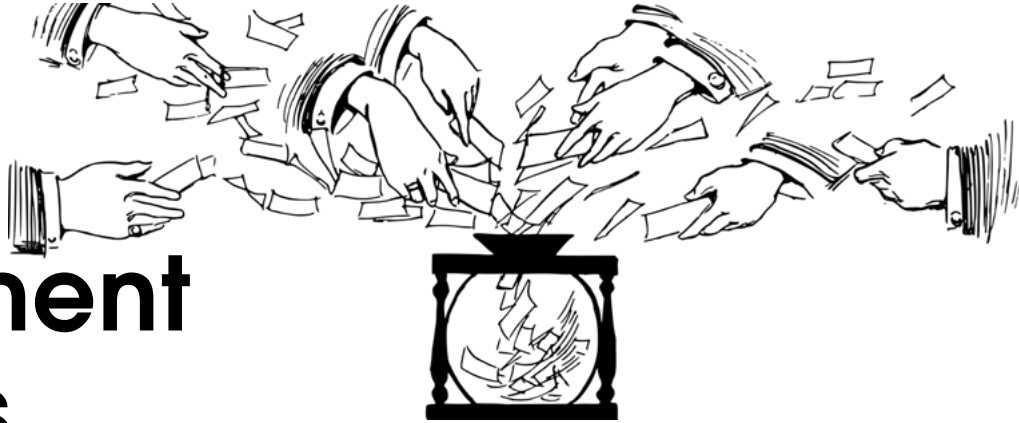




SPECIAL ELECTION ISSUE

Local Government Elections



IN this special edition of *Eastsider News*, we bring you statements from candidates standing for election in the Cities of Boroondara and Whitehorse.

We sent invitations to all candidates who nominated to provide us with a response to five questions. These are:

- Which ward are you standing in?
- Why are you standing for Council?
- How will you make a difference?
- What are your key interests or issues?
- Are you a member of a political party, and if so which party?

We thank those candidates who responded to our invitation. For those candidates who did not respond to our invitation, we suggest you go to the Victorian

Electoral Commission where you will find contact details for all and responses to a VEC questionnaire by most candidates.

For Boroondara, please go here: <https://www.vec.vic.gov.au/voting/2024-local-council-elections/boroondara-city-council/nominations>

For Whitehorse, please go here: <https://www.vec.vic.gov.au/Voting/2024%20local%20council%20elections/Whitehorse%20City%20Council/Nominations>

We encourage you to speak to the candidates standing in your ward and discuss those matters that are important to you.

Authorised by Eastsider News/Independent Community News Group Inc, PO Box 392 Mont Albert Vic 3127

Key local government election dates

- Monday, 7 October 2024: Ballot pack mail out begins
- Friday, 25 October 2024: Voting closes at 6 pm
- Friday, 1 November 2024: All postal votes must be received by 12 noon
- Friday, 15 November 2024: All election results declared

For more information, please go to the Victorian Electoral Commission website here: <https://www.vec.vic.gov.au/>





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Acknowledgement of country



Independent Community News Group Incorporated acknowledges the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people of the Kulin Nation, Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land and waters of the Eastsider News focus area, and pays respect to their Elders past, present, and emerging.

To learn more about the rich culture and traditions of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people, explore their website at www.wurundjeri.com.au

Away during the election?

If you're going to be away from your enrolled address between Monday 7 October and Friday 25 October, you may still be able to vote in your local council's election.

Ballot pack replacement

You can ask VEC to send a replacement ballot pack to a new address (including interstate and overseas addresses) if:

- you will be away when ballot packs are mailed (from Monday 7 October)
- your address has changed since the roll closed (Wednesday 7 August).

If you have moved within or out of your council area after the roll closed, you must vote for your old address. If you fail to vote, you risk a fine.

Vote in person

If you're away from your enrolled address with no access to mail, you can vote in person at your local election office.

The election office is a temporary office set up in your council area for the election. You can vote or drop off your ballot pack at the relevant election office, but not your local council's offices.

Where to vote

Find your local election office and opening hours on the election venue locator on the VEC website.

Applications open on Tuesday 15 October. You can also call VEC on 131 832 before 15 October for help with your ballot pack. For more information, go here: <https://vec.vic.gov.au/away>

Your vote is important

VOTING in local government elections is compulsory; but have you asked yourself why you should bother to vote in the upcoming local council elections? Do you believe you know enough about the candidates and that your vote can make a difference? Or do you think that, as long as your rubbish gets taken away and your road repaired, it doesn't matter who your local councillor is?

As your local newspaper, we see it as part of our responsibility to help keep our community informed on matters that affect their daily lives. We believe the decisions and actions of our local councils influence many aspects of the way we live.

Councils manage huge budgets, supply many essential services, and have access to considerable authority. They choose to pursue a range of priorities that should reflect the priorities of the residents rather than the personal agenda of any particular councillor. The capacity of the people we elect to represent us will determine the quality of the many decisions and actions taken by Council in our name.

It is important to *Eastsider News* that we steadfastly remain independent and non-partisan. As such, we will not promote any individual candidate.

Informed voting is important

We at *Eastsider News* want to reinforce the importance of your vote, and the need to make a considered choice. We value democracy at the municipal level of government and believe every vote matters. The more informed that vote is, the more it contributes to good governance and decision making by our local councils. Once elected, councillors have considerable authority over a wide range of matters including the nature and quality of services provided, the protection of our local environment, support for local business, the provision of local travel and other infrastructure. Councillors are also in a strong position to advocate for change to State and Federal Government policies and programs.

We encourage you to talk to your local candidates and question them about the things that matter to you. Ask them how they will consult with the people they represent and keep you informed of council activities. Question them about their attitude to things that are important to you.

What questions should we ask of our candidates?

It is a long time since expectations of local government were limited to 'roads, rates, and rubbish', although those responsibilities remain important. Voters and citizens in our contemporary world now expect their council to address a much wider agenda for how their rates and other charges are spent.

Every voter will have their own particular concerns and we see it as vital that each person votes according to their own values and assessments. Questions that we suggest voters ask of candidates include their views on the shifting role of Councils compared to that of State and Federal Governments; what can Councils do to ameliorate and adapt to climate change; how can Councils adjust to meet the needs of a changing population; how do Councils balance the relative budgetary needs for 'bricks and mortar' and services; and the role of local government as a decision maker and advocate in planning matters and provision of infrastructure.





An urgent call for volunteers to keep Eastsider News going

Eastsider News needs urgent help with:

- sorting and responding to emails
- uploading content to the website
- web search optimisation
- editing and collating contributions for each edition
- general secretarial tasks

If you can help with any one of these please contact us at eastsidernews1@gmail.com

The *Eastsider News* team is currently undergoing some major changes. Without some fresh talent, we will not have the resources to keep producing the newspaper. We need your help to keep this wonderful enterprise on the road.

We'd love to hear from you. All positions are voluntary and unpaid. Get in touch so we can chat about making best use of your skills and time at eastsidernews1@gmail.com



Photographic Competition 2024



THE Doncaster Camera Club and Eastsider News invite you to take part in our Photographic Competition. If you live in Boroondara, Manningham, Whitehorse and adjoining areas, we would be delighted for you to share your skills as a photographer and to win the prizes.

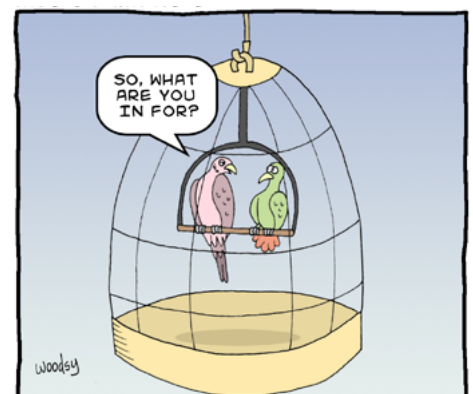
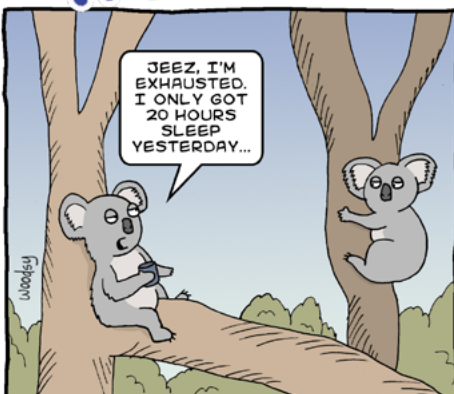
Your challenge is to photograph the beauty and charm of this region, be it the natural world, your local neighbourhood, people at work or play, or whatever catches your eye.

There are two categories: Open – amateur photographers of any age residing in the Cities of Boroondara, Manningham, Whitehorse and adjoining areas; and Under 16 years of age. Participants aged below 16 will require parental permission to enter.

For more details on the competition and how you can enter, go [here](#). To find out more about the Doncaster Camera Club, please scan the QR code above. The closing date for entries is 15 October.

woodsy

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Local government

a significant player in Australia's democracy

NO matter where you live in Australia, you will come under the purview of the third tier of government, local government. Whether known as a city, council, municipality or shire, local government consists of two groups, elected councillors and staff who work for that council.

Because of its close proximity to the everyday lives of all Australians, it is this level of government which is most immediately affected by changes in Australia's society and economy. It is also the level of government that can and must respond quickly to these changes and ensure the services our local communities need on a daily basis function effectively.

A time of enormous change

The 21st century has seen enormous changes in Australia. These changes cover every aspect of our lives. In our local region, we have seen large changes to the demographic structure of our communities. Factors such as changing technology have impacted on the social cohesion and identification of people to their local community. With the move towards a more service-based economy generally, the local economy and its place in and contribution to the national economy has shifted significantly.

This has seen a major growth in the roles and responsibilities of local government. Along with an increased community demand for more improved services, there has been substantial shifts in the relative responsibilities of different levels of government. Today, these extend way beyond the traditional tasks to matters as diverse as environmental mitigation and adaptation, the management of emergencies, and the provision of essential goods and services such as aged care or childcare.

