

NSW Local Land Services

Murray Region

2017 Local Board Member Election (3 to be Elected)

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MARWOOD, Samuel

Current occupation:

Managing Director of Cultivate Farms. I have started a farm match-making service which makes it possible for young people to own their own farm (www.cultivatefarms.com).

Managing Director Edge Pledge (www.edgepledge.com). A wildlife fundraising platform.

Qualifications:

Bachelor of Science (Environmental)

Employment Experience:

I have 12 years experience in natural resource management with the Victorian Government working alongside Victorian catchment management authorities.

Membership:

Founding Board Member of Organic and Regenerative Investment Cooperative. An Australian first investment vehicle for organic farm land.

Criteria:

- Government experience

I have worked for 12 years for the Victorian Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning (DELWP). My roles have ranged across Policy and Planning within waterway health, catchment management, monitoring evaluation and reporting, threatened species and bushfire.

- Strategic Planning

I am a strong believer in strategic planning. I have seen the power of a strong strategic plan in attracting and directing investment and action (waterway management in Victoria), while at the same time how crippling poor or no strategic planning is to organisations/ environmental themes can be to obtaining funding and garnering support (e.g. threatened species management)

Community Participation:

I know that the role of the Board is to represent the community in Natural Resource Management (NRM) decisions across the region. Therefore, there is a high priority place on community participation, listening and discussion. I look forward to this opportunity.

Regional service delivery:

I am very familiar with the regional service delivery model in place throughout NSW and most areas of Australian NRM. I have been involved in supporting the funding and delivery of investment into most areas of NRM within Victoria.

Industry, government and other partners:

I believe relationships are the best way of achieving change and fostering support within NRM. I believe that building and maintaining relationships have been at the centre of my career and one of my biggest strengths.

Audit, financial control, reporting and risk management:

I am familiar with the governance requirements of statutory authorities such as the Local Land Services, CMAs and the EPA. I am also very familiar with the governance requirements of government organisations and also of private enterprise.

Primary industries:

I grew up on a dairy farm in central Victoria so I know the day-to-day realities of living and working in primary industries and in regional communities. Over the past 12 years I have worked in NRM which goes hand in hand with primary industries, so I feel I have a strong understanding of all issues across the sector.

Emergency management:

I have been acting manager of the strategic bushfire management team within the Victorian government. I have a thorough and extensive understanding of natural disaster emergencies, especially bushfire.

Natural resource management:

I have 12 years practical experience in NRM and biodiversity conservation in the policy, planning and delivery; within waterway health, catchment management, monitoring evaluation and reporting, threatened species and bushfire.

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MORRIS, Daryll James

My name is Daryll Morris, my family and I run an irrigated livestock property near Finley in the Berrigan Shire. We have lived in this area all our lives because it is a great area to live and bring up a family. I have been married for 27 years and my wife Janette and I have 3 children, Josh, Adrianna and Le Shai. Josh is currently serving with the military as a gunner in the Royal Australian Artillery at South Australia, Adrianna has served three years in the army working in logistics at Townsville and is currently studying nursing while her partner is deployed overseas, Le Shai is still at home and working locally, though will be heading to the UK in June to take up a nanny's position.

I have spent my life working in the agricultural industry, from stud livestock breeding and cropping to dipping sheep and running my own business as a fencing contractor. I am also a councillor in my second term and deputy mayor for the Berrigan Shire. For the last 14 years, I have been working as a Noxious Weed Inspector for Central Murray County Council.

Central Murray County Council includes the Murray River Council, Edward River Council and the Berrigan Shire Council and we manage an area encompassing some 15,000 hectares. We are the local control authority for noxious weeds over this region. My work at Central Murray includes weed identification, high priority property and road inspections and implementing weed management plans in line with the NSW Department of Primary Industries Weed Action Program (WAP) and the Biosecurity Act 2015

I have an Advanced Diploma in conservation and land management, Cert V in Chemical Risk Management and Cert IV in training and assessment. I have also received training in vertebrate pest management and I am qualified with 1080/Pindone bait laying techniques. I have also been asked by the NSW Department of Primary Industries to assist with the implementation of the Biosecurity Act 2015.

I have a lot of experience in the field of weed identification and integrated management techniques and I am passionate about weeds, and the damage they can cause to agriculture and the environment.

What I am hoping to bring to the table is a balanced representation of both agriculture and environmental issues as I am sure I have the necessary insight and experience to have a positive contribution.

The new Biosecurity Act takes pest and disease management to a whole new level, and we cannot afford to become complacent which could have disastrous results for Australian agriculture.

Weeds and vertebrate pests are just part of the bigger picture, and whilst a lot of great work has been achieved with control and management in these areas, many species have fallen under the radar and have quietly infested a large part of our region. Working together, biosecurity awareness can be brought to the forefront throughout our communities to enhance agricultural sustainability across our region.

