

THORNDON TRIBUTE -published quarterly by Thorndon Residents' Association -distributed throughout Thorndon
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Spring 2016

The 2016 Local Election Issue

Thorndon's electors are voting now to elect Wellington's mayor and three Lambton ward city councillors, plus their local representatives on the Greater Wellington regional council, and Capital and Coast District Health Board. Your representatives on all three bodies are elected by single transferable vote (STV).

Under STV, you simply rank as many, or as few of the candidates as you wish to vote for, in your preferred order - 1, 2, 3, 4 and so on. To get elected, candidates must reach a certain number of votes – the quota. In the case of a mayoral election, the quota is set at 50 per cent.

If none of the candidates reaches the quota after the votes have been tallied, then the lowest polling candidate is eliminated and all votes for that person are transferred to those voters' next preferences. This process is repeated until someone reaches the quota.

If a candidate reaches the quota with more votes than they actually need, then the surplus votes are transferred to the voter's second preference. This means surplus votes are not wasted.

Your vote cannot be transferred to a candidate you haven't ranked at all, though it could just possibly benefit someone you don't wish to elect, even if you rank them last.

Your WCC Lambton Ward Candidates

This year there are eight candidates for three ward seats:

Brian Dawson, has lived in the central city for four years. Former vicar of St Peter's on Willis St. Wants to address homelessness and traffic congestion. Supports a second Mt Victoria tunnel, and cheaper more accessible public transport.

David Gee, currently lives in Te Aro, has lived, worked and studied in the Lambton ward for the past decade. Running for council to oppose increasing rates bills, and reckless spending. Supports a second Mt Victoria tunnel, and revival of the Basin flyover to help ease traffic congestion.

Milton Hollard, standing for "a more responsive council." Public sector work experience, in research, advisory and management roles. Lives in Kelburn, enjoys the amenities, services and activities that enhance Wellington's diversity. Goals include investment in water supply, drainage, safe streets, and light rail.

Tony Jansen, Born and bred Wellingtonian, lives in Thorndon, married with three step sons. Enjoys running marathons, watching football, and the arts. Opposed to 1980s Think Big projects that he says the current council is championing. Sees the key issues as the pollution and noise from motorway expansion, and rising house prices.

Troy Mihaka, originally from Dunedin, now lives in Mt Victoria.

Local tour business owner. Believes the current council is bogged down in minor details, and major issues – traffic, homelessness and housing – have fallen by the wayside. Has spent several years abroad and wants to see Wellington become a truly global capital.

Iona Pannett, Current councillor. Lived in Mt Victoria for more than 10 years. Previously worked as a researcher and communications advisor. Cheaper bus fares, more affordable housing, a WoF for rental housing, and earthquake safe buildings are her priorities.

Mazz Scannell Lived in the ward for 38 years, currently in Kelburn. Has worked in management and governance roles in the education, banking and IT sectors. Currently works for New Zealand's research and education network. Committed to working across the political divide and re-opening the Town Hall, solving traffic issues, and protecting green space.

Nicola Young, Current councillor and mayoral candidate. Has lived in an apartment in Te Aro for the past 14 years. Previously an Evening Post reporter, before 20 years working in London's insurance market. Enjoys attending concerts, movies, cooking and travelling. Wants to work towards more parks and green areas, more lane way upgrades, and getting the traffic congestion sorted.



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Some information in this local government election edition has been excerpted from *The Dominion Post* and *The Wellingtonian*, published by Fairfax Media NZ, whose permission is gratefully acknowledged.

==== **KATIE UNDERWOOD** ====

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Councillor's Corner

Counillor Iona Pannett, Lambton Ward

Creating stronger, more secure communities is very much on my mind at the moment. It has been great to see the Thorndon community take a lead on this, being one of the first communities in Wellington to develop a community resilience plan.

Increasing global temperatures, the ever-present threat of a major earthquake and in some quarters increasing inequality, require us more than ever to plan for these eventualities. Wellington City Council has put enormous resources over the years into preparing for some of these challenges and it has been positive to see many earthquake prone buildings and water infrastructure strengthened, money put into cycling and more electric vehicles coming on stream and energy use in some quarters decreasing.

But much more remains to be done. More buildings must be earthquake strengthened, emissions from the transport area need to come down and further debate is needed on where further development should occur. At the time of writing, a draft city strategy on resilience will be soon presented to council and engagement with the public will follow. We need to hear from you how you think these challenges can be dealt with; your input will be vital to ensure that Wellington prospers for the next 150 years.

Iona Pannett

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Councillor's Corner reflects the views of your Council representatives, which are not necessarily those of the Thorndon Residents' Association. - Editor

Councillor's Corner

Councillor Nicola Young, Lambton Ward

Residents' parking is a constant problem in Thorndon, so I've been working with your residents' association and Council's new City Planner to find solutions.

Delineation of Thorndon's three parking zones is the main problem. Thorndon should be just one zone, so residents can park anywhere in their own neighbourhood.

Hobson Street is a real pinch point because of parents jostling around Queen Margaret College, and some street parking has been lost due to increasing use of 'no stopping' zones outside the six foreign legations; diplomacy is required!

We're discussing the possibility of speed limits in Hobson and Hill streets; improving the intersections at Tinakori/ Ascot and Tinakori/George; clearer parking space markings at the top end of Ascot; and the unsightly advertising hoardings on heritage buildings. I'd be interested in your views.

My first term on Council has whizzed past. I would appreciate your No 1 vote for Mayor and Lambton.

Nicola Young

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