

# Uralla Wordsworth

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Uralla's FREE Fortnightly Newspaper

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## Special Election Edition

*With thanks to our community for supporting the publication of this edition and ensuring the Uralla Shire Community has free access to information about all the candidates standing in the 4th December Local Government elections.*

**Thank you to the sponsors of this special edition, which has provided a free space to each candidate and ensured the shire has free access to the information they need to cast an informed vote :**

Ruth Barratt  
Henry & Grace  
Barking Dog Gallery  
Tom Spot, Nightingale Hill  
Ross Burnet  
Patrick Laher  
Jane & Charlie Rudd  
Doran Concrete  
Carol Shantal

We also want to acknowledge all our advertisers and contributors over the course of the year, who have ensured that we have a paper to publish each fortnight.

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*All care has been taken in putting the paper together, however individuals should also validate this information against the NSW Electoral Commission website: <https://www.elections.nsw.gov.au/>*

The Uralla Wordsworth is published by the Uralla Wordsworth Inc., 46 Bridge St Uralla.  
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## Election Details :

- Saturday 4th December is election day, voting is between 8am - 6pm.
- You need to vote for the Mayor as well as for Councillors.
- Pre-polling is available to everyone and starts on Wednesday 22nd November, running until Friday 3rd December (see page 11 for full details taken from the NSW Electoral Commission website).
- Prepolling locations for both Wards are :
  - Uralla Community Centre, 9 Hill St, Uralla
  - Armidale Town Hall, 127 Rusden St, Armidale
  - These centres are both open from 9am - 5pm, Monday to Saturday from 22nd Nov - 3rd Dec
- Election Day polling booth locations for Ward A are :
  - Uralla Central School
  - Rocky River Public School
- Election Day polling booth locations for Ward B are :
  - Arding Uniting Church Hall, Hawthorne Drive
  - Bundarra Central School
  - Kentucky Memorial Hall
  - Kingstown Community Hall
  - Rocky River Public School
  - Uralla Central School
- Voting is available from 8am - 6pm on 4th Dec

### Please note :

All registered candidates received an email invitation to contribute to this edition. We have received replies from all candidates, for which we thank them. Texts provided to us have been published verbatim, and photos were cropped in some cases to render them all similar in size.

Name : **Robert Livingstone Bell**  
Standing for : **Mayor &  
Councillor in Ward A**

My name is Robert Bell, and I have the honour of standing for Mayor in the upcoming Council elections. My wife Linda and I have lived in Uralla for 36 years and I bring over 40 years' experience in Local Government, including 20 years as Council's Director of Engineering.

My fellow colleagues, Councillors Toomey, Crouch and O'Connor, join me in our absolute commitment to once again make Uralla Shire "Fit for the Future." We have some amazing people who have nominated in this election, and they can offer a vast range of professional skills rarely seen in local government.

We have an excellent operational staff who lack the leadership they deserve. The overuse of consultants and contractors has been shown to be ineffective.

As Mayor of Uralla Shire Council I will:

- Commit to Council managing the budget without reducing services
- Address the financial waste of staff payouts and overuse of consultants
- Re-engage Council with the Uralla Shire community
- Ensure Council's Executive Staff are responsible to the community
- Work with builders and developers by providing consistent and professional advice
- Optimise the benefits to Uralla Shire as a Renewable Energy Hub
- Never abandon the First Class community-owned McMaugh Gardens.

Council's stated vision is "Uralla Shire Council is focused on shaping our future by being connected, sustainable and creative. Through this vision, Council is committed to the provision of timely, efficient and consistent quality services provided by experienced, knowledgeable and helpful officers that meet our customer's expectations." I am totally committed to seeing this vision become a reality.

Text and photo provided by  
Robert Bell

**robertbell1055@hotmail.com**  
**0434 244 774**



Name : **Tim Bower**  
Standing for : **Councillor in Ward B**

My name is Tim Bower, I am a fifth generation farmer. My family has resided in Uralla since the 1860's and have always supported Uralla businesses, schools, social and sporting clubs.

I have, like many of you, been disappointed with the Council over the last few years, but have remained silent.

This Shire sits in the heart of the New England and we are blessed to live in this unique and beautiful area. I can see so much potential for our Shire, so I have decided to be silent no more and advocate for my fellow ratepayers and try to change things. I aim to help build a better relationship between the Council and ratepayers.

