

**2020 Mornington Peninsula Shire Council
Briars Ward
Candidate Statements**

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O'CONNOR, Despi

I will be the voice of common sense on the Mornington Peninsula. Being an active community member and long term resident, I am passionate about where I live and the people that I live amongst. I want to nurture and strengthen this community now and long into the future. A vote for me is a vote for an unaffiliated, unbiased and a common sense approach driven by community voice. As a teacher my job demands I get the best outcomes for all in my care. My 30 years of voluntary community service as an educator, president and committee member, across multiple community groups, has refined this skill set. I have proven myself to be an effective contributor through careful listening and a willingness to find solutions to problems. A genuine care and respect for others underpins my results. I will oversee a balanced approach to sustaining our wonderful environment, with sensible development and opportunities for recreation. I have always led within our local community through responsible and ethical action. I am exceptional at hearing all sides of the story and negotiating a quality outcome for all. I look to empower and represent our local community within council and be an active part of the leadership that drives sustained improvements in post COVID times. Vote for Despi O'Connor Find me on Facebook @Despi4Briars, or email despi4briars@gmail.com. Nurture, Strive, Strengthen.

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STREET, Janet

An independent Candidate, a keen environmentalist and bush walker wanting to preserve the beautiful natural environment to be enjoyed by generations to come. I am a strong advocate against inappropriate development on the Peninsula and eager to see Briars Ward residents' views heard by Council. My key campaign issues include Climate Change - Protection of the environment; Support, Recovery, Rebuild post COVID-19; addressing Homelessness on the Peninsula. Better footpaths and roads; more bike paths including mountain bike area; social housing and affordable rental properties; renewable energy projects; greening the laneways in shopping strips; greater protection of the Green Wedges. I come from a strong social justice background having studied forensic disability University of Melbourne and Bachelors degree Deakin University. You've told Council what you want. Now elect the person you need. M : 0499 872 451 eMail : JanetStreet2020@gmail.com Facebook : [facebook.com/JanetStreet2020](https://www.facebook.com/JanetStreet2020)

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ORTON, Peter

Peter is a man of strong leadership and action with a heart for community. He has an energetic commitment in helping to build better, stronger and more compassionate neighbourhoods, Tim Costello AO, former CEO of World Vision. Thriving together as a community, post COVID is my goal for the next four years. I am passionate about good governance, community connectedness, sustainability and local business. My wife, children and I have lived on the Mornington Peninsula for 23 years. I love this part of the world and have developed a deep connection to my community, which I wish to serve. I believe in promoting community well-being and connectedness as a priority post-COVID. I understand our local community. I have worked with 120 local organisations through my volunteer work as Chairperson of the not-for-profit organisation Peninsula Voice. Drawing upon this experience I will work passionately to ensure we are a safer, stronger and more resilient community. I have over 40 years experience of business ownership and operation, both large and small. I have served as a director on numerous boards, commercial, private and in the not-for-profit sector. My life's work has given me the necessary skills and knowledge to work with the varied goals of organisations, communities and individuals. I am experienced in managing complex situations and mediating to arrive at balanced outcomes. I can confidently enact the highest standards of governance. I believe in supporting and developing the business, arts and cultural sectors as they are the life-blood of communities. They provide employment, security and opportunity for the benefit of us all. I consider myself a pragmatic optimist. I am action orientated and will work diligently and purposefully for the Briars Ward. I ask you to Vote 1 Peter Orton.