This extension is being reinforced by cost shifting by the federal and state governments on to local government. Many Councils are responding to these increased responsibilities by outsourcing to private providers.

The roles and responsibilities of a local council are spelt out in more than 100 Victorian Acts and regulations. There are also many Commonwealth Acts regulations, and other legal proscriptions with which they are required to comply. An example is the role for councils to act on climate change set out in the Victorian Local Government Act 2020, the Public Health and Wellbeing Act 2008 and the Planning and environment Act 1987.

Ensuring democratic local government

The health of the democracy at all levels of government is determined by the level to which it is accountable, transparent and open to scrutiny. This requires elected representatives and officials to have a clear vision for their constituency, a commitment to performing their job honestly and to the best of their ability, and the availability of adequate and well-managed support and resources to do the job.

A major weakness of our representative style of democracy is the lack of involvement by most Australians in the political debate at times other than around elections. Casting a vote every electoral cycle is only the first step in making governments at all levels fully representative of our community. Continued community participation throughout the time between elections is essential.

This participation depends on strong consultative mechanisms that go beyond taking part in surveys on particular questions. For example, each Council is required by legislation to develop a Community Plan setting out a broad vision and a Council Plan to identify strategies to achieve this vision. To be seen as credible and meaningful to the community, these documents need to be more than some high-minded sentiments gleaned from a survey and a small number workshops but to be the outcome of a facilitated, informed and continuing discussion amongst a significant proportion of the community.

A more robust form of consultation, deliberative consultation is identified in the Victorian Local Government Act 2020. The Act states in section 55 that

(Continued on next page)

How we can help you

Children and families	Health and wellbeing	Your home	Sport and leisure	Roads and safety	Community
 Childcare	 Disability services	 Planning permits	 Sportsgrounds	 Roads and footpaths	 Libraries
 Kindergartens	 Home maintenance	 Building permits	 Swimming pools	 Car parks	 Volunteering
 Maternal and child health	 Home and community care	 Pet registrations	 Leisure centres	 Street lighting	 Theatre and the arts
 Playgroups	 Meals on wheels	 Rubbish and recycling	 Parks and gardens	 School crossing supervision	 Grants
 Immunisation	 Food safety	 Graffiti removal	 Festivals and events	 Emergency management	 Community centres

Local government

(Continued from page 5)

councils must adopt a community engagement policy that includes deliberative engagement practices that are capable of being applied to the development of the Community Vision, the Council Plan, the Financial Plan and the Asset Plan.

As set out in the MosaicLab publication, *A Short Guide to Deliberative Engagement for Victorian Councils*, available on the Victorian Local Governance Association website, 'The most common form of deliberation practised in Australia is a citizens' jury. Other methods include deliberative polls, planning cells and 21st century town hall meetings'.

The right of residents to ask questions at Council meetings is also an essential part of democracy in local



government. This type of scrutiny enables greater transparency and integrity in decision making, and ensures the decision makers are accountable to the people they represent. It is essential that this process be made as open and accessible as possible. Also important are mechanisms such as regular ward meetings for councillors to report back to their local community.



THE City of Boroondara was formed in June 1994 from the amalgamation of the Cities of Kew, Camberwell and Hawthorn. It has an area of 60 square kilometres. At the 2021 Census, there were 167,900 people living in the area.

The City of Boroondara has 11 single member wards, Bellevue, Cotham, Glenferrie, Gardiner, Junction, Lynden, Maranoa, Maling, Riversdale, Solway, and Studley.

Boroondara Candidates

Bellevue Ward

Serena Huang, David Dawson, Michael Nolan, Gregory Ball, Samuel Allan.

Michael Nolan

Bellevue Ward

I'm a community independent with no political allegiances. I've never been a member of a political party.

I have lived in Kew East for 26 years and my partner Rosemary and I have raised our family in Bellevue.

I've knocked on 6,000 doors in Bellevue Ward to hear the needs and hopes of fellow residents. I've heard that people want Council to keep rates low; to properly manage redevelopment of the Kew Recreation Centre; protect parks and gardens; and encourage local shopping.

Above all else, I'm running because I want to represent the interests of our community.

I'm an engineer and I've been a project director in manufacturing. I've led large teams developing major infrastructure and worked to reduce emissions and make large facilities energy efficient. (Continued over page)



Michael Nolan (continued)

I will work to ensure responsible spending and to keep rates low. I'll advocate for the Council to look at renewal rather than demolishing and rebuilding Kew Library.

I'll advocate strongly for residents impacted by North-East Link. We need to ensure noise barriers meet the highest specification and contracts are aligned accordingly. We need to ensure tree planting contracts are of the highest standard with 5-10 years of tree-health monitoring along the NE-Link. I'll ensure that Bellevue is always well represented.

I've given 20+ years of service to my community through leadership roles on the Hays Paddock advisory committee, Electrify Boroondara, Kew East Primary School committee, and coaching under-age basketball. I'll have regular consultation with the community, listen to and represent Bellevue.

For more information, go to my website here. www.michaelnolan.au

Authorisation: M. Nolan, PO Box 378, Balwyn North VIC 3104

Gregory Ball

Bellevue Ward

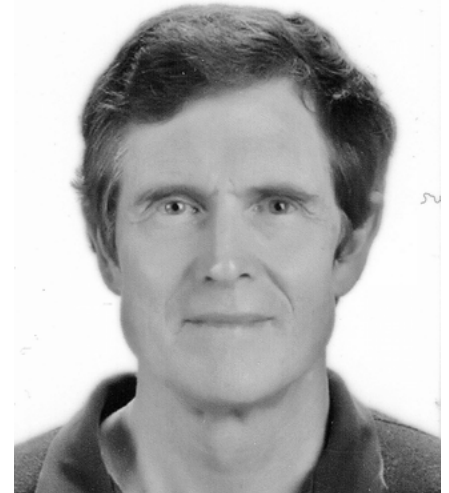
I am a candidate for Bellevue Ward, City of Boroondara. Each Ward in Boroondara has specific issues. Three of the issues impacting Bellevue Ward are high rates and wasteful spending, heritage and individual property rights, and pollution and loss of parkland associated with the Eastern Freeway.

I contend there should be no increase in general rates for four years and there should be more efficient delivery of maintenance and services. Also, unnecessary and unwanted capital projects should be abandoned, and capital projects which do proceed should be managed carefully to minimize the cost.

Heritage is contentious. I contend the community is best served by establishing an entity like a Boroondara National Trust to preserve, and provide public access to, the best of our heritage including buildings, parkland and the Yarra River.

Properties or other assets would be purchased at fair market value or received as donations. Inclusion of individual post World War 2 properties into heritage overlays in Bellevue Ward has caused considerable unnecessary emotional and financial distress to affected owners with no public benefit.

I contend the Eastern Freeway should be enclosed, similar in concept to the CityLink Sound Tube to eliminate unhealthful noise, particulate matter and air pollution associated with the heavy traffic on the freeway.



New open space should be created to compensate for the loss of Koonung Creek Reserve. The large area of the enclosed freeway could be used for recreational buildings and for generating solar electricity. An innovative community electricity grid associated with this could include energy storage and underground power lines, making for more attractive streets.

I do not have any political affiliations or memberships. I have never been a member of a political party or union. I live in Bellevue Ward, the Ward in which I am running.

Authorized by Gregory Ball, 47 Cityview Road, Balwyn North, VIC 3104

Cotham Ward

Liz Kelly, Felicity Sinfield.

Liz Kelly

Cotham Ward

Let me introduce myself. I am Liz Kelly, a local who has lived in Boroondara with my partner for 30 years.

I see myself a true local because of my love for this beautiful area and my active involvement in many aspects of local community life including as part of a family. This has given me an understanding of the things that matter to the local people of Cotham ward. My working life has also given me the capacity to contribute to meaningful and effective change such as

can be achieved through local government.

My partner, Stephen and I have two adult children, Connor and Claire. Both kids went to local primary schools, Claire attending Kew High and Connor went to St Pauls specialist school.

What I have to offer

As a highly qualified senior manager with over two decades of governance experience, I have had extensive experience as a chair and board member of a diverse range of organisations. This includes health, disability,

(Continued over page)

Liz Kelly (continued)

sporting, dispute resolution, audit and governance groups. This has given me first-hand experience in policy development and service provision that are major responsibilities in local government

What is important to me

I am dedicated to ensuring decision makers in Council are accountable and transparent to ratepayers in their decision making.

I am committed to council providing services that allow members of the community and visitors to access activities with respect and dignity. Inclusion for all abilities and allowing community members to age in place improves outcomes for all.

I understand through first-hand experience the benefits of care delivered in the community by the community. Aging in place for community members offers dignity and respect.

Access to beautiful green spaces is something I prize as great for health, wellbeing and inclusion. I see that



heritage buildings add to the beauty of Boroondara.

I think the Kew Recreation centre should be energised by sustainable means not gas. I have no affiliation with any political party.

Authorised by Liz Kelly. PO Box 16 Kew East Vic 3102.

Gardiner Ward

Michael Burge, David Chu, Victor Franco.

David Chu

Gardiner Ward

As a local business owner and father of three, I am passionate about serving the community I proudly call home.

I am standing for Council because I believe in practical, community-focused solutions that address real issues faced by residents. If elected, I will prioritize improving community safety by upgrading street lighting, strengthening Neighbourhood Watch programs, and ensuring safer streets for all. I will also work towards freezing council rates to provide immediate relief to families and local businesses while removing excessive waste charges for households with medical conditions and growing families.

My vision includes promoting sustainable development that respects the unique character of our suburbs, protecting our tree canopy, and upgrading local parks and green spaces. I will advocate for privately funded electric vehicle (EV) charging stations to reduce environmental impact, and I am committed to maintaining Boroondara's NetZero status.

Local businesses are the backbone of our community. I will work to reduce red tape and compliance costs to foster a thriving local economy. By supporting our shopping strips and small businesses, we can create more vibrant, connected neighbourhoods.