If I am elected to Council my objectives will be-

1. Transparency of spending
2. To minimise rate increases which will also relate to the justification of spending.
3. Support initiatives that promote the future progress, growth and prosperity of the Uralla Shire by encouraging investment and development, not discouraging it. This will in turn bring employment to our community.
4. A fairer go for our out of town residents who contribute more in rates and receive less in services. The repair and maintenance of our roads, the beautification of towns and their facilities.
5. Support community initiatives such as the very successful Thunderbolts festival, Seasons, farmers markets, Uralla and Bundarra shows and the Merino Field day which showcases the best of New England's fine wool sheep.

Thank you for your time.

Text and photo provided by Tim Bower

**0421704598**



Name : **Sarah Burrows**  
Standing for : **Councillor in Ward B**

Council representation is about strong relationships with, and within, the community. It requires ongoing collaboration while balancing the needs and interests of the residents, good and transparent governance, and improved services to boost our community's resilience and enable it to prosper.

To improve service delivery we need to improve community engagement, governance and management practices. We should be looking at reducing overheads rather than raising rates. We should be requesting robust key performance indicators for the General Manager against which the incumbent will have to report regularly to Councillors and to the general community. We should be listening and responding to what the community is saying, and our actions should be transparent.

My roots are firmly planted in Uralla Shire. I moved back to Australia from South Africa over 10 years ago to farm at historic Balala ([www.balala.com.au](http://www.balala.com.au)) where my husband and I produce superfine wool, pasture raised pork, lambs and cattle.

I have worked fulltime at UNE for the past nine years, first in the Secretariat responsible for supporting the University Council and then as Events and Protocol Manager responsible for corporate events.

I have an office in the heart of town in Bridge Street where I run my start-up, Red8 Produce, ([www.red8produce.com.au](http://www.red8produce.com.au)). Red8 is a mobile modular abattoir to commercially produce quality, additive free meat which is processed ethically and sustainably.

I am a local representing local issues for the benefit of my community.

Text and photo provided by Sarah Burrows

**siburrows@gmail.com**  
**0428 055 860**



Name : **Bob Crouch**  
Standing for : **Councillor in Ward B**

For development and growth compatible with the lifestyle of Uralla Shire.

Four years ago, we moved from "Sentry Box" Bundarra to 2 acres at Rocky River. Since moving I have continued to be strongly involved in our community.

I have been a councillor for the last nine years and have encouraged our Council to:

- Bring in balanced budgets delivering economical services our community needs and can afford.
- Continue the development of Uralla and Uralla Shire within the resources available.

Outside of council, the development of the Uralla Bowlo and the Uralla Showground, and my involvement in Diggings Rural Fire Brigade are important to me.

I believe in a council that strongly supports our community with a "can-do" ethic. If elected. I will work to improve communication between our community and council and develop a culture of community and council support and respect.

My key priorities are balanced, affordable budgets; extending our sealed road network (including a bridge across Bakers Creek on the Barraba Road); rezoning to enable effective growth; development of our businesses, towns and villages; and working with the renewable energy sector to provide clear guidance on our community expectations and needs.

If re-elected I will continue to work to advance Uralla Shire, and to preserve our community values.

Text and photo provided by Bob Crouch

**0428 616 885**  
**crouch.bp@bigpond.com**



Name : **Leanne Doran**  
Standing for : **Councillor in Ward B**

I was born and raised on a grazing property near Garah, 60 kms north west of Moree. I came to Armidale for school, moved away for 10 years, returned & have lived in the Uralla Shire for 20 years. I am an active member of the Uralla community, on various committees such as; co-ordinating Thunderbolts Festival (14 years), convenor of Antiques and Collectables Fair (3 years), Uralla Art Show, member of Uralla Rotary Club (President 20/21), Showground Land Manager, Red Cross, Australia Day Committee and Uralla Shire Business Chamber. I was elected and served a term as Councillor from 2012-16 with Tom O'Connor as General Manager, he retired during this time and things have been fairly turbulent at Council since then.

