

Seven Creeks Candidates

Shirley Saywell



Kristy Hourigan



Sally Hayes-Burke



<p>1. What attracted you to the shire and what has kept you here?</p>	<p>I came to Euroa with my partner, Mark Brady, when he applied for and won a teaching position here in 1980. We were looking for our piece of paradise and North East Victoria ticked all the boxes - great landscapes (hills, creeks and forests), a small town vibe, and close to Melbourne. The same things keep me here, plus the sense of belonging I now have. I place great value on generous community spirit; here I feel connected, valued and happy.</p>	<p>Euroa is a beautiful town. The parks and gardens and majority houses are always well maintained. Euroa being only one and half hours from Melbourne was a big tick for me as that is where most of my family live. I automatically felt at home with the locals, they are always so kind and go out of their way to say Hi. Seeing the town grow in the last 3 and half years and many new businesses opening has really improved my view of the town and I am able to see the long-term growth and potential which is why I stay here.</p>	<p>I was born here and loved growing up in the country. I now live in Euroa with my husband, Simon and our two young children. I love the lifestyle, the wonderful community and the beautiful natural landscape. It is a safe place to raise my children. Euroa and the Shire have so much to offer, we are commutable to Shepparton and Benalla and a good proximity to Melbourne. I love that almost everything can be sourced locally.</p>
<p>2. What is your vision for attracting and retaining business within the Strathbogie shire?</p>	<p>Investment in our region is well underway, Avenel being our fastest growing township (10% growth between 2016-2020). Proximity to Melbourne, housing affordability and work opportunities are major influencers of population movements, however the provision of reliable and affordable energy, water and technology will be the key to further expansion and investment in our Shire. Our location on the Hume Highway and in the GV growth centre, gives us the edge in emerging enterprise, including the clean food movement, resource recovery partnerships, and smart home design and manufacture. We already have innovators, niche products, and a host of business entrepreneurs, from horse trainers to restaurateurs to leisure providers. We can lead the way in bold and sustainable development if we go after and win federal and state grants. I will work to make sure a skilled full time grant writer is employed to chase every regional development opportunity. We know that innovative opportunities for regional partnerships, digital solutions, renewable energy and water storage will shape the new economy. These partnerships are happening and new momentum will boost local investment, employment and lifestyle quality. The circular economy will radically transform the supply chain; cutting pollution and boosting economic development. Our commendable record in green waste management provides a springboard for us to lead Victoria on waste management and resource recovery. We can build on our wealth of resources, tapping the eco-tourist dollar and promoting our region as the perfect weekend getaway. The potential to reinvent Euroa's rail precinct is currently on the table. This project presents us with a once-in-a lifetime opportunity. My vision is based on bold design, where fun and functionality combine to deliver a dynamically designed urban space for all ages and ability.</p>	<p>I would love to see the empty shops on Binney street all occupied, I would also like to see a Euroa Business Centre plan put in place. I want to encourage the council to use local businesses before anyone else where possible to ensure we aren't losing businesses. The caravan park has more than tripled patronage occupancy since 2016/2017. In the 18/19 financial year we had more the 25,000 visitors to our park. If Covid hadn't occurred the caravan park was expecting patronage to be in excess of 30,000. Knowing these figures and knowing there is also 3 motels and plenty of AIRBNB's there are allot of people coming into our town spending money, unfortunately most tourists attend on weekends, therefore I want to communicate better with businesses to investigate what is holding them back from trading on weekends and how can council assist, so they can capture this big tourism market. If businesses are profitable, they will be able to be retained. In regards to Strathbogie Shire wide, I Support the development of the intermodal facility at Mangalore, and the many jobs it will bring. I hope to continue to advocate for Strathbogie to get this project over the line.</p>	<p>Having spent most of my life working in a family business I understand the importance of small business. Our region has so much potential in terms of our natural attractions, geographical location and our already thriving industries. I plan to do whatever I can to support current businesses and encourage businesses to the region be it small business, agriculture, industry or health and professional services. We need a Council that supports a power plan to cope with and attract more industry as our current power supply prevents businesses from establishing in the Shire. I will also push for Council to play a role in enhancing digital connectivity to promote technically-minded businesses.</p>
<p>3. Traditionally doing business with Council is time consuming and at times frustrating. What do you believe you can do to reduce red tape "if at all"?</p>	<p>Council should provide a genuine "Help" desk – with a knowledgeable staffer able to streamline the complexities of planning and compliance laws to those seeking assistance. This straight-forward and practical planning support service should be well advertised, easily accessed and free. All enquiries and response times should be logged to ensure improved outcomes are delivered. I will be encouraging stronger public participation in all Council forums to raise awareness of the role and services of local government.</p>	<p>When I received a quote for a shade sail, the company said "Strathbogie shire takes the longest out of all shires we work with" I to have had many frustrations with getting anything done, including information to update a derelict sign in to town" Currently been 21 days and still no response from council. I plan at every shire meeting to follow up on all project approved, I will be asking the hard questions what why when how, I think the only way to get some Action and Accountability happening is to constantly be on the case demanding answers. Nothing frustrates me more than poor excuses, similar to that with the tourist information hub at the petrol station.</p>	<p>From my experience and from listening to ratepayers, it seems that much of the red tape and frustration in relation to Council's processes is to do with poor communication. I believe that with better communication comes accountability. Council needs to offer more of a 'how can we help you?' approach to businesses and residents.</p>