I am a proud member of the Liberal Party, because I believe in freedom of speech and freedom of thought. I run this campaign as an individual, but not endorsed by the Liberal Party. I will represent the values of accountability, integrity, and responsible spending, ensuring that every dollar of council funds is used efficiently to benefit the community. I aim to make Boroondara a safer, more connected, and environmentally sustainable place for everyone.

Website: davidchuforgardiner.au

Authorised by David Chu. 363 Camberwell Rd, Camberwell 3124

Victor Franco

Gardiner Ward

I am a resident and ratepayer in Gardiner Ward, where I live with my family, and my loyalty is to my community. I have no affiliation with any political party.

It's been an honour to serve as your Councillor at the City of Boroondara since 2020 and I will be standing again.

I am proud of my achievements, significantly my role in creating a marvellous new park in Camberwell Junction, with thanks to the Victorian Government, on the site of a former Council car park, which is used daily by children at Camberwell Primary School and the wider community.

Among other things, I successfully advocated for our first Climate Action Plan, the redesign of the new pavilion at Lewin Reserve which recently won an architectural design award, our first masterplan for Gardiners Creek (Kooyongkoot), comprehensive heritage reviews in Gardiner Ward, and ending the practice of engaging in religious prayers at every council meeting, focusing instead on what we were elected to do.

In my professional career, I have held senior executive roles in local government and non-profit sector and led major corporate reforms. In Sydney, I was Chief of Staff to former Lord Mayor Lucy Turnbull.

I am committed to good governance and I know how to get things done. I am a problem solver with an Executive MBA from UNSW and the University of Sydney and degrees from Melbourne and Monash. I



want to use my skills to help make Boroondara the best place to live.

I will continue to work for a council that is open and transparent, financially responsible and a council which listens to our community. I will promote environmental leadership, advocate for the creation of new parks and open space, expansion of our shared path network and biodiversity sites and support planning outcomes which protect our heritage, promote design excellence and encourage sustainability.

For more information, go to my website at <https://victorfrancogardiner.com/>

Authorised by Victor Franco PO Box 742 Camberwell South 3124

Glenferrie Ward

Wes Gault, Sam Aldemir, Rochelle Pattison.

Wes Gault

Glenferrie Ward

I've been honoured to serve Boroondara residents as the Glenferrie Ward Councillor for the past four years. I have delivered on all of my 2020 election promises including:

- Declaration of a climate emergency
- Driving through an aggressive Climate Action Plan
- Expanding and improving Heritage overlays
- Replacing the Ferguson Stand with a park
- Commencing the redevelopment of the Michael Tuck Stand
- Extending and improving walking and cycling trails
- Finally agreeing a plan for the revitalization of the Glenferrie Road retail precinct (and saving the Liddiard Street car park)
- Cutting \$13m out of the 'Customer First' program.

I am standing for a second term to ensure these and other initiatives are properly delivered including:

- real climate action, to address both corporate and community emissions
- better building standards



- ongoing expansion of walking and cycling trails
- expanding our tree canopy (to 30%)
- development of good affordable housing whilst protecting our outstanding heritage precincts
- revitalisation of all of our main strip shopping centres

(Continued over page)

Wes Gault (continued)

- completing Kew Recreation Centre, without significant additional costs to ratepayers
- prudent library upgrades.

I believe that four years on Council and experience as Deputy Mayor, Chair of Urban Planning, and as Chair and member of many other committees have provided me with a strong understanding of how to optimize outcomes for our community, whilst my background as an engineer, architect and international company

director has provided the skills to ensure Council delivers on real community needs within realistic budget and program constraints.

As Glenferrie Ward Councillor I will work with you to address our very real challenges. I am a member of the Australian Greens Victoria.

Authorised by M. Shield, Victorian Greens, Suite 1.05, Level 1, 50 Queen St., Melbourne, Vic. 3000.

Sam Aldemir

Glenferrie Ward

Proud Boroondara resident for 25 years, my wife and I raised and educated three children at local schools, with our youngest now in year 11. I studied Bachelor of Business International Trade and Marketing from Victoria University.

I spent my career in the energy industry and continue to forge the path to net zero for a global company. For 11 years, our family has run De Barcelona Restaurant on Glenferrie Road where our family, friends and community come together.

Business is tough but our community stood by us during the Covid years and now the cost-of-living recession. I enjoy serving our community as President of the Glenferrie Traders' Association, which represents 570 businesses.

The accelerated demonisation of gas – business can ill afford to lose it and residents demand it, we need an open and transparent discussion to understand the transition.

The Glenferrie Place Plan first drafted in 1990 and still to be implemented is a cause of concern for not only businesses but for our wider community. Businesses along Glenferrie Road have submitted our feedback, we really need this plan to come to fruition.

The recent decision by council to sell private land to Swinburne University which will result in 79 car parks becoming another university building is still very raw within the Glenferrie traders group. We vehemently opposed the transaction and fought the decision at the Administrative Appeals Tribunal.



The Glenferrie train station continues to play a major role in moving people traffic in and out of our precinct but doesn't carry to modern facilities of such an essential hub. Getting all stakeholders together and implementing an action plan is very high on my agenda.

Council must do more to keep our amenities clean and free of graffiti. Youth crime is spiralling, with many residents concerned about safety. As your politically independent Councillor, I will work closely with VicPol to improve foot patrols and restore the feeling of safety on our streets.

With a strong focus on getting the basics right, I understand the needs of our local community and ensuring value for ratepayers' money.

Authorised by Sam Aldemir, 710 Glenferrie Road, Hawthorn Vic 3122

Junction Ward

Di Gillies, Mal Osborne-Smith.

Lynden Ward

Colton Senior, Lisa Hollingsworth, Michael Lamb.

Maling Ward

Anthony Nicholls, Shima Ibuki, Jane Addis, Sam Wan.

Anthony Nicholls

Maling Ward

I'm a proud fourth generation Boroondara resident and father of five. The decisions that will be made by Council over the next four years will fundamentally shape our city and the way that we live for generations to come. It's critical to get this right.

Boroondara is growing. Poorly managed projects will quickly result in a city that is unrecognisable. I will work to ensure that our unique character, heritage, and tree canopy are protected and preserved for future generations.

My vision for Boroondara is a modern and evolving city that takes pride in preserving its heritage, character and green space. Boroondara should have an efficient, transparent and responsible local Council that serves all its residents and supports the thriving local businesses and community organisations that are at its heart.

I live and work in Maling Ward and you've probably met me walking our kids (and adopted duck) to school, at a café or at local sports grounds. I work professionally with NFPs, small businesses and sporting clubs advocating to councils and government around Australia. I understand how local government works, and how it doesn't.

I will work to reduce Council overspending while growing the value of its services and meeting its climate change obligations. I will work to improve our parks, sporting facilities, kindergartens and public spaces.

Shima Ibuki

Maling Ward

I'm standing for Council because I care deeply about our community and have already been very active in advocating for local issues and supporting residents. Running for Council feels like a logical next step, where I can make an even greater impact.

I have strong connections within our community and a proven track record of community leadership and action. My broad skill set spans the financial services industry and highly regulated environments. I'm ready to bring this expertise to Council.

I will make a difference by being active and visible. As an independent candidate, I am focused solely on the issues that matter, not on party politics or factions. I will listen, advocate, and work hard to ensure that the Council's decisions truly reflect the needs and values of our community.

My key issues in Boroondara and Maling Ward include:

Responsible Spending

People want their rate money spent on essential services and infrastructure, not on over-capitalised building works or unnecessary projects. I will advocate for smart, transparent spending that prioritizes community needs.

Eastsider News October 2024



I will work to ensure Council better serves clubs, community groups and traders.

Throughout my professional career, I have worked with small businesses, not-for-profits, clubs and associations to help them grow and engage better with their local government. I am an experienced mediator, a strategic thinker, and an advocate for smart solutions. I am diligent, honest and value integrity.

I am a member of the Liberal Party. However, I have not been endorsed or assisted by the party. I'm running a truly independent campaign with no financial or volunteer assistance from any party or interest groups.

E: anthony@anthonymicholls.com.au

W: <https://anthonymicholls.com.au/>

F: <https://www.facebook.com/anthony4maling>

Authorised by Anthony Nicholls, PO Box 1154, Surrey Hills North VIC 3127



Camberwell Junction Activity Centre Plans

Many residents are concerned about the State Government's plans for this area. We must manage this carefully to protect the heritage character of our community, ensure adequate infrastructure, and make decisions that will benefit future generations.

(Continued over page)

Shima Ibuki (continued)

Climate Action

There is strong community support for preserving and enhancing our tree canopy, both for its aesthetic value and its environmental benefits. We need real climate action to help people be more resilient and transition to clean energy. We need more EV charging stations.

Supporting the Local Economy

Post-COVID challenges and changing spending habits have impacted our local economy. The Council needs

to step up with better support and resources for local traders to help them adapt and thrive.

I am not a member of a political party and am running as a genuine community independent.

Go to Shima's website at www.shimaibuki.com.au her Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/shima4malingward> or email her at info@shimaibuki.com.au

Authorised by S.Ibuki. Suite 1041, 16 Cotham Road, Kew 3101.

Maranoa Ward

Peter Campbell, Cynthia Watson, Chris Pattas, Jackie Carter.

Peter Campbell

Maranoa Ward

We need improved consultation with Council and better communication on local issues and Council decisions.

People want a renewed focus on improving council services, including better maintenance of local streets, aged care and youth services.

I will strive to keep residents better informed about Council's services, activities and decisions.

I am not a member of any political party.

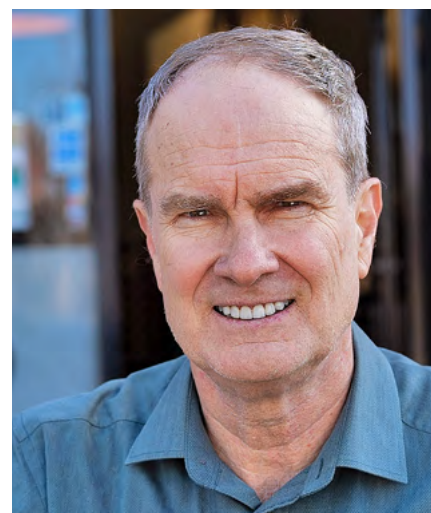
My priorities are responsible spending to keep rates low. For example, the Kew Recreation centre rebuild project is overdue and well over budget.