I live at Rocky River and am looking to represent Ward B. I come from a rural background and believe I have the right foundation to understand and relate to the issues facing residents living outside the Uralla town boundary. I know a number of people across the Kentucky, Kingstown, Invergowrie and Bundarra areas. I am looking forward to getting to know more of you, discussing the issues that matter and hopefully having the opportunity to represent you. I will put forward your view point in Council meetings & forums and will do all I can to improve the connection between Council and the local community across the Uralla Shire area.

Text and photo provided by Leanne Doran

**0488 559 928**  
**leannedoran28@gmail.com**



Name : **Jann Karp**  
Standing for : **Councillor in Ward B**

Jann Karp decided to register as a councillor for WARD B in February 2021.

A NEW VOICE:- I will contribute to our council that will provide resources, support in times of crisis and supportive networks within our shire. Everyone in shire employment including our councillors must be transparent and accountable when they are working for us.

Can I do that? I can, based on years of experience working within institutions, such as the NSW Police, and the University sector. I am principled in my work. I have published work focused on contemporary working Australians such as shearers, and interstate truck drivers. I focus on recording how we as Aussies really do make good, in times of desperation such as the global economic downturn, the drought and I reported extensively on the recent bush fires in our area.

My new voice if elected will listen to each individual and specialists in any area relevant to our discussions. I have in the past shown courage for our shire and will continue to stand up for anyone who feels an outsider to the process of local government. My job as a councillor is not to agree it is to listen and be of service to our community. The majority vote within the council meetings will decide the future of Uralla. I am standing for a fresh approach to team leadership and performance evaluation at all levels within our shire.

I have previously spoken against amalgamation at public meetings, and I argued before council that our business alignment needed diversification. Recently I have attended several council meetings to oversee and witness our community representatives in action. Therefore, I have decided to nominate as I believe I have the work ethic and experience to contribute to the future our community.

Text and photo provided by Jann Karp

**j.karp@bigpond.com**  
**0473646392**



Name : **Natasha Ledger**  
Standing for : **Mayor &  
Councillor in Ward B**

Being a Councillor brings friendships, joy, experiences and challenges.

Create, grow, thrive.

Thank you for your support.

Text and photo provided by Natasha Ledger

**natasha@yarrahapinni.com**  
**nledger@uralla.nsw.gov.au**



Name : **David Mailler**  
Standing for : **Councillor in Ward B**

I am by nature an optimist and there is plenty to be optimistic about. I reside in a great location and the local environment, heritage and community is outstanding.

Uralla Shire – north, south, east and west - has something for everyone. I might be a bit parochial, but it strikes me that not all places have what Uralla Shire has. For me, the most important element is our sense of community purpose. In the past twelve years, I have seen this community rise to new challenges, pick itself up, dust itself off and go on to better things.

But now we face another challenge, this time with an opportunity to make a quick fix at the upcoming election.

It is clear to me that the Council and some Councillors use words like communication, consultation, partnership, cohesion, strategy, community and accountability without understanding the meaning of these words. And without wanting to carry out the actions these words dictate.

Business 101 says that when faced with falling income, you reduce expenditure accordingly. In my opinion, the current Council has not acted in the interests of the Uralla Shire community in allowing senior council staff to draft a long term financial plan that does not meet the needs and values of the Uralla community.

The December 4th Local Government elections are an important fork in the road for this community and to quote the Lorax, 'Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, Nothing is going to get better, it's not.'

Text and photo provided by David Mailler

**davemailler@bigpond.com**



Name : **Bruce McMullen**  
Standing for : **Councillor in Ward A**

Name : **Tracey Nagle**  
Standing for : **Councillor in Ward B**

Developments are happening in our Shire. There appears, however, to be a lack of forward thinking and vision as to how our Shire may best benefit as a result of these opportunities. I will ensure that the community voice is heard, and common sense is applied to planning for our present and future needs. I stand for communication and consultation, with the input of shire residents at the forefront of council decision making.

We need our elected representatives to listen to our community, and then work together to ensure informed decisions meet community expectations, rather than have the staff and external consultants telling the community what is best for them.

I support the conservation and enhancement of Uralla Shire's unique environmental, historical and cultural heritage. Coupled with a community owned and driven vision, I will work with you towards making our Shire an even more favourable place to live, learn, work, play, and visit.

I think local, act local, shop local, play local and live local. I have lived in Uralla since 1997, and worked as an educator, commercial pilot, horticulturalist and university lecturer. I am now retired, enjoying community service, our garden, and golf.