	This interface is probably one of Council's current major challenges. It requires urgent attention.	My plan and my promises are to apply the pressure and find out the real reason there is so much red tape and what I can do with my fellow councillors to eliminate constant delays. I will try my hardest to implement time frames that council has to respond with a valid reason for delays or to get the project started.	I have worked in a large organisation dealing with complaints and understand the importance of communication and proper engagement.
4. What experience, qualifications and attributes do you have which will enable you to be a successful Member of Council?	I have been a business woman and community advocate all my adult life. As well as managing Brady & Kibble P/L, a multi-million dollar enterprise, which employs 17 staff and provides logistic support to the Hume and Goulburn business and manufacturing sector, I have been an effective community representative on Council sub-committees. I have established strong working relationships with Government representatives at all levels; including Jaclyn Symes (State Govt rep) and Lily D'Ambrosio (State Minister of Environment) – who we are currently working with to permanently protect the Strathbogie Forest ; and Helen Haines, our Federal Govt. member, who supports the push by communities like ours to drive a regional recovery plan . I also have gained extensive experience working with land managers and agency staff on Arboretum projects, on the ARTC Working Group, and on the Strathbogie Fire Planning Committee. My analytical and management skills are both robust and rational, shaped by years of committee participation and business administration.	I am a successful local business owner with the knowledge, skills and required certificates to run a business. Council budgets and general undertakings are very similar to a business and therefore that would ensure I was a successful member of council. My business and previous experience is focused around people and results. I am experienced in managing staff and teams and I have proven leadership, communication and analytical skills.	I am a lawyer with a good understanding of policy and governance. I have worked in public administration at the University of Melbourne and within the City of Greater Shepparton. I not only understand the workings of Council but I have grown up working in my family's hospitality business as well as running my own small business as a marriage celebrant. I have the professional experience to properly perform the role as a Councillor as well as the personal understanding of the importance of small business.
5. Representing the broader Community requires a very strong commitment to community events and organisations in time and attendance. What consideration have you given to these various commitments and responsibilities?	Like many in our community I spend most of my spare time, advocating for better outcomes. Over the last 30 years I have helped create the Euroa Arboretum , the Euroa Business Microgrid , the Euroa Treescape pilot and the grassroots community group Strathbogie Inc. My partner Andi - the mastermind of the hugely successful Twilight Hawkers Markets - supports me in my many endeavours. I understand that my commitment to some of my favourite projects will be lessened but I am excited about driving new Council-led projects for our region. My commitment to protecting and advancing the public interest means I have spent long hours lobbying to protect our natural and built assets, including our native forests and our public pools. I will work to seek excellence in development projects and ensure best standards (the triple bottom line) are met	I already attend all the community events for Euroa with my family, we know supporting local and encouraging events is very important. I will continue to do so. I even have an idea to ensure the Strathbogie Shire Marquee attends most events in the shire and that a councillor should make them self-present for a few hours. If elected I hope the other councillors support this idea as well	I enjoy community cultural and sporting events and look forward to attending these in the role of Councillor should I get elected. I have spent much of my working life involved in, working at and organising community and professional events. I understand the time pressures not only of attending, but also organising and implementing such events, and I feel there is great reward and satisfaction in seeing them run successfully.
6. How do you propose to engage with the community that you will be representing so that you can represent a broad cross section of interests before council?	I am a strong advocate for pub democracy/ listening posts / round tables / citizens' juries – or like forums, which enable the community voice not just to be heard, but to inform the strategic planning process. My 30 years of community advocacy have helped create a large network - tradies to truckies, farmers to fathers, artists to accountants, and this diverse group of supporters will continue to be my guide for meaningful and effective participatory democracy. I propose to invite community reps into the Council Chamber to help turn the culture of "us and them" to one of positive, respectful and "hands-on" democracy.	I am hoping to change the time of the council meetings and have them after normal work hours, I would like to attend these meetings some time beforehand for anyone who is not on internet/social media and they can come and speak with me. I plan to keep on going with the Chamber meetings as well as the community action group. I will continue to attend local events, I will continue to use social media and email, if elected I will take up the offer of a council phone and all the community will have this number available to them.	I am an approachable and accessible person and my family has been in the region for five generations, so I naturally feel connected to our wonderful community. My legal background will assist with responsible decision-making and one of the foundations of my campaign is to be strongly involved in community consultation. My sole purpose for campaigning for election to Council is to represent the best interests of the community as a whole.