We can reduce traffic congestion by improving public transport and making walking and bike trips safer. Every walking or bike trip is one less car on Boroondara's increasingly busy roads, especially during school drop off and pick up times.

Council needs to fix potholes in local streets and provide proactive maintenance of footpaths to avoid injuries.

The Boroondara tree canopy target should be increased to 50%. We also need to stop some developers from removing many heritage and significant trees.

The Hawthorn to Box Hill Trail will provide a safe family-friendly bike and walking path to connect local communities and provide safe travel through Hawthorn, Camberwell, Glenferrie Road, Maling Road, Surrey Hills, Mont Albert and Box Hill.



The speed limit in local shopping strips should be reduced to 40 km/h to improve safety.

Council needs to support our local shopping centres and work with traders to keep them vibrant.

I am keen to see Council assist residents to get off gas and move to electricity for hot water and heating and install solar panels.

We need fresh independent voices on the Boroondara Council.

<https://www.petercampbellboroondara.com/>

Authorised by Peter Campbell, PO Box 158, Canterbury, VIC 3126

Jackie Carter

Maranoa Ward

As a long-time Balwyn resident, I've had the privilege of experiencing what makes our community so special. However, I also see the growing challenges that many of us are facing.

With a background as an IT professional in the pharmaceutical industry and as a volunteer with Kew East Community Recycling and Willsmere Community Garden, I am deeply committed to supporting our local area. Now, more than ever, our council needs fresh faces and ideas who will put people first, especially as

cost-of-living pressures and the housing crisis continue to affect so many in Boroondara.

If elected as your Greens councillor, I will make it my priority to address the cost-of-living crisis by ensuring council investments are both sensible and transparent, with a strong focus on essential services. I'll work to enhance maternal health services, ensure affordable community childcare, and support our libraries and recreation facilities, which play such a vital role in our community.

We need immediate and effective action on climate change. By implementing solar bulk-buying programs

(Continued over page)

Jackie Carter (continued)

and helping households transition off gas, we can bring down power bills and reduce emissions. I will also hold the state government accountable for their commitments to investing in and maintaining public housing and more frequent and accessible public transport.

Our streets must be safer and more accessible for everyone. I will push for investment in safe, separated bike lanes and improved pedestrian crossings, making Boroondara a safer, more walkable community. Protecting and expanding our green spaces is critical to the character and sustainability of Boroondara, maintaining and increasing our tree canopy, with a particular emphasis on native flora, will be essential for the health and wellbeing of our environment and community.

Let's work together to build a Boroondara that puts people and the planet first. <https://linktr.ee/jackie4maranoo>



Authorised by M. Shield, Victorian Greens, Suite 1.05, Level 1, 50 Queen St., Melbourne, Vic. 3000

Riversdale Ward

Priscilla Duncan, Wayne Kelly, Rob Baillieu.

Rob Baillieu

Riversdale Ward

I'm Rob Baillieu, I have served in the Army for nearly 8 years in addition to working as a volunteer manager and consultant. Now I'm your Independent candidate for Riversdale this Council election.

I have lived and worked in Hawthorn my whole life. I'm a co-founder of Electrify Boroondara, a volunteer for numerous LGBTQIA+ organisations, and President of Voices of Kooyong - the largest volunteer organisation in Boroondara. I have extensive experience in operations, logistics, emergency management, and community organising.

I'm standing now because Riversdale deserves a Councillor who listens to the community, works hard, and can be trusted to deliver quality and reliable services. My priorities are:

Climate Action and Environment

- Help residents and businesses install solar panels and batteries to lower power bills
- Install EV charging stations across Boroondara to improve EV uptake
- Help residents transition from gas to lower power bills
- Support the electrification of Boroondara Council
- Protect trees and grow our canopy. Boroondara's canopy is way below target
- Develop community gardens and encourage planting along nature strips

Services, amenities, and quality of life

- Keep rates low! Boroondara recorded a \$14m surplus last financial year!
- Protect and expand parks and paths



- Support the Business Associations in Boroondara economic development plan
- Deliver quality reliable services in healthcare
- Support local schools, libraries, and sporting clubs
- Enable sustainable development whilst protecting built heritage
- Restore in home aged care support

Local Projects

- Lobby for the removal of Glenferrie Rd Crossing
- Build the Hawthorn to Box Hill bike trail
- Support the renovation of Hawthorn RSL
- Advocate for the development of affordable housing at the Denmark St VicRoads site
- Make Glenferrie Station and Glenferrie Rd Trams wheelchair accessible
- Create a LGBTQIA+ Advisory Committee

For more information, go to my website at <https://www.robbaillieu.org/>

Authorised by Rob Baillieu, PO BOX 6021, Hawthorn, VIC, 3122

Solway Ward

Atul Kalra, Kate Bellamy, Zachary Townend, John Friend-Pereira, Adrian Morgan.

Kate Bellamy

Solway Ward

I will use my business acumen and knowledge gained as a community leader to be your strong voice on Council. I am truly Independent having never been a member of a political party and have been active in Solway for the past 20 years along with my husband and three children.

As cofounder of the Glen Iris Scorpions, A shy Redbacks committee member, past President of the Glen Iris Primary Parents Association, Volunteer Coordinator at St Vincent's Hospital and current President of Burwood Cricket Club, I understand that connecting people through recreation, families and volunteering lies at the heart of a great community.

I am standing to provide a fresh, common-sense approach ensuring everyone's voice is heard, further climate action is proactively taken, and that Council maximises value for ratepayers. Every action taken, every decision made, needs to be transparent, consultative and fiscally responsible.

I am committed to working hard to continue to grow a strong, vibrant community enhancing local parks, supporting grassroots initiatives and, above all, ensuring residents are well represented. I will represent Solway with integrity, vision, collaboration and pride. I welcome and thank you for your support.

I have been active in the Solway community for over two decades and have seen first-hand the value that connecting people through organisations, services and programs delivers. Being elected to Council will provide the opportunity to advocate for what matters most to the people of Solway and importantly I'm outcome focussed. For me, Council is as a natural progression.

As a true independent with the strengths and experience of working with and bringing together people with



diverse views, I will provide a fresh approach to Council based on my values – values that reflect transparency, collaboration and a commitment to make decisions that are in the best interest of ratepayers.

Key Interests/Issues

- Supporting and encouraging volunteering in local action/friends groups
- Community sport, active transport & healthy ageing
- Proactive climate action
- Mental health & wellbeing initiatives
- Socially inclusive programs and outcomes

In respect to issues there needs to be greater transparency on Council, a questioning of the allocation of funding for major projects and a stronger more proactive Climate Action Plan.

I'm an Independent candidate and have never belonged to a political party.

www.katebellamy4boroondara.com

Zachary Townend

Solway Ward

I'm standing for Council because I believe in building a stronger, more connected, and vibrant community. Solway Ward deserves a representative who listens, acts with integrity, and delivers real outcomes. My deep commitment to our local area drives me to ensure that Council works for all residents, providing services that are high quality, accessible, and deliver value for money.

Having worked in local government, I understand how Council operates and how to get things done efficiently. My experience equips me to advocate for responsible financial management, ensuring that every dollar spent benefits the community. I'll focus on delivering projects on time and on budget, without compromising quality, and I'll fight for better outcomes in the areas that matter most. *(Continued over page)*



Zachary Townend (continued)

My key priorities include upgrading parks, trails, and sporting facilities, improving accessibility, supporting local businesses, and protecting our green spaces. These are essential to fostering a community that is healthy, active, and inclusive. I'll also focus on supporting services for our elderly, disabled, and disadvantaged residents, ensuring they receive the help they need.

I am a member of the Liberal Party, though I stand as an Independent Candidate and if elected will answer only to the good people of Ashburton and Glen Iris. I am deeply committed to serving the interests of

Solway Ward. I will advocate for what's right for our community without political bias, working across all areas of our society to get results.

As your Councillor, I will always be accessible and ready to listen. I'm standing because I want to make a meaningful difference, and I believe that together, we can create a Boroondara where everyone can thrive. I ask for your vote to represent Solway Ward and build a brighter future for our community.

Authorised by Zachary Townend, 196-202 Burwood Road, Hawthorn VIC 3122

John Friend-Pereira

Solway Ward

I'm standing for Council to ensure Ashburton and Glen Iris remain vibrant and livable.

Our community deserves improved services, more transparency, and a council that genuinely listens to residents. I've seen great opportunities in areas like revitalising vacant spaces, improving road safety, and promoting sustainable development.

I believe the council can do more to improve daily life. With my experience as a director of an international NGO, an active community volunteer, and as a parent, I bring a solution-oriented mindset. I'm committed to fostering stronger connections within the community and ensuring that council decisions reflect the needs and aspirations of our community.

I'll focus on ensuring council spending is both responsible and responsive to the community's needs. This means prioritising essential services, maintaining local facilities, and avoiding unnecessary projects.

I'm committed to supporting grassroots initiatives like recycling programs and other community-driven efforts. My governance experience has taught me that listening to and acting on residents' concerns is key.

I'll push for better safety at road crossings, address the issue of vacant properties, and support projects that promote sustainability and energy efficiency in homes and public buildings. Transparency will be central to my approach, with a focus on involving the community in key decision-making processes fostering



a collaborative approach to solving local issues.

My key priorities are responsive and responsible spending, environmental sustainability, public and affordable housing.

I am passionate about ensuring all new developments meet the highest environmental standards.

I want to support local businesses by encouraging 'shop local' campaigns and organising festivals that bring the community together.

Establishing a Community Strengthening Fund to give residents a voice in shaping the future by enabling them to propose and lead projects that address local needs.

I am a member of the Australian Greens Victoria.

Authorisation: M. Shield, Victorian Greens, Suite 1.05 Level 1 Queen

Studley Ward

Nick Stavrou, Amanda Towe, Sophie Torney, Kym Sullivan.