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McCARTHY, Julia

I love our local community and I am dedicated to being actively involved. Since having children my life focus has switched from the city and the financial industry to what I can do with my skills, voice and time to help my local area, our local school, local community groups and now my local council. I am willing to stand up and help address challenges facing local groups and cohorts. I am an effective operator, a good listener and have a passion to serve. I want to represent you in the discussions at council about how the Mornington Peninsula will recover from COVID, and be a vibrant place where families want to raise their children and people dream of retiring. I want local businesses to be supported as well as our local not-for-profit organisations. I want to preserve our natural environment (especially our precious green wedge) while not making planning processes more onerous and expensive. I am also genuinely interested in local government. So that I can serve to the best of my abilities I have enrolled in the Institute of Community Directors Diploma of Governance for which I am delighted to have been awarded a part scholarship in the Womens Scholarship Round. I have nominated for local government because I believe the council should be as diverse and representative of its residents. We know that in every part of Victoria, women play a pivotal role in the leadership of their communities, but this work is often under appreciated and not formally recognised. I want to run for local council so that it looks more like the communities that they represent after all, local government is supposed to be the level of government that is closest to the people. www.juliamccarthyformornpen.com

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MARSH, Anthony

I am a local resident living in Mount Martha with my wife and two young children. I have been an active volunteer in our community for many years, including in sport, as a driving mentor for disadvantaged youths, a director of a non-profit helping children with disabilities, and previously maritime rescue. I have a degree in aerospace engineering, a masters in business administration, and I am currently studying law. Previously a Commissioned Officer in the Royal Australian Air Force, I leapt back into entrepreneurship and have since founded a number of successful companies. Our community needs a new breed of leaders, those not influenced by party politics or self-interest, but willing to engage, ask the tough questions, and take decisive action. As your councillor, I will bring my fighting spirit, entrepreneurial drive, strong commercial experience, community mindset, and my vision for a better peninsula. A peninsula where our council works with, and not against local businesses. A peninsula interconnected by paths and facilities to enhance the health and wellbeing of our community, easily accessible by our youths, growing families and older population. A peninsula that attracts investment and a bigger slice of state and federal funding, while reducing pressure on rates. A peninsula where local jobs and contracts are prioritised, creating better opportunities across our economy. A peninsula of smart and environmentally aware infrastructure and well-maintained roads. I will protect our natural landscapes, beaches and coastal villages from the inevitable pressures of overdevelopment and changes in our environment. I will work relentlessly to make our council a leader in service delivery, governance, and transparency, and to rebuild confidence. I will be accessible, consultative, and always advocate for your wishes and needs. Your vote will enable us to create an even better peninsula, together. Vote 1 Marsh. www.mornpen2020.com

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HINTON, Wayne

I have worked for myself for 35 years as a builder and am currently studying my Advanced Diploma of Building Surveying. I think there is significant work to be done for Council to provide a more business friendly environment especially in the current COVID-19 environment. I have heard from many about frustrations with planning and building permit processes. These processes need streamlining to allow for timely commencement of projects to stimulate the local economy. Through my studies I have been taught to work with the community in a non-adversarial manner and to find solutions and only use enforcement as a last resort. This doesn't seem to be the case with the current council. I am about improving relationships between Councillors, officers and rate payers. I am passionate about community sport and local sporting facilities. I have been umpiring AFL football for over 40 years and have umpired at the highest levels in the VFL/AFL, the VAFA and currently umpire in the Mornington Peninsula juniors. I am a life member of the AFL and VAFA Umpire associations and am a past President of the VAFA umpires. Umpiring on the Peninsula there are many facilities that could use an upgrade and improved change facilities for female players and umpires. My daughter is an umpire and often has to get changed at home due to no appropriate facilities. I am interested in improved healthcare for the residents of the Mornington Peninsula. I was diagnosed with kidney failure in 2013, and after two years of at home dialysis received the call up for a kidney transplant. Going through this I understand the importance of high quality healthcare. The redevelopment of the Rosebud Hospital is long overdue and if elected I will be ensuring the Council advocate to the state government to commit to this.