Hughes Creek Candidates

Jen Arnold



Dale Sheahan



Paul Murray



<p>1. What attracted you to the shire and what has kept you here?</p>	<p>I moved to Creighton's Creek from Melbourne in 1995 and have lived continuously in the Strathbogie Shire since that time. I love the rural lifestyle and its people. My husband and I established a small vineyard and had the pleasure of working with the Strathbogie Ranges Wine Group which worked towards the important step of gaining an appellation for the region's wines. Although our vineyard no longer exists, it gives me great pleasure to see the growth and success of viticulture and wine making here today. Throughout this time, I worked continuously with GOTAFE as a nurse educator and have overseen great change and growth within that organisation. This has given me great insight into our demographic and the needs of people and employers for education, training and employment.</p>	<p>We were attracted to Strathbogie Shire for what it is: farming communities, small town's with major roads running through them, north of the Divide, 1 1/2 hrs to centre of Melbourne, not at the minute though, quintessential rural town living. I came from New Zealand in late 70's to work to go to Europe, arrived in Melbourne.. Brown on Brown, looked like someone stole all the colour, Indian Myna birds, brown, dark brick houses with dark tile roofs, dull winter Tea Trees and traffic. This was my airport to Melbourne memory, I didn't get to Europe, lived for over 30years on a hill in the bush, beautiful sunrises and sunsets, eagles, snow occasionally, then we needed some 'flat' land, bought in Avenel over 3 years ago and appreciate Strathbogie more every day.</p>	<p>I came to Euroa to teach at the High School in 1982. I met my wife, moved into a house in Longwood and raised a family. Longwood was (and still is) an active, friendly and supportive community. An ideal place to make a home. My work was extremely satisfying, I enjoyed being active and I made great friends. In short I really felt I belonged. All our relatives were in Melbourne but we were happy to make the short trip south to visit them regularly.</p>
<p>2. What is your vision for attracting and retaining business within the Strathbogie shire?</p>	<p>My vision for Strathbogie is to continue to encourage tourism and hospitality, as is well promoted by the GO Nagambie group initiatives and our wine and food businesses here in Avenel and other towns. As a current member of the Avenel Action Group (AvAG), we work closely with businesses to support them at outdoor festivals, markets and in other ways. Population growth in Avenel is projected to rise by about 8% in 16 years which equals 150 new homes with an associated population increase of 320 people, so there will be an increased need for business to support this growth and employment opportunities into the future. Nagambie is predicted to have an enormous 81% increase in population and associated housing in this timeframe, so our two Wards together will be pivotal in working together on like interests to achieve business success for the Shire</p>	<p>To hear what businesses need to recover, be that voice for them in council driving their needs at Local and State level to ensure Strathbogie needs are first and foremost. We are after all the heart of Victoria. Without us, there is no lifeline between Sydney and Melbourne, Trains and Hume traffic testify to this every hour of every day.</p> <p>I have some questions for the Euroa Chamber of Business & Commerce. What is it the members want from their Shire Council. I read the Visit Euroa business directory, those in business know best what they want/need, sometimes this changes and ideas come to move you from one point of view to another, what is your vision for Strathbogie Shire. I believe you can work on the fact that it is not suffocating in an urban mire, there are great things done here, pride in achievement, family businesses, history that is a solid foundation, honour, innovation.... What has been said to the Shire Council before and how did this go? Did you get formal responses/replies to your requests, were they timely, was follow up on both sides sufficient? How does Permits/Planning help or hinder, have other agencies been bought in for constructive workshops, workshops that get somewhere, you leave thinking and planning how.. not morning tea, lunch, afternoon tea, self congratulations and go home.</p>	<p>The Hughes Creek Ward comprising the settlements of Avenel, Longwood and Locksley as well as a well-established Agricultural community is the southern gateway to the Strathbogie Shire.</p> <p>The Shire needs to appoint an Economic and Business Development Officer who will assist local businesses and help facilitate local business groups to support each other and increase opportunities in their respective markets.</p> <p>The recent pandemic is likely in my view to bring about some long term changes to the way we work and do business and to strengthen some changes that are already taking place. Work and business will be less tied to a particular place or space and if we can fix our broadband, consumers will be free to move too. This means that country businesses can compete better as long as we can continue to improve the delivery of goods and services. Some businesses may need encouragement and assistance to sell online. As the Melbourne lockdown ends, tourism will grow dramatically and we must be ready to take advantage of this. Festivals, events and markets need practical and ongoing support.</p>