Sophie Torney

Studley Ward

I'm a businesswoman, project manager, former computer programmer and director of an integrity body with a track record of delivering. Most recently, as Convenor of the 2023 and 2024 Electrify Boroondara Expos, I've brought together experts, businesses, politicians and volunteers to drive meaningful change

in our community. For twenty-five years, my family and I have called Kew home. I've led school parents' associations, managed junior football teams, supported refugees and volunteered for climate groups.

I've knocked on over 3,000 doors and you've told me you want genuine engagement and accountability from council. The handling of the Kew Recreation Centre has been a major frustration, with ongoing delays, poor

(Continued over page)

Sophie Torney (continued)

communication, and a lack of transparency eroding public trust. People want responsible planning that balances preserving our heritage with the need for more housing and there is a strong desire for sensible climate policies, increasing rooftop solar uptake, building more EV charging stations, and protecting our tree canopy.

I'm running because we deserve a higher standard of leadership – leadership that listens to our community, represents our values, and acts in our best interests.

I hold a postgraduate degree in information systems, an MBA from Melbourne University, and have decades of experience in small business and corporate sectors, specialising in building systems and business management. Over the past 20 years, I've worked alongside diverse groups, delivering impactful community projects. As your local councillor, I'll bring this expertise and experience to ensure Boroondara's leadership is transparent, accountable, and truly



representative of our community's needs.

I am an independent and have not ever been a member of a political party.

Authorised by Sophie Torney, Suite 1041, 16 Cotham Road, Kew, VIC, 3101



THE City of Whitehorse was created in December 1994 following the amalgamation of the former cities of Box Hill and Nunawading. The municipality derives its name and logo from The White Horse Hotel, a popular coaching inn located on the corner of Elgar Road and Whitehorse Road. The City covers an area of 64 square kilometres. Its suburbs include Blackburn, Blackburn North, Blackburn South, Box Hill, Box Hill North, Box Hill South, Burwood, Burwood East,

Whitehorse Candidates

Thank you to everybody that responded to our invitation. The profiles are organised according to electorates and order on the ballot sheet.

Further information on all candidates is available on the Victorian Electoral Commission website here:

Cootamundra Ward

Jeffrey Rickard, Nyssa Leereveld, Greg Cheesman, Alec Ferguson, Andrew Munroe, Kieran Simpson.

Jeffrey Rickard

Cootamundra Ward

I am committed to improving the planning and building process for better outcomes that recognise architectural quality, community amenity and streetscape quality. I am concerned that with the increasing residential developments along Whitehorse Road and deeper into the heartland of our Ward we will lose the treed character and open spaces that characterise Blackburn generally.

Whilst the Victorian State Government has taken much control by demanding a doubling of the housing

Forest Hills, Mitcham, Mont Albert, Mont Albert North, Nunawading, part of Surrey Hills, Vermont and Vermont South. It has an estimated residential population of 171,167 as of June 2021.

It is divided into eleven wards. These are Cootamundra, Eley, Elgar, Kingsley, Lake, Mahoneys, Simpson, Sparks, Terrara, Walker and Wattle. One Councillor is elected to represent each ward, every four years. The Mayor and Deputy Mayor are elected by the Councillors for a 12-month term.

<https://www.vec.vic.gov.au/Voting/2024%20local%20council%20elections/Whitehorse%20City%20Council/Nominations> On this site, you will find contact details for all candidates and responses that most submitted to a questionnaire by VEC.

density in Blackburn and surrounding areas we have the opportunity, now, to reframe regulations so that the forecast increase in numbers be balanced with better planning for more sensitive building outcomes. This can be achieved by using shared amenities, environmentally effective technologies and creative architectural solutions. The planned Activity Centre in Box Hill in addition to local development will impact established infrastructure and services such as schooling, healthcare, asset maintenance, prevention of vandalism and waste management. These matters need to be addressed more thoroughly than are currently. *(Continued over page)*

Jeffrey Rickard (*continued*)

Also, the Creeklands is a very important part of our Ward and requires more dedicated assistance for weed control and general care. Further, when an opportunity arises for Council to expand the Creeklands footprint by purchasing a property such as 60 Main Street then it ought to be seen to explore every avenue available to achieve that outcome.

Whitehorse Cootamundra Ward is a fine example of how nature and residential development can co-exist harmoniously. Residents are proud of their surrounds and appreciate the responsibility we have as a community to maintain and improve all of our circumstances. I am keen that Council contribute to that attitude rather than become an imposition to it.

I have no political affiliations.



*Authorised by Jeffrey Rickard, 16 The Avenue,
Blackburn, VIC 3130*

Nyssa Leereveld

Cootamundra Ward

Hi, my name is Nyssa Leereveld, and I'm a young academic running for council in the Cootamundra ward with the Greens Party. I'm passionate about making a difference in our community and ensuring that my generation, and future generations, have a livable and sustainable future.

I'm standing for council because we need leaders who truly listen to and represent the needs of the people, not just powerful corporations or developers. With my background in criminology and studies in human rights, law, and ethics, I understand the global injustices we face, and I'm dedicated to addressing them locally by creating a more inclusive, fair, and environmentally sustainable Whitehorse.

My key interests are tackling the climate crisis, promoting affordable housing, and building a community where everyone – regardless of class, race, gender, or ability – is heard and supported. I will advocate for strong local climate action, better public services, and policies that put people and the planet ahead of profits.

As a member of the Greens, I stand by our values of grassroots democracy, environmental sustainability, social justice, and non-violence. I refuse to take



donations from property developers or corporations because I believe that our community, not corporate interests, should shape our future.

With your support, I will work tirelessly to create positive, meaningful change for everyone in Whitehorse. It's time for a shift, and together we can build a healthier, more inclusive future for all. Your vote is powerful – thank you for trusting me to represent you.

*Authorised by M. Shield, Victorian Greens, Suite 1.05,
Level 1, Queen St Melbourne VIC 3000*

Greg Cheesman

Cootamundra Ward

Thank you for considering me as your local Cootamundra council member. I work & live in your ward therefore have a vested interest in ensuring Whitehorse council is running according to our expectations.

With an important change of representative comes a reinvigorated approach to council. Decisions made on our behalf by a handful of people requires oversight, and as a businessman of 25plus years I seek to address a number of challenges:

- Yearly increases to property rates coupled with a decrease to services & service quality.
 - Over-development of multi-storey apartment towers in residential areas.
 - General neglect of basic maintenance, including graffiti & unrepaired potholes & footpaths.
 - Government acquisition of community open spaces for developments benefiting others.
 - Small business closures due to cost of living crisis impacts.
 - Youth mental health support services & secondary school early leavers.
- (Continued over page)*

Greg Cheesman (continued)

My skills & experience in communications, marketing & negotiations, as well as in public speaking, events hosting & community fundraising, will ensure I achieve the best outcomes for our community.

Please visit my website www.gregcheesman.com for more detailed information.

As one of you I will seek and welcome your input & work only for positive outcomes for our community.

Authorised by G Cheesman P.O. Box 1108 Blackburn Vic. 3130

*Greg has given more comprehensive answers to all our questions. To read his answers on why he is standing for Council, how he will make a difference, what are his key interests or issues, and whether he is a member of a political party, and if so which party, please click here: <https://www.eastsidernews.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/Greg-Cheesman2-1.pdf>



Andrew Munroe

Cootamundra Ward

As a sitting Councillor and a lifelong resident of the Cootamundra Ward it has been my privilege to serve. I bring a deep understanding of the Ward and the challenges that we face both locally and across the breadth of our municipality.

Many challenges confront Council, whether they be the planning pressures put on Council by the state government, the population targets we are expected to meet, the challenge to keep open space additions up with that growth, increasing government compliance mandates, our rate base falling behind cpi in each of the past four years and our community's expectation of ever higher quality infrastructure. All these things need experienced and strong advocacy to ensure Whitehorse can keep up and even attempt to get ahead.

My community engagement started long before my time on Council. I can make a difference by connecting our community to what we do and activate residents to also be advocates for our community with the other tiers of Government (particularly State).

I am interested in ensuring Council has a greater presence in Box Hill as it is now referred to as Melbourne's second CBD. There is now a critical mass of Business, government departments and community activity such that it is incumbent on Council to have a greater connection.



While I have been a continuous member of the Liberal Party since my late teens, I have not in all my years brought party political politics to Whitehorse (Council meeting recordings will bear out). Having said that, I am concerned that at this election in Cootamundra Ward there is a high level of politics. Two of the endorsed party candidates are talking about issues way beyond the borders of Whitehorse. I encourage you to be informed, look at the public statements and websites as you decide your preferred local government representative.

Authorised by Andrew Munroe, PO Box 30, Blackburn, 3130

*The Reporter,
11 August 1916*

MITCHAM RIDING ELECTION.

To the Editor.

Sir. Kindly permit me to contradict a silly rumor that if elected I could not sit in the council as I am a government official. That is not true. The rumor has been invented and circulated with a view to injuring my candidature. I am not a government official, but I may say that the local government act does not debar civil servants from being councillors. Yours etc.

P. J. Markham.
Mitcham, 7/8/16.

Eley Ward

Daniel Griffiths, Euan Thomas, Yuhong Liu, David Solly, Trudy Skilbeck, Darren Ludowyke.

Daniel Griffiths

Eley Ward

I'm running for council as an independent candidate from Blackburn South to ensure better value for money from local government, and to strengthen the voice of residents. My focus is on leading with common sense and evidence-based solutions within the council's responsibilities.

As a Melbourne University academic, I focus on trimming wasteful spending in the healthcare system through a portfolio of health and policy research. My work involves collaborating with State and Commonwealth government agencies, and the private sector, to drive effective change. Now, I'm bringing this expertise to Whitehorse City Council to ensure we make cost-effective decisions to maximise improvements to our neighbourhood.