My life experience and career responsibilities have given me an in depth understanding of legislation, bureaucracies, responsibilities and accountability. I am a strong advocate of democracy whereby elected representatives seek, consider and express the opinions and recommendations of their constituents. I have spoken passionately at public meetings on issues of public concern including amalgamation, water, home-based industries and renewable energy initiatives. I look forward to speaking for you.

Text and photo provided by Bruce McMullen  
**0419013560**  
**mcmull@bigpond.net.au**



Education was important in my home. My dad was a teacher in Inverell and both of my parents volunteered. My big brother and I came to know that helping out around town is good. It's what makes us a community. And it's easy to get along – even with all of our differences. I grew up on a 2-acre self-subsistence farm on the Copeton Dam road knowing that if I had children this is how I want them to grow up: Safe. Connected. One a patch of land where we can grow our own veggies and fruit, collect our own eggs and even have a milking cow.

Growing up we were told we had a responsibility to our communities. My dad said “get educated, go explore, get experience, then bring it back otherwise our villages will fall behind”. It's what I did.

I live in Bundarra now. I am creating the life for my child I know will serve her future well.

I have a strong background in Government with high skills and experience in Contracts and Audit; and successful grassroots social and economic development.

I love my home here in Bundarra and the town is safe, open, free. It's a place worth fighting for.

Our villages have so much potential to work from home, to have a healthy lifestyle and grow domestic tourism. Cost of living is one of our strengths. Let's keep that. Let's fight for it.

Text and photo provided by Tracey Nagle

**Baker St, Bundarra**



Name : **Tom O'Connor**  
Standing for : **Councillor in Ward A**

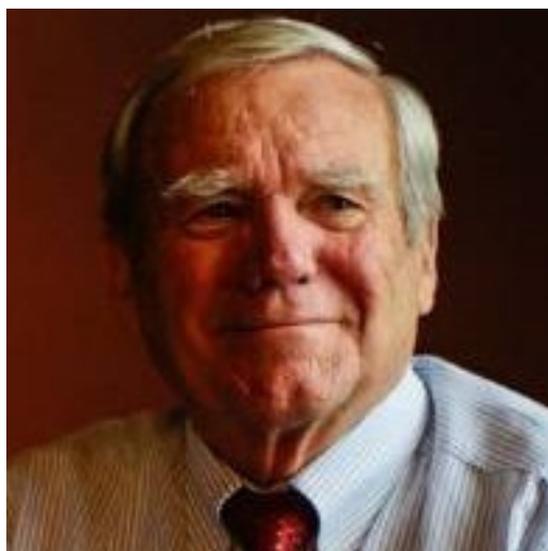
Name : **Lone Petrov**  
Standing for : **Councillor in Ward A**

My vision for the Uralla Shire Council's future is an accountable, inclusive, open, community focused organisation with the Community, Elected Members, Management and Staff of the organisation all working together. From this will flow opportunities for sustainable development and growth. This was the case in the past and it can be again with strong representation of the Community's aspirations.

Before coming onto Council in the By-election in February 2019 to replace the experienced and approachable Kevin Ward; I had enjoyed five years of retirement. I retired from the Uralla Shire Council in 2014 having served 7 years as General Manager and 4 years previously as its Director Corporate and Community Services. Prior to the Uralla Shire Council, I had 24 years senior management local government experience in New South Wales, Tasmania and Western Australia. Before local government was a 16-year public accounting career (auditing) in Western Australia and the United Kingdom. I have brought to the position of Councillor a broad knowledge of local government governance, administration, finance, town planning, community services and works as well as business finance, as I will to a next term of Council. These qualifications will be so very necessary in the new Council. The next thirty-three months, until the next general Council election in September 2024, is crucial for our Community as Council needs strong financial oversight generally but specifically with respect to recently advertise Long Term Financial Plan containing an implied proposed Special Rate Variation and significant increases in Water and Sewer charges.

Text and photo provided by Tom O'Connor

**6778 3684**  
**29 Bridge St Uralla**



I have been a member of the Uralla community for the past 40 years, moving here with my husband Mike and 3 school aged children.

I have been involved with numerous groups from sporting clubs to school P&C and the Anglican Church.