		<p>What have previous Councils have done for business so far, what do you each see as stumbling blocks, or see what people love and want more of, what you can see as missed opportunities to do great things that benefit business and the majority of the rate payers, either directly or indirectly. What are your specifics of 'red tape' and 'time consuming' ... Staff that don't know? State laws? Federal Laws? No Council heart for what you want to occur? Is it purely funding? Lack of cooperation from both sides of the Shire Business conversations? No reportable timelines.. these need to be driven by Business otherwise opportunities are lost. How wide do you seek for public opinion? How long do you wait for and why? How to set the timing for effective meetings?</p>	<p>As people, weary of life in Melbourne and no longer so tied to a workplace, look around for a more affordable and enjoyable lifestyle, we need to position ourselves so that we can take advantage of the opportunities. Market our affordability and the enhanced lifestyle possibilities whether sporting, cultural, business/economic, or family.</p>
<p>3. Traditionally doing business with Council is time consuming and at times frustrating. What do you believe you can do to reduce red tape “if at all”?</p>	<p>Communication with the Shire has been a concern from both residents and businesses. I would seek to encourage a more open and transparent communication mechanism with comments or suggested improvements to the Shire, from both external clients and internally within Shire departments. There is a very strong argument for a Customer Relations Officer, who can oversight “Complaints” and liaise between departments to achieve customer satisfaction promptly. For example, I would advocate for a minimum three-day timespan when responding to customers, thereby setting a timeframe for efficient and effective communication. Waiting for an audit to highlight deficiencies is outdated. We need immediate customer feedback and action to improve deficiencies based on finalising every interaction.</p>		<p>As mentioned the appointment of a 'go to' person in the Shire who can build relationships with and between local businesses and groups.</p> <p>This person would also be able to assist business navigate any red tape issues within the Shire or externally.</p> <p>Regular meetings or forums between Council, CEO and the major business groups could assist in both raising the importance of business and helping to set an agenda for improvements. Reports could then be published detailing how we are progressing.</p>
<p>4. What experience, qualifications and attributes do you have which will enable you to be a successful Member of Council?</p>	<p>My qualifications include: Bachelor of Applied Science (Nursing) (Monash University), Graduate Diploma in Education and Training (University of Melbourne) and completion of the Leadership and Development Program for Education and Training Managers (The Chair Program & Victoria University). My teaching experience covers 26 years in both hospital and TAFE environments. I am a proven good listener and communicator. I strongly advocate for respect and fairness and am not shy of negotiating conflicts. I have current information and communication technology skills (ICT). All these attributes I believe are vital in order to represent community views effectively as a Councillor.</p>	<p>I am standing for Council to be your voice.</p> <p>For me 1. Maintenance and 2. Project management are two key areas where we can; achieve a beautiful place to live and move our shire from today to tomorrow without changing the essence of where we live and who we are as a rural community that is extremely proud and passionate about our place in Victoria. I will work in conjunction with existing groups. I also believe that transparency and accountability is vital from Community and Shire Council alike in all their processes, this helps avoid stumbling blocks. I made the commitment to this Shire Council by putting my hand up as a Candidate for Hughes Creek Ward, this means doing work for Ratepayers, adapting where I need to, I will adapt and change for what you need from me, from today and moving to tomorrow. I have been actively involved in my communities where-ever I have lived. I love to listen, I am open to new ideas, I love to get behind ideas, I am passionate and enthusiastic, currently a coordinator of The Women’s Shed Seymour.</p> <p>I will be there for you all through my time on Council.</p> <p>Thank you for your interest and time in setting the questions.</p>	<p>I was a Leading Secondary Teacher experienced at managing staff and students and at finding solutions to difficult and demanding situations that require tact and honest negotiation. Some of my expertise comes from my excellent communication and negotiation skills and an ability to synthesis information. These skills were further enhanced by my years working at the local Gazette.</p> <p>I have taught many hundreds of local students from many hundreds of local families over the past 35 years and have built up an extensive network of local contacts and an equally extensive understanding of the local area.</p> <p>My major attributes include my honesty, integrity, diligence, humour and a willingness to listen to others.</p>
<p>5. Representing the broader Community requires a very strong commitment to community events and organisations in time and attendance. What consideration have you given to these various commitments and responsibilities?</p>	<p>It would give me great pleasure to attend community events as the community’s representative on Council. I currently attend Australia Day and ANZAC Day ceremonies in Avenel. As a retired person, I am able to commit adequate time to Council duties and will be responsive to community concerns.</p>		<p>I believe that I will be able to make the time available to undertake this commitment. I have retired from permanent teaching and I am no longer working for the local newspaper. Before making my decision to stand for election I spoke to Amanda McLaren the current Mayor and to Malcolm Little our Hughes Creek Councillor. I was reassured by them about the level of commitment needed.</p>
<p>6. How do you propose to engage with the community that you will be representing so that you can represent a broad cross section of interests before council?</p>	<p>Already in COVID times I have had to adapt to change in electoral campaigning advice which means I have had to think “outside the square”. For example, all electoral material will be mail delivered rather than by traditional door-knock; election forums are more difficult to convene electronically due to varying voter ICT skills, so I will engage extensively in telephone interviews to survey people’s concerns and suggestions. I will also circulate information updates regularly on social media; generate “word of mouth” promotion by being accessible, approachable and as my slogan says, “Here for You”.</p>		<p>Firstly, I live locally so I am not far away from my constituents. I am a good listener and I would be pleased to hear from members of the community by phone or email. I am committed to attending the meetings of both the Longwood and Avenel Action Groups. I will make it a priority to visit the Avenel community, to sit and chat with residents and/or businesses at least once a week. I would be only too happy to attend any other meeting of members of the Hughes Creek community who wish to express a view about the Shire.</p> <p>Finally, community survey results would indicate that communication is a real problem between the Shire and local ratepayers. I intend to make one of my priorities to argue for increased engagement with the community by regularly publicising relevant information across existing media platforms.</p>