Here's what I stand for:

1. **Value for Money:** I will ensure council funds are spent efficiently on core services like waste management, road maintenance, and capital works, while keeping rate increases below inflation.
2. **Sustainable Development:** I support growth that respects the character of our neighbourhood, protects green spaces, and integrates sustainable practices.
3. **Integrity and Transparency:** I am committed to open, accountable council decisions with genuine community engagement to strengthen residents' voices, and to reduce the power imbalance between residents and the council.

On these matters, I also support reducing bureaucracy and strengthening oversight of the council CEO role's performance (with a salary exceeding \$420,000) to accelerate improvements.



Productive engagement with the State Government on key issues – such as the Suburban Rail Loop, municipal housing targets, and residential development provisions – will be crucial in shaping the future of Whitehorse.

Outside of my professional life, I'm passionate about music. I conduct community choirs, serve as a lay clerk (singer) at St Paul's Cathedral, and enjoy regular walks around Orchard Grove Reserve.

I am dedicated to improving our neighbourhood through measured, effective leadership.

Contacts: griffithseley@gmail.com and Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/people/Dr-Daniel-Griffiths-Eley-Ward-Whitehorse-Council-elections-2024/61564065938188/>

Authorised by D. Griffiths, PO Box 278, Blackburn South, VIC 3130.

Trudy Skilbeck

Eley Ward

I am re-standing in Whitehorse, for Eley Ward; where I live, work, walk, shop and volunteer.

A first-time Councillor from 2020, there is much more to do that leverages my governance, strategic, empathic, and organisational skills. I operate with calm and respect. I engage with hardy heard voices, as well as the louder ones.

I want continuity for Eley, to build on initiatives that are essential for community strengthening. Climate response is one. I led the move to a Whitehorse Climate Emergency Declaration in 2022 (which needs to be further activated with greater priority). Open space master planning is another (Mirrabooka/Wurrundjeri Walk, Ballyshannassy Park, Eley Park). Responses to State planning 'reform' (ResCode changes, Big Build projects, and housing targets) are top of the list.

(Continued over page)



Trudy Skilbeck (continued)

All require deep understanding and a medium to long term view of what the community – as a whole – says is in its best interests. All these issues require leaders who are great communicators. This includes being able to listen well, be meaningfully transparent and cost conscious, and being effective in engaging the people of Eley and Whitehorse in the transformation that is their own solutions.

I have never had any connection to any political party. It is my genuine independence and lack of political self-interest that makes a large part of the difference I bring.

I am a Member of Bungalook Nursery, Neighbourhood Watch, and the Whitehorse Interfaith Network. I engage with the Christian network that is Whitehorse Churches Care. These are the kinds of connections that help create an engaged, co-designed, fair, and sustainable future.

Contacts: www.trudyskilbeck.com/2024-election/

Email: trudy4eley2024@gmail.com

Authorised by Trudy Skilbeck, PO Box 2101, Blackburn South, 3130

Elgar Ward

Heather Maltby, Blair Barker, David Tenni, Thu Le.

Kingsley Ward

Maeve Luu, Amanda McNeill, Greg Smith, Jotin Tonjamba Khuman, Gayle Goldsmith, Nadia Pifisano, Kirsten Langford.

Amanda McNeill

Kingsley Ward

My name is Amanda McNeill and I am the full-time incumbent Councillor standing for re-election in Kingsley Ward, Whitehorse City Council.

Having served as Councillor over the past four years and raised my family in Whitehorse, I am devoted full time to this role. I have always been accessible, listened, and acted promptly to put residents' concerns before Council.

I have worked hard to build strong connections and have substantial knowledge and experience of Council process, ensuring efficiency while serving. I am a Liberal Party member who takes a balanced and objective view of every matter that comes before Council, putting the community interest ahead of party politics.

I am passionate about Whitehorse retaining and expanding its green spaces and being a safe place with clean, modern facilities and services that meet the needs of all its residents and businesses. As such, I have advocated for the Mont Albert Heritage Station Building and Plaza rebuild, the Hamilton Streetscape upgrade, and the Wattle Park shopping strip enhancements.

Looking ahead, I'll continue to work on: keeping rates well below inflation; prioritising environmental protection, sustainable design and open spaces; supporting significant improvements to Gawler Chain Parks; and opposing inappropriate and over-development.

I'm also focused on improving community safety and security, including funding for on demand lighting, and a substantial plan to upgrade footpaths, roads and



drains. I'll seek further investment opportunities for girls and women, diverse communities, people with disabilities, youth, older adults, local business, libraries, organics recycling, and the new waste to energy conversion program.

I'm committed to Council's ongoing financial sustainability and efficient service delivery, and will use my diverse skills and experience working in the private, public and community sector to advantage.

Contacts: mcneillforkingsley@gmail.com

<https://amandamcneill.com.au/>

<https://www.facebook.com/AmandaMcNeillforKingsley>

Authorised by Amanda McNeill, PO Box 285, Surrey Hills 3127

Gayle Goldsmith

Kingsley Ward

I am a retiree and live in the Kingsley ward where I enjoy walking my two dogs around our beautiful tree-lined streets.

For 25 years I ran my own garden design business and am passionate about parks, gardens and street scapes. These are the lungs of our cities and must be preserved and increased where ever possible.

I am aware there is a need to provide more housing and would like to see council cut red tape to assist builders and developers provide much needed homes. However, I oppose over development that reduces our green spaces and trees which are vital in keeping our city cooler and more liveable.

I support community solar initiatives such as battery storage, shade structures with solar to be built in open carparks and the installation of solar panels along railway lines as Japan is doing.

For 20 years I have been actively involved as a volunteer raising funds for a children's charity. I believe volunteering programs should be encouraged, at all levels, to promote community engagement and giving back to society.

I support strengthening community programs for our aging population to avoid a sense of isolation and



loneliness that comes with loss of mobility. It is vital that all public spaces, particularly footpaths, can be safe for all the community but especially those with mobility issues.

I am strongly against inappropriate use of rate payers' funds and believe Council must put the basic needs of residents as the number one priority. I am a member of the Liberal Party.

To make contact with Ms Goldsmith, please write to Eastsider News at PO Box 392, Mont Albert Vic 3127 or email eastsidernews1@gmail.com We will forward all correspondence to her.

Nadia Pitisano

Kingsley Ward

I'm Nadia Pitisano and I'm standing as your independent candidate for the Kingsley Ward in Whitehorse City Council.

I've lived in Whitehorse for ten years, and my husband and I are raising our three daughters here. The boundary of Belmore Road separates me from Kingsley, but my community and connections lie within it.

I have a background in data insights and analysis, and for the past decade, I've committed myself to family and community. I've volunteered extensively and led not-for-profit teams through cultural change and implementing good governance practices, including roles at Friend Street Kindergarten, Playstation Occasional Care and Boroondara Park Primary School. Many of the families I've served in these volunteer roles live, work and play in Kingsley.

Our municipality is rapidly changing, with population growth, housing targets and infrastructure projects significantly impacting health and wellbeing. I know from personal experience that civic engagement builds belonging, and when we feel part of a wider community, we contribute to and improve it for the benefit of all.

I'm focused on innovative and cost-effective initiatives to improve liveability, health and sustainability in Whitehorse, including access to quality open space and building an inclusive, connected, active community that fosters residents' values and improves their quality of life.



I'm committed to transparency, and I've never been a political party member. If elected as your independent Councillor, my decision-making will always be informed by broad consultation, data and evidence. I'll advocate fiercely for our community and work effectively with other Councillors to make balanced decisions. Most importantly, I have strong governance skills and a deep sense of integrity.

Please visit my website at nadia4kingsley.com.au for more details on my policy priorities or contact me directly by phone: 0490 089 900 or email: nadia@nadia4kingsley.com.au

Authorised by Nadia Pitisano, PO Box 237, Mont Albert, Victoria 3127

Kirsten Langford

Kingsley Ward

I am standing for Kingsley Ward in Whitehorse because I firmly believe local government is best served when the member lives within their ward.

As a true local of Kingsley and living here for over 30 years, I understand the issues affecting Whitehorse. I am a working mum with senior corporate experience to CEO level. I currently lecture part-time at Swinburne University teaching Planning, Project Management and Marketing. Our family is deeply embedded here. Our three children attended neighbourhood schools and swimming clubs.

As President of Friends of Lorne Parade Reserve, I am passionate about protecting public open space. I strongly support Box Hill Brickworks becoming new parkland, creating a once in a generation opportunity for significant new open space in our community. I support a permanent off-leash dog park within Whitehorse.

Being active in Kingsley community groups, I champion proper community consultation. I support a petition to prioritise fixing our deteriorating footpaths.

Whitehorse face huge challenges with proposed Government changes to Planning Laws and intensive densification. I will uphold community rights over excessive and inappropriate developments that impact the liveability of our suburbs.

As a founding member of Mont Albert and Surrey Hills Traders, I fight to keep local businesses viable.

I promise every dollar spent delivers maximum value to minimise your rates. I will scrutinise reasons



behind outsourcing of all council services, including Aquatic facilities.

Party politics should not influence the workings of local government. I stand as a strong, independently minded candidate who puts the community first. I will always vote for the best outcomes for residents of Whitehorse and Kingsley.

I love the people of Kingsley and the fabric that connects us. As a true local resident, I bring extensive professional and community experience.

You can rely on me to listen and always have your back.

Kirsten4kingsley@gmail.com Phone: 0450 798 409

[http://www.kirstenlangford.com.au/;](http://www.kirstenlangford.com.au/)

[www.facebook.com/kirsten4kingsley/;](https://www.facebook.com/kirsten4kingsley/)

www.instagram.com/kirsten4kingsley/

Authorised by Kirsten Langford PO Box 255 Mont Albert Vic 3127.

Lake Ward

Denise Massoud, Zak Fennell, Hong Lin Zheng, Hayley Weller.

Denise Massoud

Lake Ward

A long term Whitehorse resident, volunteer and current councillor, I listen to you, representing your views honestly to Council. I am not endorsed by any political party.

My advocacy for tree protection and our environment is proven. I initiated discussions culminating in Significant Landscape Overlay 9 to protect tree canopy and biolinks. I continue to support community engagement regarding solutions to grow tree canopy through additional planting in open spaces and encouraging succession planting.