I managed Uralla Central School canteen for 7 years and then worked as a Medical Receptionist for 21 years at the Uralla Medical Centre.

I am a volunteer with Helping Children and Families, a member of the UPC Grants Committee and a certified Marriage Celebrant.

I am running as a councillor out of a feeling of frustration. I have become extremely concerned at repeatedly witnessing the lack of communication with and transparency and support for, not only local businesses, but also those trying to grow and better our town through various projects.

I am also concerned by the threat to services to which all communities are entitled such as our library and a financially accessible swimming pool.

Community, councillors and council should be working as a cohesive unit.

Due to financial mismanagement and over spending on administration staff I believe the amalgamation threat that we fiercely fought and won against due to our strong financial position will again raise its ugly head if we don't turn things around.

I want to see a change in the direction of our council and this can only occur when we have a majority of councillors who care passionately and work for this shire and its future.

This is an important election.

Please give serious consideration to your vote.

Leonie (Lone) Petrov

Text and photo provided by Lone Petrov

**lone.petrov@gmail.com**  
**0427784760**



Name : **Stephen Powley**  
Standing for : **Councillor in Ward B**

I have lived at Balala for 21 years and had one term on Council from 2008 to 2012.

I am standing for election because we need to re-establish good governance in USC. I believe that the two main roles of a Councillor is to represent the community and give direction to the administration.

In this term I will introduce to Council the following.

- 1: Each Councillor represents a locality
- 2: Only Councillors, General Manager and Secretary sit at the table for Council Meetings.
- 3: In conjunction with the official budget, a simplified flowchart of Council income and expenditures be provided.
- 4: All delegated authority from Councillors to Staff to have an expiry date.
- 5: Senior staff vehicles to have bold USC signage. Purchase high quality used vehicles.
- 6: Introduce a program where the first person to report damage to a road and other infrastructure goes into a draw to win a prize.
- 7: All unsealed roads will be on a priority list.
- 8: Install wildlife alarms at strategic points on rural roads.
- 9: Build more motorcycle shelters and have private companies pay. Those company's will have the advertising rights to the shelters.
- 10: Council encourage the uptake of electronic rates notices and payments.
- 11: Melt recycled glass in a furnace using combustible waste / recyclables as the fuel. Generate electricity with excess heat. Make blocks with molten glass.
- 12: Revamp the pool kiosk to include a fenced off seating area on the street side.

Text and photo provided by Stephen Powley

**0416209066**



Name : **Isabel Strutt**  
Standing for : **Mayor & Councillor in Ward A**

- "A great place to live"
- " Friendly people"
- "Great atmosphere; good climate"
- "We have space!"
- "A quieter pace of life"
- "The Shire is buzzing"

These are just some of the comments which have been made at Council Listening Posts and Drop-In sessions and in various conversations and surveys over time. Shire locals and visitors alike appreciate the lifestyle, the heritage, the opportunities which are part of life in Uralla Shire.

There is a strong sense of community throughout the Shire, each of the towns and villages having their own character. Each is an important contributor to the character and liveability of the whole Shire. Each deserves to be recognised and to have Council support in enabling their liveability and sustainability within the capacity of Council.

Uralla Shire faces promising opportunities for its future. While the major industries of agriculture, tourism, and renewable energy are vital to the Shire, the technologies which enable the existence of an almost unlimited range of business possibilities and connect us to the world, hold excitement for the future.

Will there be challenges? Yes. Will there be some difficult decisions to be made? Yes.

Elected Councillors have both opportunity and responsibility.

I am standing for Council to work for a positive, prosperous future for the Shire, undertaking the challenges, recognising the possibilities and opportunities, giving the time and effort which will be required for the Shire to move forward to become an even more attractive place to live, work, and re-create.

Text and photo provided by Isabel Strutt

**0424 299 614**  
**02 6778 3239**



Name : **John Sutherland**  
Standing for : **Councillor in Ward A**

I have heard allegations that Council has made sub optimal decisions. This likely happens when Councillors have not asked all the relevant questions about the issue being voted on. I don't claim to have all the answers, but I do know what questions to ask, so I will improve the likelihood of Council making optimal decisions.

For example, I would question whether a clay target shooting range, providing social contact, if not practice for killing wild birds, would give better value for taxpayers' money than competing proposals.