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CROSSLEY, Ken

I am seeking your support for a further term on the Murray Local Land Services Board. I along with my wife Robyn, sons Andrew and Lachlan and families run a mixed farming enterprise in the Deniliquin area comprising irrigation and dry land cropping in conjunction with cattle, sheep and wool production covering 8000 HA. The first three years of the new LLS has had some teething issues at most levels especially at the top level with some key executive positions experiencing several personal changes in the past. Hopefully this is behind us and we can move on to deliver more projects and money at ground level.

The past three years the board has devoted a lot of time in developing operational plans and strategy to ensure sustainable agriculture into the future. The next term will focus on delivering on these plans. I am committed to ensure the Murray LLS management and staff deliver on these plans. My board experience, tenacity and common sense approach make me a strong candidate.

Thank you for your support in the past and would appreciate your further support in the coming election. If you have any questions, I would really like to hear from you.

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STEWART, Kim

I'm a Mullengandra local, passionate about looking after our primary producers and ensuring landholders receive the best value services for their rates. I am standing for election to the Murray LLS Board for one reason: to help us as landholders see efficient and effective on-ground services. As a relatively new organisation I believe this perspective needs to be held front and centre.

I am a professional project manager for a large aged care provider with Masters degrees in management and public health. I know how to hear about issues, help teams design answers and then get things done. I am also a Greater Hume Shire Councillor and have spent my working career connecting with people about things that impact them and building solutions together

I have years of experience operating on Boards to ensure that the strategy that has been agreed is turned into reality. I've got the runs on the board in negotiating between groups of people with different needs and making sure we get real outcomes that work for real people.

Local Land Services, like any other government body, is a bureaucracy and it takes some skills and wisdom to keep it moving in the right direction. I think I can make that happen and I look forward to working with you if elected.

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Agriculture is always an exciting industry to be in but right now, we are experiencing a rate of change like never before. Technological advances in equipment and analysis mean we can have a greater understanding of our crops, pastures and livestock. Agronomic discoveries in new plant varieties, chemicals and fertilizers mean our production can improve with incremental and strategic changes. I am putting myself forward as a candidate for the Murray Local Land Services Board so that I can influence how changes and opportunities are communicated with land holders and managers to maximise profitability for individual enterprises and our region.

Two and a half years ago, I had the opportunity to return to the family farm and am now a grazer, bringing livestock back into the mix of an irrigated farming business. Key to the businesses success has been utilising spray irrigation for over 30 years to ensure efficient and timely water use. I believe there is a great future for irrigated agriculture and if elected as one of your Murray Local Land Services Board Members, would advocate for water users and their communities so that the economic and social impacts of water policy are considered equally as important as environmental outcomes.

Prior to returning home, I had a varied career in roles such as wool auctioneer and area manager, Deputy Director of the Ricegrowers' Association of Australia and worked in a team to organise international trade delegations for the Queensland Department of Premier and Cabinet. More recently I was a Succession Facilitator with a major rural bank. These roles have required stakeholder consultation, policy development, written and verbal communication skills and determination and I would like to opportunity to use them for the short and long term benefit of our Murray Local Land Services region.

I understand the impact of poorly implemented 'reform' or 'plans' and the effect of natural disasters such as drought, flood or plague on our small communities. I want a future for my town that means it is resilient and able to maintain industry, a retail sector, jobs, families, educational opportunities and health facilities. I know many communities across our region are in the same situation and commit to sharing ideas, successes and disappointments between these towns.

I have always been connected to the land, and now as a manager of it, want to make sure I make the most of my role as its custodian for the time I have here. I believe that all landholders have the same intention while our techniques, location and resources may vary. In addition to the land under our direct ownership and/or management, the Murray Region has a great diversity of significant natural resources and environments. As a Board Member of Murray Local Land Services, I will enjoy building my knowledge about our regions natural environments from those who know it best so that LLS and valued stakeholders can develop practical, science-based plans to work towards shared goals.

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McALLISTER, Norm

I would like to nominate for the position of Director on the Murray Local Land Services Board. My qualifications and experience in agriculture and agribusiness, along with Local Government are exemplary.

As I look at the “wanted” criteria for the Murray LLS Board I find a lot fits to my qualifications, in particular:

1. I was instrumental in the community process, negotiation and implementation of the Murray Land and Water Management Plan.
2. I have extensive corporate governance experience through my involvement with SunRice (Director for 14 years) and Rural Industries Research Development Corporation (Director Deputy Chair 6 years).
During my involvement with these Boards I fulfilled Finance & Audit roles.
3. I understand good governance and was previously a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.
4. Above this, I have been a long serving Councillor and Mayor of the former Conargo Shire Council so I understand the issues of both extensive grazing and irrigation agriculture.

The last 6 years have been devoted to family transition of retirement and bringing forward the next generation to family farming.

I understand the cultural, heritage, flora and fauna and ultimately water issues that are rapidly changing the face of the Murray LLS catchment.