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Mt Wombat Candidates	<u>Mark Tame</u> 	<u>Laura Binks</u> 	<u>Andrew John Saxon</u> 
1. What attracted you to the shire and what has kept you here?	<p>My family has lived in Strathbogie and been a part of the community for just on a hundred years and is a farming family that has produced fine merino wool.</p>	<p>I was born here! Left for university and work, but returned because I love living in this passionate rural community, the natural environment and diverse opportunities.</p>	
2. What is your vision for attracting and retaining business within the Strathbogie shire?	<p>I want to see an improved rail service so people can move to Euroa To live and commute to Melbourne for work. Strathbogie sits on the edge of the Goulburn Valley food bowl so I believe that the Shire of Strathbogie needs to attract niche food processing businesses to Euroa. Most importantly all Victorian business needs a sane energy policy as electricity and gas prices spiral out of control. The only solution to cheaper power is more base load power stations as opposed to very expensive and massively subsidised renewable or microgrid energy systems. A small gas fired power plant could be built locally to improve our power supply.</p>	<p>I'd love to see the Strathbogie Shire work with Regional Partnerships Victoria to bring in new business. I want to see the council support existing rural and farm businesses and help to promote our region for its produce and its tourism appeal. I will champion for there to be more events and opportunities for the many artist and creative residents in our shire. Building and maintaining a community renewable energy grid is a great way to generate power and keep profit in the region.</p>	
3. Traditionally doing business with Council is time consuming and at times frustrating. What do you believe you can do to reduce red tape "if at all"?	<p>I am on the Bylaws Review Committee and by streamlining bylaws is an improvement the council has made. A lot of concern was raised by farmers about moving stock on roads etc.</p> <p>The new bylaws are a combination of a number of previous bylaws thus it is a lot more user friendly.</p>	<p>Agreed! It is tough. I know the council needs to improve its processes and communications with business and I'd love to help build productive and prosperous public / private relationships and partnerships. I'm not sure how much red tape I can remove, but I'm certain I can improve the processes relating to the red tape. It surely doesn't need to be as hard as it is!</p>	
4. What experience, qualifications and attributes do you have which will enable	<p>My background is construction including a number of greenfield projects. I have worked in a wide range of construction industries throughout Australia, I believe this experience to be useful as a councillor.</p>	<p>I grew up on the family farm, I have a masters of architecture with distinction, a certificate III in general construction, and I'm currently a participant of the 2020 Fairley Leadership Program where I am learning all about local community leadership. I run</p>	