I uphold community expectations for appropriate development, neighbourhood character and residential amenity. We must enhance open spaces, investing in more when available.

Positive Ageing activities supporting community health and wellbeing are essential to build connected communities who engage with others. Watch for the



seniors exercise park soon in Tunstall Park. This is alongside the Nunawading Community Hub, an outstanding destination for many (U3A, basketball, badminton, lapidary club and more) and now includes a
(Continued over page)

Denise Massoud (*continued*)

social-enterprise café. The 1st Nunawading Scout Hall upgrade adjacent to Tunstall Park is the envy of many local groups.

I also am proud of successful advocacy for Morton Park redevelopment, Slater Reserve playspace upgrade and Blackburn Lake enhancements including Visitors Centre, barbeque facilities, vegetation, pathways and signage.

It is important to also acknowledge the success of The Round as a premier destination for performing arts. Improved community facilities are essential.

I actively support local businesses, their economy and jobs for residents. I am proud of our latest waste to energy project to reduce our climate change impact.

I stand for transparency, accountability, appropriate services, improved infrastructure, and low rates delivering value. I will listen to you, hold ward forums, communicate and act.

Contact me: Phone: 0418309622. Email: denisemassoud.lakeward@gmail.com Join me for a Zoom chat.

Re-elect me to continue to actively serve you as Lake Ward residents.

Authorised by Su Dempsey, 43 Jeffrey Street, Blackburn 3130.

Hayley Weller

Lake Ward

Why am I standing for council? We live in a great municipality and council does fantastic work, but it has started to cut services. This concerns me because what is next to go? My grandmother enjoys living in her own home and has been impacted by council cutting home cleaning support. For my grandmother, it was more than having a clean home and gave her connection and social interaction with her regular cleaner. I care about and will work to ensure that no more services are cut, and more is invested to meet residents' needs at all life stages.

I will make a difference by working as one with the community in an open and collaborative way to solve issues together. I believe that people should be included in decisions that affect them, and that issues are not just matters for a councillor to decide.

My key interests are:

- maintained and safe infrastructure – including footpaths, drains and lighting in streets for walking, bike paths for riding, and local and collector roads for driving and pedestrians;
- suitable sport and leisure facilities for healthy, active communities;
- soft plastics recycling is available in Whitehorse;



- responsible finances;
- extensive tree canopy, uniform street planting, urban design, playgrounds and open spaces continue to be highly valued.

I am an Australian Labor Party member, but I am not endorsed nor funded by that party. I can be contacted via my website at votelhayleyweller.com or via email at votelhayleyweller@gmail.com

Authorised by Hayley Weller PO Box 1061 Blackburn North Vic 3130.

Mahoneys Ward

Jason Martin, Nildhara Gadani, Mark Lane, Anne V Makhijani.

Mark Lane

Mahoneys Ward

As a two-time Mayor and working in Emergency Services, I care for our community and what impacts on our local environment.

Over the past four years, we as a council have achieved many great outcomes and commenced many more. For Mahoneys Ward, we have been focused on footpaths, roads, tree plantings, and establishing Masterplans for precincts.

Precincts such as Mahoneys Reserve, Forest Hill

Reserve, Davey Lane (in conjunction with Parks Victoria) and East Burwood Reserve all having significant community input and feedback incorporated into the development of the plans.

I continue to strive for the best outcomes possible in relation to our community amenity in planning decisions. Good governance is a motivator to ensure we get the representation we want and a true local, logical voice for the things that matter most in our community.

Striving to keep our community safe, healthy and maintaining liveability, the very reason many of us chose to live here!

(Continued over page)

Mark Lane (continued)

I will:

- continue to bring Good Governance to Whitehorse,
- bring value for money for our rates,
- continue the replacement and maintenance of roads and footpaths,
- fight for fair for renewal of sports and community facilities and lobby government to pull their weight for our community.

My campaign is fully self funded and I am not endorsed by a political party but I do bring Liberal values with a local focus.

My goals for the coming four years are to:

- See the new pavilion built at Mahoneys Reserve, catering for all users.
- Completion of Master Plan for Forest Hill Reserve and redevelopment actions.
- Support and re-vitalise Brentford Square shopping centre.
- Push to keep the Customer Service Centre at Forest Hill Shopping Centre.



- Support all local traders in their fight for survival. With myself and my family being involved in the local community it is important to see the area thrive into the future.

Authorised by Mark Lane, PO Box 2, Forest Hill, VIC 3131

Simpson Ward

Tim Kirke, Prue Cutts.

Prue Cutts

Simpson Ward

Hi to all! I am Councillor Prue Cutts, currently representing Whitehorse Council's Simpson Ward, which includes parts of Mitcham and Vermont. I seek your vote for re-election as your Simpson Ward Councillor so I can continue to be a strong advocate for our local community.

I am a genuine independent, unaligned to any political party, and have brought a balanced voice of reason to Council reflecting community sentiment for the last 8 years. My family has lived in Mitcham (Simpson Ward) for 11 years, and I have been a Whitehorse resident for 25 years.

I have worked as a Psychologist (Careers Counsellor) prior to my time on Council and am a registered Teacher, having worked across primary and secondary schools and in adult education.

As a Whitehorse Councillor, I'm hard-working and approachable, and understand the varied and complex needs of our diverse and multicultural community. I have pro-actively sought community views on things that matter to residents and have consistently advocated to successfully achieve desired outcomes.

Over these last 4 years we have completed the Heatherdale Reserve pavilion, Vermont Reserve oval and 3 new playgrounds, introduced FOGO (Food and Garden Organics) service, and upgraded many footpaths and other road infrastructure. 40 plus



new park seats and picnic tables have improved the liveability of our beautiful area.

I support environmental sustainability including enhancing open spaces, protecting Whitehorse's tree canopy and saving our neighbourhood from over-development. I pro-actively support small business and community groups as we face cost-of-living challenges. I will continue to back financial sustainability, transparency, accountability, and efficient use of Council rates.

Please contact me on 0425 701 796, by email at pruecutts@gmail.com or <https://www.facebook.com/councillorpruecutts/> Thank you to those who've taken the time to read my candidate statement. Please Vote 1 Prue Cutts!

Authorised by Prue Cutts, PO Box 2195, Rangeview Vic 3132.

Sparks Ward

Tina Liu, Carol Zhang, Aaron Qin, Saravina Afaj, Peter Allan.

Tina Liu

Sparks Ward

As a local Whitehorse Councillor for the past eight years and a former Mayor, I have worked collaboratively with our community to drive positive change. Together, we've achieved great outcomes and there is more to do.

While change is a part of life, the pace of growth in Box Hill and Box Hill South, has brought opportunities as well as challenges. With Box Hill being a key activity centre, major State infrastructure projects such as the Suburban Rail Loop and the draft housing targets are also slated for our area.

As a longtime Box Hill resident, business owner and community leader, I offer strong, stable representation and a proven track record in advocating for the needs of our community. I am an effective leader, who is experienced, engaged and has in-depth understanding of our city, our diverse community and local government. My ongoing advocacy puts me in the best position to work with various stakeholders, including other levels of government.

My fight continues for better liveability, accessibility and sustainability – including further public open space opportunities – having successfully secured new open space funding for Box Hill and Box Hill South. I support initiatives boosting health, wellbeing, social



connection and a thriving economy. I stand for sound governance and financial management, ensuring that Council delivers value to residents and ratepayers.

As an independent candidate, I am not, nor have I ever been a member of a political party. Community interests will always come first. I seek your support at this upcoming election to continue fighting for the issues that matter to you.

Visit: <https://tina-liu.com/> for more information.

Authorised by Tina Liu, PO Box 5024, Laburnum VIC 3130.

Peter Allan

Sparks Ward

I have nominated for Whitehorse Council as it is time to address significant issues that I believe have not been addressed.

The main issue that I, if elected, will raise in Council is to fight against the State Government's plan to double the size of housing in the city to around 150,000 dwellings in the next 25 years. This plan, I believe will be a disaster for the liveability of our City. The proposed loss of residents' third-party appeal rights on planning applications must be opposed.

I wish to serve my community and will be a point of difference as I will seek to make Whitehorse a great city with great roads, footpaths, more open space, parks and gardens, fantastic shopping centres with good services and the widest variety of goods possible. Great transport options. Assist in business opportunities that provide longevity of businesses and employment of locals.

Other key issues I will raise and support are, as these are of special interest in my policy platform:

- No sell-off of council assets and no outsourcing of council community services.



- Council rate rises must be kept to a minimum and there should be a freeze on council charges and fees to assist in the cost of living.
- Support for affordable housing projects.
- Support for our sporting, community, arts groups and neighbourhood houses and facilities' upgrades.
- Where possible, increase council child care places.
- Smart traffic solutions with residents' support.

(Continued over page)

Peter Allan (continued)

- Clean up our streets and more action on graffiti.
- Reintroduce two free tip vouchers.
- Establish the 'Whitehorse Live Music Festival' to give our local musicians a real go.
- Work with Police on public safety solutions, including more safety cameras.

I am not a member of a political party. Please feel free to contact me on 0430 000 838 or email: peterjallan@hotmail.com

Authorised by Peter Allan, 34 Elmhurst Road, Blackburn 3130.

Terrara Ward

Jarrold Gunn, George Manos.

Jarrold Gunn

Terrara Ward

My name is Jarrold Gunn and I am a local, independent and community-minded candidate for Whitehorse Council's Terrara ward.

I have a proven track record for improving our community having been a board member for many local institutions including kindergartens, schools, sports clubs and the local Neighbourhood House.

I get involved in these bodies because I value having a say in matters that impact me and my community. I am active locally and have the energy and drive to represent this great community. I am an attentive listener and an expressive communicator and will be an asset to this community within Council.

As a local, I understand the pressures being faced by this community, from fear of change to our essential services and neighbourhood character to cost of living pressures and community safety concerns like crime and traffic around our schools.

