

CANDIDATES' STATEMENTS

Michael Baragwanath

I am writing to express my interest in serving on the board of the McLaren Vale and Districts War Memorial Hospital, a position I am uniquely equipped to fulfill due to my deep roots in the Southern suburbs, professional accomplishments, and unwavering commitment to the community.

Having been a resident here for 16 years and a Southern suburbs resident since birth, I possess a profound appreciation for the community's values and needs. My children attend Tatchilla Lutheran College, strengthening my connection to this area, and my involvement in advocating for the protection of heritage on the hospital site demonstrates my dedication to preserving its legacy.

Professionally, I am the Managing Director of an ASX-listed company with over \$1.4 billion in assets. This role has honed my leadership skills and strategic insights, both of which are critical to the continued success and operation of the hospital as a vital health services site in McLaren Vale.

My business ventures within McLaren Vale provide me with an extensive network and understanding of local economic dynamics. In addition to my professional roles, I volunteer my time to various state-based and national charities focused on health services, cultural advancement through museums and libraries, and managing public ancillary funds.

My History Guardian membership with the History Trust of South Australia further exemplifies my commitment to preserving and advancing local heritage. I bring extensive experience in the establishment, and management of charities paired with my academic credentials, including an MBA and industry qualifications in financial advice, credit, and real estate. My work on international projects in Dubai, Hong Kong, and across Australia has provided me with a broad perspective and the ability to navigate complex organizational challenges. I firmly believe there are numerous residents like myself who are passionate about this community and equipped to contribute significantly to ensuring the hospital delivers exemplary health services now and for the future. I am deeply committed to protecting the hospital's constitution and fulfilling its objectives with integrity and respect. I am enthusiastic about the possibility of contributing to the McLaren Vale and Districts War Memorial Hospital board, bringing my skills, experience, and steadfast dedication to support its mission. Thank you for considering my nomination.

Gareth Carrel

I am seeking nomination to the McLaren Vale Hospital Board to bring an open-minded, balanced voice of reason to what must now be considered a divisive topic within the community. As a local family man, who has lived in Blewitt Springs for 14 years, I am well aware of the challenges facing the current board, and feel that the board needs to be refreshed in order to breathe new life into McLaren Vale Hospital.

I am married with 2 children, both who attend a local school, we participate in local sporting clubs & are active within the wider community.

As such, I feel that there should be wider discussions with regards to how the MVH grounds & facilities can be transformed into a medical hub to better support the local community. With continued development along the southern vales corridor, Noarlunga Hospital will come under greater pressure, and McLaren Vale Hospital will become increasingly important.

I have held directorships & board appointments throughout my career, and as such am well experienced in matters of governance, negotiation, decision making & change management.

Henry Davis

First and foremost, the hospital must remain in community hands.

The state health department has shown tremendous support for the hospital, and it's clear that we urgently need a hospital in McLaren Vale to alleviate pressure on our health system, particularly as we face some of the worst ramping conditions in South Australia's history.

The hospital was financially viable and generating significant profits before its closure. I firmly believe it remains well-positioned to manage overflow from Flinders Medical Centre, while also continuing to provide essential healthcare services to the local community.

The Supreme Court found the previous board engaged in "conducted that was oppressive and unreasonable." I encourage everyone to read the full judgment to gain a comprehensive understanding of the situation. In summary, the community was not provided with all the relevant facts about the hospital's future.

Should reopening the hospital not prove unfeasible, I believe the next best option would be to repurpose the site as a health hub, as recommended in an independent report commissioned by the board.

If elected, I look forward to collaborating with the current tenants to ensure that this valuable community asset continues to serve the needs of the community for generations to come.

Pip Forrester AM

I have lived and run businesses in the McLaren Vale region for decades and have been on the Hospital Association Board for 7 years. I am acutely aware of the role the hospital has played in our community over the years but from my experience and work on the Board know that it is no longer viable. I am therefore completely supportive of the decision taken in 2023 to close the hospital and to recommend to our membership the transfer of the asset and the liability to the James Brown Trust, a non-for-profit entity that is in the position to continue to provide the community with health-related services into the future.

I would like to continue to serve on the Board to ensure we retain this asset for the residents of McLaren Vale by means of services supplied by a non-for-profit organisation.