I don't want to tell the kiddies at Uralla Central School that we are throwing them under the bus because we don't want to change the way we do things. I know that local government can act to ameliorate, and adapt to, climate change, and I will promote such action.

For example, constructing footpaths in town and village streets not already serviced by them, will give residents "permission" to walk or wheel to school, shops, sport and friends without contributing to greenhouse gas emissions. Children and adults routinely use the existing footpaths in Uralla, and avoid the morbidities which currently burden our society, as the pandemic has highlighted.

Should you think that electric vehicles will make walking unnecessary, be aware that less than 50% of our present electricity consumption is "green", and that is before we attempt to transfer present coal, oil, gas and firewood loads to draw from the electricity grid. Claiming that you are on high moral ground through having rooftop solar panels is "greenwashing", because global, not local, emissions determine the degree of climate change, and your rooftop solar panels with batteries will not keep you as warm as a wood or gas heater does in a Uralla winter.

Text and photo provided by John Sutherland

**21 Fitzroy Street**  
**0428 831 511**



Name : **Tara Toomey**  
Standing for : **Councillor in Ward A**

I have spent the majority of my life living and working in Uralla and am incredibly grateful for the opportunities and sense of community that life in Uralla has provided. Both my husband and I have our businesses here, our children are at school here and I have numerous extended family members who live and work in the Uralla Shire, and who are as committed to this community as I am.

I have always worked to make a positive contribution to the Uralla Shire and our broader regional community and I would be grateful for the opportunity to continue to do so as part of our next Council.

My priorities will be :

- to work to see that Council delivers a balanced budget
- to reign in expenditure
- to review all contracts and consultancies
- to see that Council demonstrates a commitment to local employment and to using Council staff for roads and other projects

I also believe Council needs to commit to having open and transparent conversations with our community about a range of issues, including priorities for roads, capital works and public infrastructure projects.

I would work to see that public forums and open conversations are the hallmark of this next term of Council, and to see our Council being supportive of new development, giving due consideration to the wonderful lifestyle we enjoy in the Uralla Shire

If you have any questions I am happy to hear from you.

Text and photo provided by Tara Toomey

**taratoomeyuralla@gmail.com**  
**0434 408 163**



Name : **Stephanie van Eyk**  
Standing for : **Councillor in Ward A**

Uralla is an amazing, vibrant community with so much to offer, but our once financially-stable and fierce Uralla Shire Council, that fought off forced amalgamation, is beginning to crumble.

The current council has decided the road to recovery involves hitting residents with a 54 per cent rate increase as outlined in the Long Term Financial Plan that was recently open for public submissions.

Hi I'm Steph van Eyk. I've lived in Uralla Shire for most of my life and my husband, Joe van Eyk and I run a 6475 hectare beef operation here. I do the office work while Joe is out in the paddock dealing with the day-to-day running of the farm.

As well as working in the family business, I spent 21 years as a rural journalist and sub-editor at the Country Leader, The Land, The Armidale Express, and The Northern Daily Leader before resigning to focus on the farm in 2019, during one of the worst droughts in living memory.

This year I decided to put my hat in the ring as a councillor after looking at the Long Term Financial Plan.

I want a financially responsible council that has a transparent decision making process. Senior management and councillors must be accountable to the community they serve.

Council needs a common sense, no frills approach to spending, paying careful attention to planning to mitigate unexpected costs and the need for expensive consultants. I would like an inclusive, positive council that values community input and works to pro-actively grow and progress the shire.

Text and photo provided by Stephanie van Eyk

**0417021010**  
**stephanie.vaneyk123@gmail.com**



## What if you are not enrolled to vote

"If you are not enrolled to vote in New South Wales, but you are eligible to enrol, you will still be able to vote in elections in the electorate, ward or council area you live in.

When you arrive at the voting centre or polling place, an election official will explain how you can enrol on the day and complete a declaration vote. They will also help you complete the forms required if you need help.

You will need a driver licence or a photo card that shows your current address to help us check your eligibility. In some circumstances, you may need to show a citizenship number or an Australian passport number."

Source: <https://elections.nsw.gov.au/Voters/Enrol-to-vote/I-m-not-enrolled-to-vote>

## Deadlines for postal votes

"Ballot papers are not available until after nominations close for an election. The NSW Electoral Commission starts to issue postal ballot papers as soon as they are printed. They recommend you submit your application as early as possible so that they can send you voting material before election day.