you to be a successful Member of Council?		my own business and have worked in large organisations developing a broad set of skills and expertise	
5. Representing the broader Community requires a very strong commitment to community events and organisations in time and attendance. What consideration have you given to these various commitments and responsibilities?	I can't agree with the premise of this one as councillors also have businesses to run and are entitled to some private life. I will not attend every public event in the shire but will try to get to the relevant ones. As a general rule if I am invited to attend an event I will do so. It also depends on the group running an event. I would most probable not attend some events such as the more extreme climate change related events that have been held in Euroa.	Lots! I'm currently an active member of my community and participate in various groups. I know our communities would not be what they are without the enormous effort of the many volunteers and I am committed to working productively with these groups.	
6. How do you propose to engage with the community that you will be representing so that you can represent a broad cross section of interests before council?	If you have read my candidates statement and leaflet that I have just posted out, you be aware I am already a member of a number of community groups. Clearly I will follow local media as an information source so that I can engage with the community. With publications like Tableland Talk I can use that to engage with the community. Whilst I intend to represent a broad range of interests that does not mean that I give a commitment to represent all interests. If you have any further questions please feel free to call me on 0428532036.	Attending meetings, in person or via online platforms, is crucial to the role of a councillor. Turning up and listening to all the members of the community, not just those which I already participate in. Being approachable, transparent and accountable to my community is critical to the success of the council.	

Honeysuckle Creek Candidates	<u>Tom Maher</u> 	<u>Chris Raeburn</u> 
1. What attracted you to the shire and what has kept you here?		We moved to the shire three years ago after travelling Australia for six years. We were looking for a place to live near some undulating countryside and we ended up back in Victoria in Violet Town. We live on the east side of the freeway near Violet Town looking out over the plains towards Shepparton. The people of Violet Town have invited us into their community with open arms and we have found them very friendly and welcoming.
2. What is your vision for attracting and retaining business within the Strathbogie shire?		If we build a strong community which supports their local businesses and then the whole community will benefit from that. I am very keen for the council to research the opportunity of increasing the services sector in our shire. Violet Town's nursing home employs approx. 80 people which has many flow on effects for the whole shire. As a councillor I will support the council in assisting the local businesses with reduction in the fees and charges so that they can get back on their feet post COVID
3. Traditionally doing business with Council is time consuming and at times frustrating. What do you believe you can do to reduce red tape "if at all"?		I understand that many people do find it very time-consuming dealing with council rules and regulations. The regulations have been put in place over years and yes some of them need updating. I am open to review these issues on request. One of my main priorities is to improve the communications between businesses and council officers. Communication is one of my biggest bug bears and I will be flogging that dead horse until the cows come home.

<p>4. What experience, qualifications and attributes do you have which will enable you to be a successful Member of Council?</p>		<p>I have been a councillor with the shire of Strathbogie since the 31st March 2020 and previously was a councillor with the City of Port Melbourne for eight years. My greatest attribute is that I listen to the community members. I then take on board their views and comments because at the end of the day I am there representing them. I am able to look at each issue on its merit and openly discuss pros and cons and research the issue before making an informed decision.</p>
<p>5. Representing the broader Community requires a very strong commitment to community events and organisations in time and attendance. What consideration have you given to these various commitments and responsibilities?</p>		<p>I am very community minded and currently attend the majority of events in the Honeysuckle Creek Ward. I believe it is vital for a councillor to be involved with the grass roots community to get a feel of the greater community.</p>
<p>6. How do you propose to engage with the community that you will be representing so that you can represent a broad cross section of interests before council?</p>		<p>I have committed (post COVID) to the community of Honeysuckle Creek Ward to meet the councillor nights and afternoons in Violet Town and the rural sector. These will allow the community to catch up and have a chat every three months. People can always ring me with their concerns. I am also chairperson of Violet Town Action Group, which gives me a great incite and understanding of the concerns and issues which are affecting the community of Honeysuckle Creek Ward.</p>