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BATTY, Stephen

Stephen Batty has lived in the Mornington Shire for 38 years, is married with 3 children and has 8 grandchildren. Stephen manages a successful small family business and has an accountancy and science background. Prior to embarking in his own business pursuits, Stephen was operations manager of the Melbourne Cricket Club and Marvel Stadium overseeing many of Melbourne's major events. Stephen is passionate about the Mornington Peninsula and has been involved in schools, clubs and sporting committees in the shire participating in many of the local festivals and events. If Stephen was successful with his nomination he would see it as a privilege to represent the people in the Briars Ward and the Mornington Peninsula. Stephen is committed to improve the facilities and infrastructure on the Peninsula, while protecting the assets of the shire. Stephen has the necessary qualifications and proven experience to work in a team environment and work towards bringing the community together. Stephen wants to become involved and improve the public transport network alternatives, and protect the magnificent environment that we have in this diverse area. Stephen wants to ensure that business opportunities are sustained for future generations. Stephen acknowledges the importance of tourism numbers on the Peninsula and is prepared to work hard in promoting the area, whilst maintaining the integrity of the residents. The Peninsula is home to some of Australia's best wineries and tourist attractions and it is vital that we provide the support for these very important industries. Stephen wants to represent sporting and recreational clubs in providing the best available facilities to encourage our children to participate. Stephen will represent property owners, business operators, residents and the organisers of the many festivals and events held in the Shire. Vote for Stephen Batty if you want a councillor who will represent you .

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FITZGERALD, Peter

My family moved to Mt Martha from Moorabbin in 1975 and I have lived in many other places for brief periods but have always come back to the Mornington Peninsula which is where I live now. My father still lives in the same house that my three sisters and two brothers grew up in. Dad and Mum said when we moved down that it was one of the best places to live and I agree that there is nothing quite like it anywhere else in the world. I am an airline captain and I run a small business in Tyabb that employs five people. For all the great things that the Peninsula has going for it there are several issues that have room for improvement. I hear from a lot of friends and colleagues that they are concerned about the standard of road maintenance, inappropriate development and a more responsible approach to tourism are some of the things on their mind. I believe that the council should work in partnership with local businesses of all sizes so as to provide enhanced opportunities for training, apprenticeships and enhanced employment opportunities for people of all ages. We should make it a priority to provide decision making that will produce sound practical economic and environmentally responsible results for everyone. I am not afraid of hard work and if elected will endeavour to achieve what is important to the people of Mornington Peninsula. Vote 1 Peter Fitzgerald, Vote 2 Anthony Marsh and number all the other candidates in the order of your choice.

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MULLETT TRELOAR, Dion

I know how lucky I am to call the Peninsula home. While working for The Royal Flying Doctor Service as an aeromedical pilot I was able to see all corners of Australia and nothing compares to the beautiful, peaceful lifestyle that exists here on the Peninsula. The chance to serve my community and support the people of Briars would be a great honour and something I do not take lightly. To preserve this enviable way of life we enjoy, there is much work to be done. I stand for a thriving, sustainable and well-connected Mornington Peninsula that puts the long-term interests of the community first. #1) Working as an airline pilot heavily affected by COVID-19, I empathise and acknowledge how tough it is to redesign and reimagine business, so I will assist the small business community in opening up our outdoor street spaces to ensure we get through this and return to the thriving towns we all love. #2) During my Double Degree of Aviation and Business, I completed a yearlong study into high-speed rail, which allows me to formulate a strong case for a Peninsula Rail Link and an expanded SmartBus network, complimented by improved cycleways. #3) I will push for kerbside soft plastic recycling, to help keep rubbish out of our pristine beaches and the local bushlands in which I volunteer, in line with our councils beyond zero waste strategy. #4) I will fight against the massively damaging AGL Gas import terminal and Arthurs Seat Quarry expansion which removes native koala habitat. These projects do not align with the councils commendable declaration of a climate emergency. Please contact me directly at dionforbriars@gmail.com with any of your concerns in Briars ward and see [facebook.com/dion.mornpen](https://www.facebook.com/dion.mornpen) for my full policy platform. Vote 1, Dion Mullett Treloar, for the community.