Dr Ginette Kremmidiotis

I have been a member of the Board since 2020. I have been a general practitioner for 30 years servicing the people of McLaren Vale area for that time. I have also served on the medical advisory committee of the hospital prior to closure. It has been my honour to provide the best care and options for the community via general practice and servicing the hospital. I believe that the proposed transfer of the hospital into the control of the James Brown Memorial Trust (Kalyra) is the best option for the broader community. If re-elected my goal is to pursue this course for the benefit of the community, tenants and heritage values of the site

Chris Overland

I have been a member of the Board since 2019. I had a career spanning 28 years in the governance, management, financing and operation of hospitals, health services, aged care services and community health services. The decision in 2022/2023 to close the hospital was controversial and has ignited an ongoing debate about the future use of the site. I continue to believe that the proposed transfer of the hospital into the control of the James Brown Memorial Trust (Kalyra) remains the best option for ensuring that the site is used for community purposes and that its important historic and heritage values are preserved. If re-elected I intend to continue to pursue this option and will work hard to prevent the hospital falling into the hands of private interests.

Raelene Rosser

I am a retired person having spent the big part of my life in the hospitality industry. In the year 2000 my husband and I moved to McLaren Vale where we resided for 16 years before moving to Huntfield Heights. In between working a lot of my time was spent volunteering. I was involved with Glenelg Kiwanis for 8 years before moving to McLaren Vale. I joined the McLaren Vale Hospital volunteers in 2001 and have carried on in that role ever since. I have been Coordinator of the volunteers twice, including over the last 3 years. I strongly believe that if you live in a community you should give something back in return. I believe that the transfer of the hospital to Kalyra will be the best use of the site for the future benefit of McLaren Vale and the surrounding districts.

Boyd Sparrow

I have Business, Legal, and Administrative Degrees and hold an Advanced Diploma of Paramedical sciences Healthcare and a Certificate IV in Aged Care.

Over the past decade, I have established and managed seven charities under the compliance guidelines of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC). Additionally, I oversee two public ancillary funds, one of which has a valuation of approximately \$70 million. My extensive experience in setting up and managing both charities and businesses has equipped me with a robust understanding of both operational and strategic requirements in the sector. Additionally, I specialise in business optimisation, which involves identifying businesses that need assistance or tweaking to operate more efficiently.

Born and raised in the South, living in Seaford Rise most of my life and now residing in Port Noarlunga, while I may not have personally used the services of McLaren Vale Hospital, many of my family members have had the privilege of doing so over the years. The hospital site was originally a registered charity, and I believe it is crucial to maintain this asset within the community. My primary goal is to ensure that if the hospital cannot be rejuvenated to its former operational capabilities, it should be repurposed to serve the community in other beneficial ways, such as transforming it into a health hub. Furthermore, I am committed to addressing any issues related to non-compliance or fines from the ATO, ACNC, or state Government to ensure that the site can be utilised freehold, without the need to sell it off. My focus will be on maximising the utility of the asset for the community's benefit while ensuring regulatory compliance and financial stability.

Trish Tassie

I am a responsible person as described in Taxation Ruling TR 95/27 because I am a current, qualified person in a pharmacy and adhere to the pharmacy board code of conduct.

My immediate family and I have a strong connection with, and been very supportive of the McLaren Vale & Districts War Memorial Hospital and our family has had since before it was built.

I currently work in pharmacy and have done for over 12 years and, with my husband Nick, owned and operated a bed and breakfast accommodation business in McLaren Vale for around 16 years. Approximately 18 months ago Nick and I purchased a local tour company that Nick has been involved with for the past 7 years.

I have lived in McLaren Vale with my husband Nick and our 5 children since 2002 (22 years) but my husband's family have lived in the area for over 80 years.

My family and I are extremely proud to be direct descendants of Dr Tassie, the first medical officer of the hospital. In the past I have helped to raise much-needed funds for the hospital.

If I'm elected to the hospital board I, with the support of my family, will make sure that the hospital and its grounds are protected, maintained and preserved for the community and the current occupants including the volunteers in any way I can.

I have also lodged jointly with Save McLaren Vale Hospital Incorporated a SA State Heritage application for the entire site which includes the building, gardens and surrounds together with the two war memorials. I have done this so that the Hospital building is protected and cannot be demolished and therefore no housing development.

As a board member I will represent & support the hospital members and will do what the constitution allows me to do. I will always have the best interest of the hospital members, the volunteers & the wider community in mind.

I will take on my position as a board member with passion, respect and conviction. I will always make sure I am available to have a chat and listen to what the members want. I want to keep the hospital as a hospital/health hub and I believe in community ownership and I am against giving it away,

Despite Wellbeing sending me legal threats for exposing their attempts to manipulate the membership and their false claims that they will lose their lease, which is untrue. I respect that they have a legally binding contract and will work with them as well as any other tenant.

I have been and always will stand up to make sure our hospital stays in community hands,

Let me be your voice as a member and together we can Save McLaren Vale Hospital