

West Ward News

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Published by the Chatswood West Ward Progress Association Inc.

September 2017

Circulation 6,000

Meet the West Ward Candidates

Five of the six candidates contesting the upcoming elections recently addressed our **Meet the West Ward Candidates** session. Candidates answered a diverse range of questions on matters pertinent to the local area. In addition, Gail Giles-Gidney and Angelo Rosoz are standing for Mayor.

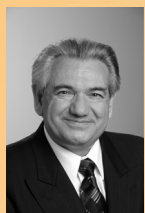


Group A: Craig **CAMPBELL**, Deb **FUNG** and Nicholas **LIM** all residents from Lane Cove North and all are standing as Independents. Caig was born in the United States. He has been in Australia for eight years and is the owner-occupier of the only house he owns. He has deep community involvement background via Mowbray Public Schools. He is also the Treasurer of the Chatswood West Ward Progress Association.

NEXT MEETING 21 September

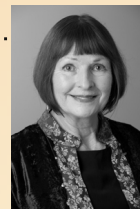
7:30 PM Dougherty Centre
7 Victor Street, Chatswood

Group B: Maria **CHAN**, Kathryn **HABKOUK** and Walter **TINYOW** are all residents from Chatswood and all are standing as Independents. Maria is Hong-Kong born of PNG-Chinese heritage arriving in Australia in 1977. She is a volunteer serving the community including the Sincere Aged Care Business. She has volunteered at local schools, nursing homes and aged care.



Group C: Comprises Tony **MUSTACA** OAM, Sarkis **MOURADIAN** from **Castle Cove** and James **FLYNN** from Chatswood West. Tony and James are members of the Liberal Party. Tony is standing as an Independent. All are residents of Willoughby. Tony has served the community since 1995. He is aware of the needs of families, the aged, youth and our diverse community. He was a senior educator and has contributed to numerous charities, community, multicultural and sporting organisations.

Group D: Lynne **SAVILLE** from Chatswood, Seamus **MYLES** from **Artarmon** and Marie **CLIFTON-BASSETT** from **Castlecrag**. All are residents and standing as members of The Greens political party. Lynne has previously served on Council. She has a strong sense of the environment. She is a trained nurse with experience with social justice, public health, welfare, health and safety and has an MA in Environmental Health. She worked with Hawkesbury Council on their Food Harvest and is a University lecturer in Health.



Group E: Maisey **YAN** a resident from Chatswood, Garry **CUSSELL** a **non-resident from St Ives**, Edward **XU** and Arman **SOETANTO** residents from Chatswood. All are standing as Independents. Maisey is from China arriving nine years ago. Her son attends Chatswood Public School. She is President of the Asian Australian Academic Alliance. She has worked with Parramatta and Ashfield Councils on their Multicultural Festivals. She would like to hear about your needs and will do what she can to help.

Group F: Kenrick **CHEAH** and Robert **O'BRIEN** residents from Chatswood and Peter **ZACHARATOS** a resident from **Naremburn**. All have declared that they are members of the Labour Party but are standing as Independents. Kenrick attended Chatswood Public School then North Sydney Boys High. He has a B.Sc and M.Comms. He is President of the Chinese Australia Forum. Kenrick suffers from a sleeping disability but believes this helps him to better understand and represent others with a disability.



WWBytes

The West Ward Bytes is a monthly electronic newsletter of recent issues that affect the ward. To subscribe to the WWBytes simply email us at cwwpa.org@gmail.com. Put 'Subscribe WWBytes' in the subject of the email.

More stories
and
membership details
online at:

cwwpa.org

How to Vote

Pre-Poll
from the 28th August at

Dougherty Center
Sydney Town Hall

9th September booths

Chatswood Girl Guide Hall
Chatswood Public School
Civic Pavilion - The
Concourse
Holy Trinity Chapel Hall
Mowbray Public School
Sydney Town Hall

Full details: votensw.info

In deciding to vote for a candidate you may wish to consider various issues that have been raised to and by the Association such as does the candidate:

- * live in the ward?
- * support open governance?
- * prepared to attend Progresss Association meetings?
- * have strong community ties?
- * agrees with limiting electoral expenditure?
- * support having Council sub-Committees?
- * have a strong focus on local issues?
- * and is not a property developer



How do they compare?

You can use the candidate profiles on page 1 and the answers from candidates on the page opposite to assist with your decision as to who to vote for.



Who will be the next Mayor?