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O'REILLY, Barbara

Having spent many years living on the Mornington Peninsula, I am passionate about protecting all we value whilst making sure we have all the services we require. With many years experience as an Administrator at Monash University and as a community worker, I will support and fight for; improved services for the older members of our community including enhanced aged care, home assistance, and social and educational groups; Small business owners who are struggling to survive during recovery out of the Covid 19 crisis. I will advocate for every ratepayer to receive a shopping voucher to be spent in their local area; Schools, kindergartens, and increased and affordable childcare facilities. Better roads and safety - fast tracking reported problems with our roads to limit congestion and ease commuting; local sporting clubs and sporting facilities; Residents before developers, development must be sustainable and not reduce neighbourhood character or the enjoyment of our environment. It is difficult for residents to follow all aspects of councils activity these days, we need to have confidence our representatives make informed decisions after extensive community consultation. I am politically independent and will advocate for transparency, ensuring ratepayers funds are appropriately spent. With your support, I will be your strong voice on Council, and you can contact me at any time. Genuine consultation allows us to voice our concerns and help identify solutions.

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WARD, Andrew

I've spent most of my adult life serving and protecting our people, our country and our community, both in the Army (Reserve) and the local CFA brigade; and apart from time away in service and education, have lived most of my life here in Mornington. I don't belong to any political party, nor am I sponsored by any rich sectional interest; I'm just an ordinary, down-to-earth traditional bloke, who is concerned by how the Shire has been led and administered in recent years and at what I believe have been serious shortcomings. I care for the safety and well-being of the ordinary decent men, women and children of my hometown, and indeed all of my shire, state and country - especially struggling families, women and children victims of violence, and those who 'stand in the gap' to keep all of us safe. I also care about getting the job done, of holding to account those in power; of ensuring necessary community services are maintained; of preserving the natural beauty and historic townships of the Shire for the future (while not neglecting contemporary and future needs); of supporting our rural/suburban economy; of mitigating future impacts of climate change; and of ensuring that we have a Shire that we can all be rightly proud of. I don't promise to have all of the answers, but I do promise to listen to the good citizens who I aim to represent in Mornington and the rest of the Briars ward. Keep the Shire Council honest.

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RODMAN, Belinda

I chose the Peninsula 20 years ago as the ideal place to raise my two sons and establish a rural hospitality venue. With a Master of Business Degree and a professional background in Human Resources, I moved to Mt Eliza in 2007 to run a small business assisting clients with job applications and career development. Always involved with community organisations, for several years I have been a volunteer member of the Mornington Peninsula Shires Disability Advisory and Best Bites Committees. I am also a Board Member of the Southern Peninsula Community Support and Information Centre. Working closely with my colleagues, I have improved local access, inclusion, and assistance to the disadvantaged while gaining valuable insight into Shire strategies and how to work effectively with Shire officers. With a reputation for critical thinking and pushing for results, as a Councillor, I would use my skills and experience to drive positive change on other issues, while continuing to advocate for universal design. Over the next few years, many key Council decisions will need to be made to steer the Shire through what will be a critical post-COVID period. At the same time, the budget and ratepayer-funded assets need to be carefully managed. We need progress on the community-led projects striving to protect our environment and deliver our recreational and cultural activities. We need locally-based economic growth; real, widespread, and transparent community engagement with a reduction in consultancy costs. We need improved transportation. We need to ensure that appropriate plans and policies are actually delivered. I am independent, hardworking, and ready to listen and learn. So please contact me at belindarodman4briars@gmail.com and Vote 1 Belinda Rodman.