Qualifications

- Australian Institute of Company Directors - FAICD
- Australian Rural Leadership Program – Graduate
- Diploma Applied Science (Agriculture) Charles Sturt University

Personal Attributes

- Strong leadership qualities, with the ability to initiate actions to create change
- Sound skills in strategic management
- Passionate about industry and community issues
- Able to encourage and incorporate others participation on issues
- Able to relate well with people from diverse backgrounds
- Excellent facilitation, negotiation and conflict resolution skills
- Innovative in seeking information and able to lead change
- Excellent outlook in all situations
- Enjoys and contributes to the local community, involvement in social recreational and environmental activities

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BULL, Colin

I reside 45 kilometres north of Conargo in the centre of the Murray LLS.

I am actively involved in a family owned and operated mixed farming enterprise covering 6800 hectares of irrigated and dryland in the Conargo district

The enterprise consists of a Goolgumbbla blood 3500 ewe Self-replacing Merino flock as well as irrigated pasture, rice, cotton, seed canola, wheat, barley and oats from both surface and bore water.

Positions I currently hold:

- Chairman of the North Conargo Land Management Group
- Member of the Murray LLS Local Community Advisory Group
- Member Billabong/Yanco Steering Committee
- Chairman Conargo Hall and Recreation Ground Committee
- Member of the Deniliquin Local Health Advisory Committee

Previous community involvement:

- Chair West Berriquin Irrigators
- Central executive delegate for Rice Growers Association
- Past President and Life Member Deniliquin Lawn Tennis Club
- President of Conargo P&C and Conargo School Council

In my role as a member of the Murray LLS LCAG and Billabong/Yanco Steering Committee, I have gained a good understanding of the workings of the Murray LLS

As Chairman of the North Conargo Land Management Group I have had worked with many Federal and State Government departments such as DPI, National Parks and Wildlife, Office of Environment and Heritage, Water NSW, Plague Locust Commission and the former Conargo Shire Council.

If elected as a Board member of the Murray LLS I would work for the implementation of practical policies for ratepayers in the areas of

- TSR management
- Biosecurity
- Biodiversity
- Animal health
- Native vegetation management

Vote 1 Colin Bull

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WATSON, Hugh Darnton

Hugh Watson, 'Mirrabooka', Table Top (north of Albury)

Married with three adult children.

I would like to have the opportunity to serve the rural community of the Murray region by contributing to the work of the LLS Board.

Skills & expertise:

- High level interpersonal skills, particularly networking and communicating with all sectors of the community. Experienced at dispute resolution and encouraging teamwork.
- An extensive network of contacts, through sporting and community organizations, professional and farming bodies, rural groups, clients, suppliers and many business contacts. These contacts enable me to be in touch with people around Australia, but in particular throughout the Murray region.
- Passionate about preserving and promoting rural Australia, with a thorough understanding of the rural industry and primary production enterprises.
- Have experienced and survived all the vagaries of farming (drought, flood, fire, financial pressures, human tragedies).

Relevant experience:

- Rural Fire Service - group officer currently Albury (previously Holbrook) and member of Cross Border Liaison committee (State Forests, NPWS, DEPI, CFA, RFS)
- RFS Southern Border Senior Management Team for AlburyCity, Greater Hume Shire, Federation Shire & Berrigan Shire
- Multi-Agency Incident Training & Counter-Terrorism Awareness Training
- Led RFS strike teams locally and interstate
- Initial discussions to plan and conduct Aboriginal cultural burning projects with RFS
- Managing hazard reduction on LLS TSRs via prescribed burns
- Attending NSW RFS Community Engagement Conference 2016
- Leading strategic planning, and project managing including budgets, materials, personnel and contracts for multi-stage property lease renewal and building renovations within the Alpine National Park.

Qualifications:

Valuations, Real Estate and Frontline Management
Diplomas in Agriculture and Wool Classing
I have attended training courses on leadership, business and personal development, including firefighter leadership training from the USA.

Business experience:

Running family farming partnership and then operating as sole trader (Wodonga and Holbrook) in mixed farming enterprises
Conducted lease-based grazing operations
Broad acre property management for absentee owners (Wagga, Holbrook & Albury districts) beef, sheep and cropping enterprises.
Self-employed in cattle trading enterprise and fencing contracting business
Building project manager (Falls Creek)
Operations manager for infrastructure services (Falls Creek)

Awards:

SOCOG *World Champion Volunteer* at the Sydney Olympics 2000
The National Medal 2015

Community Groups/Clubs:

Table Top Community Forum
Table Top RFS
Albury/Northside Chamber of Commerce

Previous Associations:

Grassland Society of Southern Australia (national president, branch member and convenor of GSSA conference in Albury)
Grassland Society of New South Wales
Grassland Society of Victoria - Albury/Wodonga branch
Holbrook Landcare/Trees on Farms (founding board member)
NSW Farmers Association
Riverine Plains Cropping Group
Little Billabong East RFS (president and captain)
Little Billabong District Footrot Control Group (president)
Holbrook & District Rural Discussion Group (president)
Various Holbrook school and community/sporting organisations

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