For a local government election or by-election

- They must receive your application at the NSW Electoral Commission by 5pm on the Monday before election day, that is Monday 29 November.
- The returning officer must receive your completed ballot papers by 6pm, 13 days after election day."

You can apply for a postal vote online:  
<https://opva.elections.nsw.gov.au/default.aspx?ReturnUrl=%2f>

or by sending an application in the post:  
<https://www.elections.nsw.gov.au/NSWEC/media/NSWEC/LGE21/lg-300-postal-vote-application.PDF>

Source: <https://elections.nsw.gov.au/Voters/Other-voting-options/Postal-voting>

# New safety directions Regulated Period for within 100 metres of Electoral Material has started polling places

"To reduce the risk of COVID-19 transmission between electors, election officials and candidate/political party volunteers, the usual "six metre rule" is being extended to 100 metres with the Electoral Commissioner issuing new directions under the Local Government (General) Regulation 2021:

- No electoral material is to be handed out, or left out for collection, in a publicly owned or occupied area (such as on the footpath) that is within 100 metres of the entrance to a polling place or a pre-polling venue on polling days, and
- No posters can be displayed in a publicly owned or occupied area (such as on the footpath or school fences) within 100 metres of the entrance to a polling place or pre-poll venue on polling days, unless they are put in place before 7am (and are otherwise lawful and safe – such as not obstructing electors or other people). Any posters put in place before 7am on a polling day must not to be adjusted or moved again until after 7pm. This direction applies to all types of posters, including A-frames and corflutes.

Material or posters that contravene these directions can be confiscated and destroyed by election officials."

Source : <https://www.elections.nsw.gov.au/Bulletins/2021-NSW-LGE-PP-Bulletin-No-14>

## Changes to pre-polling

To mitigate the risks arising from COVID-19, some changes to voting options have been introduced for the 2021 Local Government elections only, allowing all electors to vote early in-person during the pre-poll voting period. Pre-poll voting will be available from Monday, 22 November to Friday, 3 December. Pre-poll voting days and hours vary between locations."

Source : NSW Local Government Election Bulletin No. 14, issued on 26th October 2021. To see this and other Bulletins, please go to <https://www.elections.nsw.gov.au/About-us/Media-centre/2020-NSW-Local-Government-elections-bulletins>

In the Uralla local government election, you can vote early at one of two pre-poll venues: Uralla Community Centre and Armidale Town Hall. On election day you must vote at a polling place within your enrolled ward. Absent declaration voting is not available for local government elections.

Source: <https://www.elections.nsw.gov.au/FAQs/Voter-FAQs/Early-voting-FAQs>

"The regulated period for electoral material began on Monday, 25 October and closes at 6pm on election day, Saturday, 4 December 2021.

During the regulated period for a local government election, the Electoral Commission regulates electoral material in two general ways:

- Enforces compliances with legal requirements about its content, for example, electoral material must not contain incorrect or misleading information about how to cast a valid vote; electoral material must include the name and address of the person authorising the material. The Electoral Commission does not have any power to regulate "truth in political advertising", and
- Enforces compliance with legal requirements about where it can be displayed or distributed, for example (at this election due to COVID-19 risks), how-to vote material must not be handed out on publicly owned or occupied areas within 100 metres of the entrance to venues at which people are voting. It should also be noted that, in accordance with requirements of individual property owners, posters may not be permitted to be displayed at all at certain premises."

Source : NSW Local Government Election Bulletin No. 14, issued on 26th October 2021. To see this and other Bulletins, please go to <https://www.elections.nsw.gov.au/About-us/Media-centre/2020-NSW-Local-Government-elections-bulletins>

All care has been taken in putting the paper together, however individuals should also validate this information against the NSW Electoral Commission website: <https://www.elections.nsw.gov.au/>

# Which Ward are you in?

To confirm your Ward and ensure you are enrolled to vote, you can also enter your address on the NSW Electoral Commission website through the [Verify My Enrolment link](#).

The NSW Electoral Commission website is : [www.elections.nsw.gov.au](http://www.elections.nsw.gov.au)

The Ward map below has been taken from the Uralla Shire Council website.