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STANSZUS, Jill

I have lived with my family in Mornington and Mt Martha for 40 years, during which I have been involved in local playgroups, kindergarten, schools, sporting activities and associations, youth groups and a range of volunteer organisations throughout the Briars ward. I am currently a Primary school teacher and have been a member of school council and kindergarten committees. I care about local organisations and services representing the diverse interests and needs of individuals and families and respect their vital role in connecting our community. I would like to be elected as a councillor to give more time to supporting the long-term future of our local community, as it impacts significantly on our day-to-day living. I value the beautiful environment we live in and support the current strategic planning scheme: preventing urban sprawl on the Peninsula, retention of habitat for biodiversity and requiring development to fit local character. I also value sustainable living, respect for our First Nations peoples and am concerned about the issue of affordable housing on the Peninsula. As a councillor it is essential to consider the views of all in the community, whether individuals, organisations or businesses. I look forward to the challenge of dealing with these possibly differing views, researching with due diligence and applying measured considerations that support the best possible outcome for the sake of our community. In view of the current situation it will be important to consider a community in recovery and I am willing to listen, learn and apply new skills to aid this happening. I value fairness and balance which are essential to community consultation and decision-making and intend to serve with integrity and as a team player.

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HOLLAND, Steve

I'm a lifelong Mornington Peninsula resident and self-employed small business owner working from home in Mount Eliza. I've been an active, grassroots member of the Liberal Party for over a decade. I am an articulate, passionate, decisive and candid individual who cares greatly about our community and its future. After graduating from Peninsula Grammar, I completed a Bachelor of Communication at RMIT University with a focus on broadcast media, politics, economics and business. A majority of my clients are small business owners, which is where my policy passion lies. My Mornington Peninsula Shire campaign priorities are to promote transparency in council and deliver accountable representation; improve local amenity; protect the Mornington Peninsula from inappropriate development; and assist small business and industry through a post-COVID-19 recovery. I have a steadfast commitment to my principles and ensuring our local community, environment and economy prosper. I will be a consultative and transparent representative for our community. My overarching aim is to ensure that our young people inherit an economy, community, culture and environment better than what we ourselves have inherited. Please visit my website www.stevholland.org.au or follow my page on Facebook to learn more. I'd welcome the opportunity to hear about the issues that matter most to you and can be reached via email hello@stevholland.org.au or mobile +61 410 905 085. I ask for your support and your vote so that we can make a difference. I recommend that voters complete their ballot paper in the following sequence from top to bottom: 13, 11, 5, 12, 14, 7, 3, 9, 15, 6, 10, 4, 8, 1, 2.

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RANKEN, Bruce

Briars Ward needs an experienced, motivated person that has the knowledge to get things done locally. As a past Councillor I have the knowledge and experience to keep rates low, preferably with a zero rate increase, without reducing services, but by managing budgets, building more community hubs, for sport, senior groups and broader community use. I will focus on the essentials, road maintenance, footpaths, waste management and our parks. I will advocate for Solar Farms (to be delivered on our tip sites) and to maintain our Green Wedge with a focus on excellence in Strategic Planning which is the key to stopping over development. I understand that to build trust with our Ratepayers we need excellence in community consultation and transparency. I delivered these outcomes in the past as a Councillor at another Green Wedge Shire, Nillumbik. I will advocate hard for the extension of the Bay Trail, road safety, particularly the Forest Rd & Nepean Hwy / Uralla Rd & Nepean Hwy intersections. I have had my own successful businesses, appointed to national boards and worked with many different organisations achieving successful, positive outcomes for our community. I grew up on the Mornington Peninsula, attended Kunyung PS, Flinders College and Mount Eliza High School. I enjoy giving back to the community, working with Mornington Peninsula community leaders in this diverse role as Councillor. Previous Council roles I have been appointed to include Chair of Finance and Governance we reduced Councils debt by half, delivered 2 years of zero rate increases. Chair of Social infrastructure, built 9 new pavilions and appointed to Councils Audit and Risk committee. Vote 1 Bruce Ranken. To complete your ballot paper, I recommend the following order from top to bottom 12, 9, 4, 15, 14, 7, 3, 10, 13, 6, 11, 5, 8, 2, 1.