Angelo ROZOS has lived in Willoughby City all his life. He has been a Willoughby Councilor for the past five years. In that time he has given a voice to local shopping villages; stopped the introduction of night time parking meters in Chatswood; been a strong supporter of local sporting teams and open space initiatives; prided himself on being accessible; fought for the significant upgrade of the Willoughby Park Centre and advocated for more accessible public parking across the city.

Angelo will work for:

- * a more engaged and responsive Council
- * a pro-active approach
- * re-vamping the Northbridge Plaza carpark
- * implementing responsible financial management
- * moving to upgrade Chatswood Park
- * safeguarding against over development
- * investigating weekend traffic improvements, and
- * effective youth engagement.



Gail GILES-GIDNEY was elected Mayor in 2014. As Mayor, she have embraced the challenge of delivering fair representation for all residents. Gail has led initiatives to ensure improved and equitable access to sport and recreation facilities; to protect the environment; to support our elderly and to address local traffic safety and parking congestion, including in West Ward.

Willoughby is already a wonderful place to live and my vision is to improve lifestyle and services for all residents and to deliver on our plans to:

- improve on traffic, parking and pedestrian safety
- reject over-development
- invest in parks, playgrounds and sporting facilities
- support sustainability, care for bushland and heritage
- maintain financial strength and council transparency
- protect our passion for diversity, and
- care for our younger and older residents

IHAPS

Independent Hearing and Assessment Panels (IHAPs) will become mandatory to guard against corruption and lead to better local planning decisions. Mandatory IHAPs would bring expertise, transparency and integrity to the assessment of DAs at the local level. By making IHAPs mandatory, local councils will be able to focus on providing community services, strategic plans and development controls for their local area.

IHAPs will comprise three independent expert members and a community member.

IHAPS will decide:

- DAs with a value of between more than \$5 million but less than \$30 million.
- DAs for Council, politicians, councilors or family members
- DAs that receive 10 or more objections from different households.
- DAs accompanied by a proposed voluntary planning agreement.
- DAs seeking to depart by more than 10% from a development standard.
- demolition of heritage items
- licensed places of public entertainment and sex industry premises

How they answered!

Responses are from candidates present at the evening. Tony Mustaca was unable to attend.

In what local community organisations have you recently held an executive position?

CAMPBELL: Mowbray School Council, Treasurer West Ward PA, President Mowbray P&C
CHAN: 3 times President Chatswood Rotary
SAVILLE: Save CHS, Secretary WEPA, CHS Bushcare Convener,
YAN: President Chinese Academic Alliance
CHEAH: President China Australia Forum

Would you support a requirement that candidates live within the Ward for which they stand? CAMPBELL: Yes; SAVILLE & CHEAH: No; CHAN & YAN: don't know.

Would you support a motion to reinstate Council sub-committees that give the public greater input to the decision making process? All candidates said yes.

How many properties do you, companies you are part of or your family members own in Sydney? YAN: none. Others: one.

Would you support a move that would allow a Councilor to be temporarily substituted in the case if an extended illness? SAVILLE & YAN: Yes. Others: It would depend on the details.

Can you assure us that you will focus on issues directly related to our local community and that you will not pursue personal or party political agendas on issues more related to State and Federal governments? CAMPBELL, CHAN & YAN: Yes; SAVILLE: tricky question; CHEAH: standing to help people.

With the State Government mandating increased population, where would you house this increased population? CAMPBELL: CBD & high density zones; CHAN: along main roads to block noise; SAVILLE: at transport hubs; YAN: like Kurringai have done; CHEAH: does not matter, main thing is to have the infrastructure.

What would you nominate as the two most critical traffic intersections that need to be updated? How would you go about resolving the problems: The candidates nominated the intersections along the Pacific Highway

Please explain what you will do to alleviate the present vehicle congestion throughout Willoughby City. CAMPBELL: better timing on lights; limit street parking; build flyovers; local parking off main corridors. CHAN: widen roads; provide a shuttle bus service. SAVILLE: more public transport. YAN: more bicycles. CHEAH: public transport; cooperate with neighboring Councils because commuters come into Willoughby.

How will you obtain the views of your constituents on specific matters? CAMPBELL: issues will find me; make myself as accessible as possible; respond to emails; CHAN: people come to me with their needs. SAVILLE: through the Progress Association; talking to people; keep eyes and ears open; citizen juries; reading papers; YAN: listen to people; CHEAH: listening; keeping eyes open, and being accessible.

Would you support a motion to provide transcripts of Council meetings? ALL – Yes except CAMPBELL: not sure, currently there are Minutes available.