Like my neighbours, I value our green tree scape but not at the cost to amenity, so I am championing a pragmatic approach to problematic tree management to specifically address resident's frustration whilst increasing overall tree canopy.

As a community we value our open space, walking and cycling infrastructure and our local sporting and community facilities. As such I envision future



improvement needed to the East Burwood Reserve and the Vermont South Library precincts.

I am not, nor have I ever been a member of a political party – I value my independence and believe Councils should be free from political influence. The issues debated in the Chamber should be local and relevant to our community, however, that does not mean we should be ignorant to the broader concerns of our constituents. A vote for me is a vote for sensible and responsive local government.

Contacts: jarroldgunnforterrara@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/jarroldgunnforterrara

Authorised by Jarrold Gunn, PO Box 6197, Vermont South 3133.

Walker Ward

Stephanie Gaut, Ben Stennett, Josh Dwyer, Phillip Daw, Preston Brown, Christine Davis.

Stephanie Gaut

Walker Ward

I am delighted to have this opportunity to support my community as a Whitehorse councillor. I have been a part of the Whitehorse community since 1999.

I hope to create a more connected, vibrant and informed community by championing greater transparency at Whitehorse City Council, by ensuring access key council information and services, and by scrutinising council's planning approvals to ensure Whitehorse gains only appropriate mid or high-density developments.

I will also promote a cleaner, greener Whitehorse with more equitable and accessible open spaces including Whitehorse's first dedicated fenced dog park and provide a community voice for improved traffic management and road safety.

I will work to ensure council spends its funds where they are most needed. This will include helping our aging and our most vulnerable access necessities such as emergency food banks, crisis support and in-home care to help people stay at home safely for longer. *(Continued over page)*

Stephanie Gaut (continued)

A strong community includes and respects all its members. As a Whitehorse councillor, I hope to use my Chinese-Australian heritage to support a more connected community through greater integration and accessible information for new migrants and international students. Together, we can make a difference in our community and create lasting, sustainable change.

I am NOT affiliated with any political party. I am standing as a 100% independent candidate for the community.

To make contact with Ms Gaut, please write to Eastsider News at PO Box 392, Mont Albert Vic 3127 or email eastsidernews1@gmail.com We will forward all correspondence to her.



Preston Brown

Walker Ward

As a candidate for Walker Ward councillor, I will be in favour of freezing rates to ease the financial burden on families. Speaking with parents at my daughter's local school and kinder, the financial pressures on local families are in need of any assistance.

With a double diploma in building and construction and management, and over 20 years experience in construction, I will focus on maintenance and upgrades of local parks, schools, and roads. Proper planning and budgeting will ensure that projects are completed efficiently and effectively.

As a father and husband, I understand the importance of family values in our community. I will work to uphold these values and create a strong sense of unity among residents.

Having grown up in a small business family, I'm dedicated to supporting local businesses. I will personally work to ensure that they have access to resources and assistance they need to thrive in our community.

With a strong foundation in family values and a deep appreciation for our country and community, I am dedicated to serving the people of Walker Ward with integrity and compassion. I hope to earn your trust

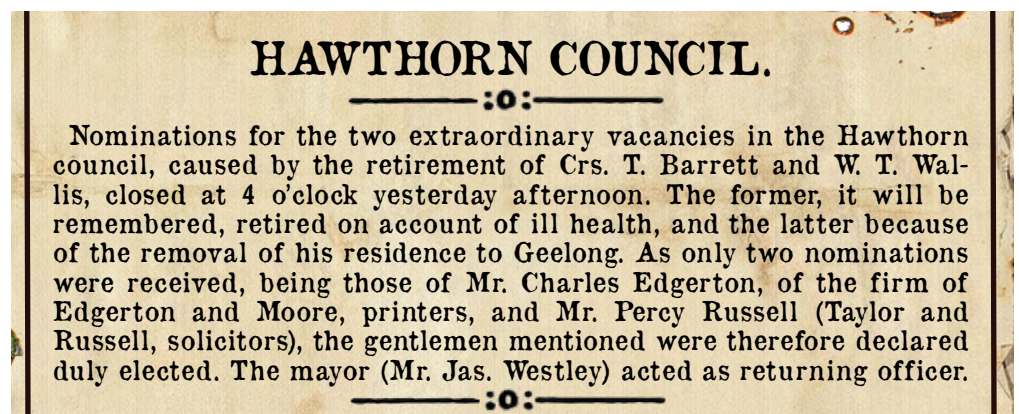


and vote in the upcoming election. Thank you for your consideration.

Authorised by Preston Brown

*Preston has given more comprehensive answers to all our questions. To read his answers on why he is standing for Council, how he will make a difference, what are his key interests or issues, and whether he is a member of a political party, and if so which party, please click here: <https://www.eastsidernews.org.au/wp-content/uploads/2026/04/Preston-Brown-Answers.pdf>

The Age,
14 March 1890.



Wattle Ward

Greg Dixon, Andrew Davenport, Sandy Li.

Andrew Davenport

Wattle Ward

I'm running for re-election in Wattle Ward, where I've proudly served as your Councillor for 12 years. With my experience and 24 years in private sector and non-profit boards, I'm committed to protecting our neighbourhood's character and reducing your cost of living.

If re-elected, I'll continue to be your voice in Council, focusing on:

- Enhancing our library services, with the introduction of self-service extended opening hours;
- Defending neighbourhood character including opposing inappropriate development;
- Boosting the local economy;
- Introducing Council operational spending caps to avoid waste;
- Improving open spaces, like transforming Bennettswood Northern Oval to allow for organised support;
- Keep Aquatics in Public Hands;
- Supporting a Whitehorse transparency hub;
- Increasing funding for footpaths and drainage to improve climate change resilience;
- Implementing Victorian Safer Design Guidelines for public spaces to improve community safety; and
- Creating more opportunities for women, girls, youth, and seniors.

I'm active in our community, visiting local clubs, service organizations, and multicultural groups to hear your concerns and take appropriate action. As a keen



supporter of active transport, I promote walking, public transport, and cycling.

My membership in the Liberal Party has helped me enhance my values of equality of opportunity, freedom of individual thought and choice, supporting volunteers and community organisations, and encouraging not-for-profit and private enterprises to thrive.

I'm here to listen and serve you. Reach out to me on one of the below methods to let me know how I can help you:

Mobile: 0494 142 416

Email: andrew.m.davenport1@gmail.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/CrAndrewDavenport/>

Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/cr_andrew_davenport/

Authorised by Andrew Davenport PO Box 2230, Blackburn South, VIC, 3130.

The Sun, 11 September 1922



Mr. G. J. C. Dyett, president of the R.S.L., leaving to-day to represent Australia at soldiers' conference at New Orleans, U.S.A.

READING HUGHES'S MIND

Many Speculations and Challenges

Speculation upon the probable date of the elections was revived in Federal circles on Saturday by the Prime Minister's Bendigo speech.

That part of the speech between the lines was considered the most significant.

Members, having read and reread his speech, inclined to the view that the elections would be held about April.

SEVEN LOCAL ASPIRANTS

BENDIGO, Sunday.—The last appeal that Mr. Hughes made before leaving Bendigo was that Nationalists should strive their utmost to secure the services of a strong Nationalist to contest the seat.

It is expected that applications for pre-selection will be called on Monday, and that within a fortnight the pre-selection congress will be held.

So far 7 prominent men have been mentioned as being most likely to submit their names. Mr. W. M. Bolton, who took a leading part in Mr. Hughes' campaigns, and Mr.

M. Bolton, who took a leading part in Mr. Hughes' campaigns, and Mr. W. G. McRobert, a National Federationist, are strongest favorites. Another with this claim is Cr. W. Ewing, who holds large areas of wheat-growing land in parts of the electorate.

Cr. Freeman, of Castlemaine, has been asked to submit his name. There is still talk of the Premier, Mr. Lawson, changing his mind.

Mr. E. E. Heittman, who unsuccessfully contested the Eaglehawk State seat in the interests of Labor, and is at present farming in the electorate, is another, and also Cr. Curnow.

No outsiders have been seriously mentioned.



In the next edition

The next regular edition of *Eastsider News* is scheduled for late November. The deadline for articles will be Tuesday, 5 November 2024. But don't wait till then. We love hearing from you at all times; whenever you are inspired, please send us your contributions, written and visual to eastsidernews1@gmail.com

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Eastsider News is a means by which people in Whitehorse, Boroondara and adjacent areas including Manningham and Monash can share information, opinions and experiences. A spread of interests and views that reflects the diversity of people in the area is encouraged, but views expressed in *Eastsider News* by individual writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editors, Independent Community News Group Incorporated, or any other organisation.

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The *Eastsider News* team needs your help to keep us on the road. We hope we can tempt you to become involved in the production of *Eastsider News*.

A particular need we have at present is web site management. Could you help us get the best out of our Wordpress website and assist with uploading content? We'd love to hear from you. All positions are voluntary and unpaid. Get in touch so we can chat about making best use of your skills and time at eastsidernews1@gmail.com

Contact Eastsider News

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We encourage you to send us photographs and images that relate to your contribution. Send them as a separate jpg/jpeg file and to get adequate resolution, please try to make them at least 250dpi and preferably larger at 300dpi or more.

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The current *Eastsider News* management team comprises Anne Young, Mike Daly, Sal Dugan, Glenys Grant, Chris Gray, Leigh Naunton, David Strang, Caroline Leslie and Joy Mettam, all volunteers. Someone who has also contributed much to ensure our continuity is Chris Young. Thank you to Chris Gray who puts much effort into the layout of the newspaper.

Guidelines for writing articles

Guidelines for writing for *Eastsider News* are on our website at www.eastsidernews.org.au/ All contributions should be emailed to eastsidernews1@gmail.com We will always acknowledge receipt.

In summary, we prefer articles of no more than 600 words or 250 words for letters to the editor. Submit your article as a word document and images as a jpg. Editors will usually accept material as written, but may make changes to improve clarity, readability, or focus. Please be respectful, non-defamatory and factual in your writing and choice of topic. As a community newspaper, we seek material of local interest or with a broader context if relevant.