

NSW Local Land Services

Northern Tablelands Region

2017 Local Board Member Election (3 to be Elected)

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KING, Ross

I have served on the Board for 3 years and am currently 62 years old. I am owner manager of the property Waterloo, 12 km east of Walcha. I have always been interested in the wellbeing of agriculture and small rural communities, and their access to services, and will continue to push for this in NTLLS.

Past and present examples of community and regional involvement include;

- Bachelor of Agricultural Economics UNE,
- Secretary, Walcha Branch and District Council NSW Farmers Assoc,
- Treasurer and President Walcha Rugby Club,
- Foundation Boardmember, and following Chairman, Walcha Telecottage,
- Member Walcha Council 8 years,
- New England Weeds Board involving Armidale, Uralla, Guyra and Walcha Shires, 8 years,
- Armidale 3rd city of the Arts Board,
- Initiated Walcha Arts Council, wrote Public Art Plan adopted by Council,
- Chairman 1st Walcha Relay for Life Committee,
- Macleay River Water Management Committee,
- 30 years +, Walcha Show Committee, immediate past President,
- Many years Chairman Lower Aspley River Landcare Group. Our group was NSW winner and national finalist for Community Group of the year 2008. Conducted and published group Carbon Audit 2010,
- Boardmember Cicerone Project, Chiswick Research Station,
- Australian Institute of Company Directors Course, 2014

On the family farm I have previous experience in merino ram breeding. We had an 8 member ram breeding nucleus to maximize genetic gain with involvement from Dept of Agriculture sheep and wool officers. I also bred Border Leicester Rams and was a member of the Walcha British Breeds Show and Sale committee. My focus is now commercial; self replacing merinos, merino wethers, prime lamb, and EU cattle breeding enterprises. I place heavy selection pressure on Merino select and Lambplan ASBV's. I have had continuous involvement with a number of Dept of Agriculture officers in the areas of abattoir feedback, supply relationships, livestock health and management, and breeding advice. These activities have given me experience in many biosecurity programmes from brucellosis, to Ovine Johnes, to EU accreditation, to footrot and lice, wild dogs, kangaroos and weed management. I have done extensive tree planting and regeneration work on Waterloo, and in the Lower Aspley subcatchment.

My continuing aim as an LLS Boardmember will be to ensure financial responsibility for NTLLS and continue to lobby for proper resourcing from State Treasury. I will push for the rating of land from 2-10 hectares to ensure that small landholders become more aware and responsible for biosecurity and pest management issues. I believe there should always be a focus on productivity in agriculture, which means important roles for sheep, wool and beef cattle officers.

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WORSLEY, David

Qualifications:

Bachelor of Applied Science Agriculture
Graduate Diploma of Education
Workplace trainer and assessor

Current employment:

Wild Dog Facilitator North East NSW with Invasive Animals CRC
Grazier – property called 'Maryland', Nullamanna, northern NSW

Positions held in organisations:

LLS Board – Current Director
Gwymac Inc, Landcare Network – Chair
Nullamanna/Wellingrove Wild Dog Control Group – Chair
Nullamanna Landcare Group – Secretary

I have been an elected Director on the board of the Northern Tablelands Local Land Services for the past 3 years, farming at Nullamanna for the past 30 years and a very involved member of the local community via my association with various committees, sporting clubs and schools. I have worked hard to maximise my exposure with ratepayers to know what is happening in the region. In my role as Wild Dog Facilitator North Eastern NSW I am constantly moving throughout the region, not only working with individual farmers but also Wild Dog groups, speaking at other Landcare Groups, working with Local Land Services staff and staff from National Parks and Forestry. This provides me with a really good understanding of local issues throughout the entire region and therefore a much greater perspective of the issues on a regional scale.

I am also the Chair of Gwymac Inc, the Landcare Network based in Inverell and through this network I bring another perspective to the table. I have lived in the region all my life and have always had a desire to see the area thrive. This is reflected in my long standing involvement in community activities. My knowledge of farming, the region, governance and politics places me in a unique position to serve on the board of the Northern Tablelands Local Land Services. I have thoroughly enjoyed the challenges of the last 3 years and hope to be offered the opportunity to contribute further.

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O'HALLORAN, Bill

Prior to the establishment of LLS, I was a Director of New England LHPA and Chair of its Finance and Risk Committee for four years. I have undertaken Australian Institute of Company Directors' training and have developed an in-depth understanding of corporate governance through various board activities. As chair of the finance committee, I had oversight of rating processes, monthly financial reports, audit processes and outcomes, scrutiny and recommendation of the annual budget and risk management, including potential fraud.

Prior to my LHPA role I was NSW DPI's state Sheepmeats Industry Leader and state project leader for NLIS (Sheep & Goats). These roles specialized in strategic planning and development of a strong collaborative culture across a successful team of extension, research, technical, industry and veterinary staff. I believe that there is a great need to improve teamwork across the three separate LLS work areas of biosecurity, natural resource management and agricultural advisory work.

As a former District Sheep and Wool Officer, Armidale from 1982 to 1991, I understand the needs of sheep and cattle producers in the Northern Tablelands area and the advisory role which is now being undertaken by recently appointed LLS staff. I feel strongly that this role needs to be effective and sufficiently resourced to meet the needs of producers. Provision of training for junior staff is a serious issue that needs to be addressed.