Should Council provide services where people are prepared to pay for them? CAMPBELL: no, use private sector; CHAN: use private certifiers; SAVILLE: complex issue; YAN: yes; CHEAH: private is ok.

Will you undertake to attend the monthly meetings of this progress association to answer questions? All yes.

What approach would you take to ensure the development of the Arts including affordable access to facilities? CAMPBELL: facilities should be made available; CHAN: no answer; SAVILLE: need discounted rates for community groups. Need a community arts space west of the Pacific Highway; YAN: Not sure; CHEAH: facilities should be affordable and accessible to all, especially smaller groups; use the walls around the city to display artistic endeavours.

What are your qualifications? CAMPBELL: private sector in turning companies around; fresh set of eyes; querying the status quo; CHAN: fourth time candidate has built up skills and knowledge; not just about development but also community issues; SAVILLE: registered nurse; have worked with homeless and people with hardship; YAN: community involvement and life-long learning; CHEAH: B.Sc. and Masters of Commerce. Experience in government electoral office at the coal face of problems; real world experience.

How would you recommend Willoughby Council work with neighboring Councils to ward off the spectre of a future amalgamation? CAMPBELL: any way it can; do not support amalgamations; CHAN: if financial savings can be made support amalgamation; SAVILLE: support voluntary amalgamation; work closely with NSROC; YAN: build a bridge; CHEAH: educate community and be guided by their views

On your How to Vote Card, who are you nominating as the second group to vote for? CAMPBELL: cross preferencing to CHEAH; SAVILLE: no one; CHAN & YAN: undecided; CHEAH: cross-preferencing to CAMPBELL.

LATEST NEWS

688-692 Pacific Highway

Aqualand have lodged another DA 2017/300 next to Chatswood Public School. They propose to demolish the existing structures and construct a shoptop housing development comprising 2 basement levels of car parking, ground floor commercial tenancy and 37 residential dwellings.

Lady Game lights

A Lindfield resident has been agitating for changes to the lights at Delhi, Fullers West and Millwood. The issue relates to delays coming out of Lady Game Drive accessing Millwood Avenue and Delhi Road during weekday morning peak periods. Access from The Fairway onto Millwood Avenue and Delhi Road is considered important by Willoughby Council and there are no proposals to change the current arrangement at this stage. In addition, the control of traffic from The Fairway would be managed by the time provided by the traffic control signals.

Fire levy hosed down

Earlier in the year the State Government proposed collecting the insurance fire levy with the Council rates. Previously the levy was added to the cost of your home insurance. The problem with this was that not everyone takes out home insurance. So those that do are subsidising those that do not. With the new system, all landowners would pay. However, the government got it wrong. They said we would be better off but the reality was that many would pay more. The CWWPA fought the change. Subsequently, without admitting their error, the State Government withdrew the proposal. It's back to the drawing board!

Bollards?

Will bollards in public places protect us? Take the recent pedestrian accident in Chatswood Mall. So, they put bollards at the bottom of the Mall. The reality is, if the car had of gone slightly to the left it would not have hit any bollards but likely

In appreciation Jim McCredie

For many years Jim McCredie provided passionate and dedicated service to the residents of Chatswood West Ward including as President of the Chatswood West Ward Progress Association and the Federation of Willoughby Progress Associations.

A technical expert with a high level of understanding and empathy of local issues he provided support to the citizens of the Chatswood West Ward on many matters associated with local government.

Jim became renowned as 'the 14th Councillor' for his regular attendance at meetings of the Willoughby City Council on behalf of our members.

Jim worked as a research engineer/scientist in the Department of Defence. From 1984 he spent a number of years working for Defence in the United State on the Defence Offsets programme including sourcing rotor blades for helicopters. He retired in 1989. After the disastrous bushfires of 1994, Jim became involved in the local Community Fire Units, an activity he undertook until relatively recently.

Jim became President of the Chatswood West Ward Progress Association around 1998. He later became President of the Federation of Willoughby Progress Associations, taking over from John Allom in 2002, a position he held to a couple of years ago.

Jim was also recognised in 2004 as the Willoughby Citizen of the year.



Shortly after taking up her position, the new General Manager slashed staff to save \$2 million. Has this affected customer service? GM Debra Just answered: To date the reductions have not impacted customer service. This is based on:

- No increase in customer complaints
- Improving Annual Corporate Performance Indicator results
- Increased levels of community consultation and engagement , and

A successful 2017/2018 Budget and Operational Plan Community Process which did not reveal significant customer requests outside of the proposed plan.