

2021 Position Nominations

Annual General Meeting – 28 March 2021



Position of Warden

Candidate: Michael Birrell

Nominated by: Adrian Fox

I came to KAC in 2010 with my wife, Carole, and have served as Rector's Warden since 2013. I'm passionate about serving Jesus and helping overcome barriers to reaching our Kiama community with the good news of the gospel. I was chairman of the building committee and fund raising campaign for the ministry facilities upgrade, helped restructure our KAC office, and lead 10am services as well as preaching occasionally. My background in IT and Engineering means I am also able to provide staff technical support. Outside our parish I serve as chairman of Evangelism Explosion Australia, equipping churches in Australia and Oceania in sharing the gospel.

Candidate: Ivan King

Nominated by: Jim Webb

I've been at KAC for the past 10 years and a Warden for the last 5 years. Janet and I are involved in the ministry at St Paul's, plus also contribute to the ministry in Kiama. My key focus is on finance and property matters in the Parish, together with supporting various weekly and monthly ministry groups.

Candidate: Kim Thomason

Nominated by: Robyn Varcoe

I have been a member of Kiama Anglican Church and involved with the 6pm service since moving to Kiama eight years ago. I serve in a variety of roles at 6pm including service leading, Bible reading and welcoming. I led online services during Covid restrictions last year and, along with my husband, Andrew, cater for various youth events. I am currently studying a Graduate Diploma of Divinity online through Ridley College which is deepening my knowledge and love of God and expanding my understanding of the Bible. I am keen to use my gifts as a Warden in service across the whole KAC community.

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Position of Parish Councillor

Candidate: Pamela Baxter

Nominated by: Val Mather

I have been at KAC for about four years and generally attend the 8am service and, more recently, the 6pm service. I came to Kiama originally to look after my parents in Albion Park. I have worked in education for most of my professional life, first as a classroom teacher, then as an advisor and university lecturer. Once my three kids had grown and flown, I went overseas to work in emergency education. I worked in a series of crisis areas including Rwanda, from which we developed protocols and strategies for dealing with situations of conflict and crisis through to Afghanistan and Bangladesh with the Rohingya, and most other conflicts of the last twenty years. My most sustained piece of work during this time was a Peace Education Program which was implemented in 17 countries and, apparently, is still being implemented in various countries. I finished my career in Jordan developing another peace education program for teachers and students. I am also the coordinator of the ESL program sponsored by KAC; we run three classes a week, all on Monday evening, for beginners, citizenship and advanced (which is mostly Bible Study). I organise the teaching resources and the teachers' roster as well as teaching together with the team.

Previously (for over two years) I also looked after the Green Connect permaculture vegetables pickup. This has now ceased as Green Connect have a stall at the Wednesday markets and do home deliveries.

I do small service in Covid-cleaning in Christ Church and in being part of the welcome and Communion clean-up service rosters for the 8am service.

My faith is probably more pragmatic than 'devout' (I cannot quote Biblical verses as often as I would like). But I truly believe that, when we are at our best our every action, both small and large, and our service to the community demonstrates our 'life in Christ'.

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Candidate: Michael Birrell

Nominated by: Adrian Fox

Refer biography under 'Position of Warden'

Candidate: Sue Brown

Nominated by: Richard Maitland

I have been a member of KAC for 20 years and attend the 10am service; you will usually find me up the back operating the computer. I also serve our church family as a member of Parish Council (15 years) and as the Safe Ministry Representative, primarily making sure everyone's safe ministry training is up to date and Working With Children Checks (WWCC) are current. Pre-COVID you would find me at a local café on the last Saturday of the month attending a Women's Breakfast, which I co-organised.

Candidate: Steve Hackett

Nominated by: David Wilson

I am married with children and grandchildren. I am a born-again Christian, a retired engineer, a member of KAC for 6 years, and attend 8:30am and 10am services. I served on KAC Parish Council during 2017 and 2018, am involved in several KAC ministry groups, and spend one day per week in outreach at Berkeley.

At KAC, I have secured two government grants for solar panels and batteries saving KAC thousands of dollars per year, and have project managed this work. I have recently applied for further grants to air condition Christ Church and the Church Point Centre.

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Position of Parish Councillor Cont.

Candidate: Bruce Hearn

Nominated by: Max Boys

Thankfully God brought me into a relationship with him late in life at the age of 44. He has blessed me with various skills that have enabled me to help in various ministries in our church. My wife, Pamela, and I both serve in ministry as a way of saying thank you to God for the wonderful gift of

salvation through Christ Jesus. We realise that works will not get us into heaven, but we also know that we have a duty to serve those in our church and the wider community, especially those less fortunate than us. We have been coming to KAC for 25 years. My service has rotated around being on Parish Council for many years on and off, heading up the KAC/ Berkeley Life Centre relationship, including running the Christmas hampers ministry (with Pamela), the Berkeley Christmas Carols BBQ (with Pamela and a team from KAC), and being on the BLC Ministry Council/Board. It would be an honour to serve on Parish Council again this year if I was elected. God bless.