Biosecurity is a key role of the LLS and NLIS has been a major component of this role. I am a member of the NSW NLIS (Sheep & Goats) Implementation Advisory Committee, aiming to ensure that the NSW position against an RFID based NLIS sheep and goats system is as strong as possible. This system would be extremely costly and is not yet fully proven. I would like to be involved in LLS to continue to make the case to retain the current mob based system.

Other biosecurity roles that the LLS provides include exotic disease surveillance programs and pest management. A recent statewide survey of LLS customers rated agricultural advice and pest management as their most important requirements from LLS. Currently, ratepayers fund the primary biosecurity activities of LLS. If government funding of natural resource and extension activities is reduced in the future, does this mean increased rates for ratepayers?

A major component of LLS activities is natural resource management. It is important that the travelling stock route network continues to serve its original purpose of providing a network of grazing for stock in drought times and issues such as weeds and fire risk on TSRs are carefully managed.

I would appreciate the opportunity to represent all stakeholders in LLS in a balanced way. Whilst much of my experience has been from the agricultural perspective, I have maintained a keen personal interest in the environment and biodiversity conservation for decades.

As a member of NSW Farmers Association, I will be keen to follow up issues that NSW Farmers members identify within LLS.

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GOLDTHORPE, Aileen

In support of my application to the board position within the Northern Tablelands Local Land Services, I wish to present the following compilation of life experiences. I believe this experience combined with a passionate desire to increase knowledge and awareness of sustainable agriculture and land management make me a worthy candidate for this position.

My experience is largely gained in self employment.

Experience:

Dairy Industry

Thirteen years experience across all facets of the dairy industry from animal husbandry farm management and marketing. This experience has been gained mainly in the Scenic Rim of far Northern NSW.

Beef Industry

Twenty years in the beef industry spent as in the dairy industry in all facets of farm management, marketing, pasture management and rejuvenation as well as animal husbandry. Once again, sustainable agriculture has been at the forefront of all my management practices.

Ostrich Breeding

Diversification has always interested me. Finding the best and most sustainable ways of using the land evoked my interest in Ostrich breeding. I adapted well to this relatively new form of farming at the time and enjoyed the challenges this presented me. I was involved in this program for some six years.

Lamb and Sheep

I have maintained an interest in lamb and sheep production for most of my farming life and have extensive experience in both wool and meat production.

Boer Goats

I have had extensive experience with goat breeding and farming, having bred them for 20 years. I care about the welfare of my goats so that they are all I run my farm as organically and environmentally friendly as possible and go to field days related to organic feeding.

Education:

I completed my education at Grafton High School where I obtained my Intermediate Certificate. My other qualifications arise from a vast life experience.

Skills:

Apart from farming for most of my life I have built seven homes by hand. I have also built an amenities block in Sapphire for the Emerald Shire Council.

I have been a truck driver and operator of heavy earth moving equipment. I have held several volunteer leadership roles and served on a number of boards related to volunteer organisations such as the SES and Bushfire Brigade.

Summary:

In closing I feel that my passion for landcare and sustainable agriculture, coupled with a vast life experience, make me worthy of consideration for this board position. I am dedicated to serving this organisation passionately and with diligence to my role.

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NORTON, Tim

I am a 65 yr old farmer who has been farming in the Walcha area since 1969. I am fourth generation on the same property deriving most of my income from a sheep and cattle operation. Over the course of my career I have increased my landholding, reared four children and provided a start in agriculture for my two sons who now farm beside me. Over many years I have been involved in the agricultural community. My involvement has included:

- Chairman of the Walcha Showground Trust
- Chairman of the Walcha Branch of the NSW Nationals
- Committee member of the Walcha Rural Advisory Service
- Member of the NSW Farmers Sheepmeats Committee
- Walcha Show Society President
- Central North Group 13 Show President

Through this involvement I have gained skills in leadership, strategic planning, management, audit, financial management, reporting and risk management. Personally, I have attended many training days, field days and seminars regarding production agriculture. Among these I completed a Grazing for Profit school and managed the national breeding scheme for the Poll Dorset Association for several years. Through these I have attained skills in:

- biosecurity
- animal welfare
- pest and weed management
- emergency management
- natural resource management and
- biodiversity conservation

I have nominated for a board position on the Local Land Services because I believe that all of these things can be achieved alongside productive agriculture. I have no past connection with Catchment Management Authority or the Livestock Health and Pest Authority. I have a strong belief that farming has a great future, so I will be working to see that its full potential is reached. I would like to represent farmers and ensure they have a strong voice, that they are given a fair deal, that rates are kept to a minimum and that they receive value for money for their rates.

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HARDWICK, Anthony

My life began in Wollstonecraft near Crows Nest North Sydney. Third son of C. A. Hardwick K.C.C.M.G. Educated at Shore, Sydney University. Chartered Accountant F.C.A. Emeritus Senior Partner of firm founded in 1890 Lyall & Giles. Founded office in Broken Hill for 41 years. Studied in London U.K. resident of London House 1954-57. Travelled all over England, Wales, Ireland and Scotland. Meet ER2 at Balmoral 1954.

Senior member of staff Price Waterhouse coy New York 1958

Member of Executive Committee of London House 1954-57

An International College

Director of Companies Chairman of Public Hospital Boards, Treasurer of Organisations Financial Adviser to companies.

Travel all over Commonwealth.

Involved with sheep, wool and cattle, cropping and horticulture.

Local Government North Sydney 1959-62 and in Queensland when in retirement to Gunald Braford Cattle Stud 1993

Joint standing committee Parliament House Queensland on Transport during National Party years.

Active member of Governing Bodies of Coalition Parties for many years.

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