Candidate: Greg Holmes

Nominated by: Michael Birrell

I am married to Helen and we both attend the 6pm service at Kiama. We have been congregation members here for in excess of 45 years. I have two adult sons and four grandchildren. I have completed a Moore College Theology degree and have a Masters degree in Christian Education. I have fulfilled a large number of roles here at KAC including Warden, Parish Councillor and Nominator, and I am currently one of our Synod representatives. Due to some health issues, I am not standing for Warden this year but am available for election as Parish Councillor and Nominator.

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Candidate: Ken Kitchin

Nominated by: Margaret Wilson

Follower of the Lord Jesus for 55 years. Youth Leader 1970 St Michael's Wollongong and 1975 St John's Keiraville. Parish Councillor at St Michael's Wollongong, St John's Keiraville and Figtree Anglican. Deacon and Elder at Belconnen Baptist (ACT). Five years on Parish Council at KAC. HR Manager for Christian Literature. Past president of Christian Bookselling Association. Various qualifications in theology and Biblical Studies. BCA Nomad. 6.5 years at KAC. I wish to be part of a team seeking to follow God's plan for our church. Also Bible Study and MSB leader.

Candidate: Connie Muir

Nominated by: Tim Matthews

Hi, I am Connie. I have been coming to the 10am service at KAC for just over five years with my two boys. Growing up the daughter of a church minister in South Africa, I have always known Jesus as my Lord and Saviour. I would love to serve KAC as a member of Parish Council and assist with planning and problem solving in any way I can.

Candidate: Margaret Silburn

Nominated by: Stan Keough

I have been a member of KAC for 13 years and attend the 8am service. I participate in Bible reading and welcoming at 8am. I enjoy my role as coordinator of our monthly Prime Time lunches for over 55s. I have served as a Parish Councillor for the past 5 years and it would be a privilege to serve for another year.

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Position of Parish Councillor Cont.

Candidate: Ian Unsworth

Nominated by: David Wilson

Wendy and I are long-term Kiama residents, joining KAC 10 years ago. We belong to an active Growth Group, joining when we first arrived. I retired from a career in business management where I learnt to work with people effectively and understand and apply safety and risk management systems. I have served on the Parish Council for 5 years and am a current Parish Councillor. I assist the Parish Council with Governance matters, advising and resolving OH&S issues and Covid safeguards. I am keen to assist KAC with new growth and strengthen bonds in our church.

Candidate: Jim Webb

Nominated by: Ivan King

I have been a member of KAC for over 37 years and currently attend church at St Paul's where I lead the occasional service. I attend a weekly Bible Study. I have been on Parish Council in the past for over 20 years, serving as Treasurer and Warden.

Position of Parish Nominator

Candidate: Michael Birrell

Nominated by: Adrian Fox

Refer biography under 'Position of Warden'

Candidate: Greg Holmes

Nominated by: Michael Birrell

Refer biography under 'Position of Parish Councillor'

2021 Position Nominations

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Candidate: Roe Kitchin

Nominated by: Wendy Unsworth

I have been attending Kiama Anglican Church since July 2014 when we moved from Canberra to retire in Kiama. Since becoming a Christian in 1992 after an Anglican upbringing in Qld, I have worshipped and worked in Christian organisations in Brisbane, Canberra, Sydney and London. Professionally I have a Masters in Business with recruitment experience. My current roles within KAC include Playgroup volunteer, co-leading a Growth Group, co-leading prayer at 10am monthly, some church PR, supporting Berkeley Op Shop, Sides' person monthly and many previous positions of service. I care about community and have been a Nominator for several years. I am an active Bush Church Aid Nomad involved in country missions.

Candidate: Valerie Mather

Nominated by: Pamela Fox

Member of KAC for 57 years; during that time attended the 10am and 6pm (7pm) services; currently serving and worshipping at the 8am service. Coordinator of Funeral Catering Ministry, Remembrance Services, 8am Welcomers. Attend a weekly prayer group and weekly Growth Group. Last year coordinated the Call and Care Ministry for 8am during the Covid 19 restrictions. I am a Pastoral Care Volunteer at Blue Haven Bonaira; also assist Ian Vickery twice a month at the communion service in the Chapel. Previously Parish Councillor/Nominator. Organised and participated in Safe Food Handling Workshops at KAC. Served on several Women's Ministry Committees. Studied PTC, Mary Andrews College, the last course being 'Ministry With Seniors'. I was a member of the selection panel for the Assistant Minister. We have been truly blessed at KAC to have had a Bible based ministry over the years. Each new Minister came with his specific and valuable gifts and I have learnt from each of them. Our world has changed because of Covid 19 and people need to hear the Gospel message; I would love this to continue at KAC. Wife to Barry, mother to four adults and Grandma to six grandchildren.

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Position of Parish Nominator Cont.

Candidate: Marc McLaren

Nominated by: Pamela Fox

I joined KAC back in 1984, following Theos Beach Mission now known as Summer Life. Jessica and I were married at KAC in 1986; we then left and worked for six years on the Figtree Anglican church staff, leaving to lead the original church plant at Shellharbour Anglican Church. After Shellharbour, I worked as an Industrial Chaplain for Sydney Water and Illawarra Electricity. Since then I have led a human and organisational and safety performance consultancy providing services to government and large businesses. I am a member of the 10am service and help out with service leading and occasional preaching. I am a passionate follower of Jesus and believe in the call to live out a life of justice and faith.