

# Older Persons Consultative Committee

## 2021 Member Nominations

(Confidential)



*The Older Persons Consultative Committee (OPCC) has been appointed by council to be its main advisory body on all issues that affect the health and wellbeing of older residents in the City of Port Phillip. The purpose of the Committee is to assist Council by providing advice and feedback to Council and Council officers in relation to policies, plans and services affecting older people.*

<b>NAME: OPCC Renominations 2021</b>	
<b>DEPARTMENT: Community Building &amp; Inclusion</b>	<b>DATE: June 2021</b>

**The following community members have been put forward to be reappointed to the OPCC:**

<b>Community Member</b>	<b>Suburb</b>	<b>Length of time on the OPCC</b>
Freda Erlich	St Kilda	Since 2017
Nick Green	Middle Park	Co-opted on to the Committee in 2020
Betty Knight	Albert Park	Since the Committee's inception in 2000
Coralie Ling	St Kilda	Since 2013
Ian McDonald	St Kilda	Co-opted on to the Committee in 2020
Sue McGowan	Port Melbourne	Since 2017
Sheila Quairney	Port Melbourne	Co-opted on to the Committee in 2020
Elizabeth Robson	Port Melbourne	Since 2007
Georgina Tsolidis	Elwood	Since 2017

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<b>PANEL: Cr Peter Martin, Freda Erlich OPCC Chair, Laura Cattapan Coordinator Grants &amp; Community Building</b>	

**At the 3 May OPCC Meeting the Committee endorsed the following community members to be put forward as nominees to the OPCC for 2021 to 2024 tenure:**

<b>Community Member</b>	<b>Suburb</b>
Judith Armstrong	Elwood
Neville Aphoy	St Kilda East
Neil Imlach	Elwood
Jack Kagan	Port Melbourne
Mary Noall	South Melbourne
Wendy Priddle	Elwood
Rosemary Rule	Port Melbourne
Aileen Rzesniowiecki	Middle Park

**Judith Armstrong** has been an Elwood resident for over 30 years and was one of two women to first be appointed as a Justice of the Peace in 1980. Judith has been a committee member of the Albert Park Bowls Club and Melbourne Pétanque Club and is currently a member of the Elwood Croquet Club. Judith is also a tutor and member of Port Phillip U3A. If appointed to the Committee Judith would like to focus on suitable outdoor and sporting activities for older people. She believes that low impact and less competitive outdoor activities can help older people create and retain new friendships as well as provide exercise and mental stimulation. Other issues she would like to focus on include the current My Aged Care system, public toilets, public seating and homelessness.

**Neville Aphoy** is a St Kilda East resident who has lived in St Kilda for over 50 years when his family migrated from Burma. Neville is an active community member who volunteers for Christ Church Community Mission Community Centre in the Grey Nomad Program, Port Phillip Community Group distributing food parcels and St Colemans Catholic Church. Neville is also a member of Council's Linking Neighbours Seniors Register Leadership Group and attends Council's Social Inclusion programs at the Cora Graves Centre. Neville is concerned about social isolation for older people and if appointed to the Committee would like to raise awareness of the importance of social connection and social support programs. Neville would also like Council to consider waiving credit card fees for pensioners when making payments to Council.

**Neil Imlach** is a long-term resident of Elwood and was previously on the OPCC from 2011 to 2017. After a bout of illness Neil would like to re-join the Committee. Whilst on the Committee Neil advocated for climate change and round table (where members raise issues from the community) to be regular OPCC agenda items, they are still in place today. Neil was also an advocate for affordable housing for older people and ageing in place. Neil has been an active member of Linking Neighbours Seniors Register since its inception in 2008. If appointed to the Committee Neil would like to ensure older people continue to have a voice in Council and would like to raise awareness of the proposed changes to the My Aged Care assessment process. Neil is concerned about it moving away from being conducted by local services and local Council. He is also concerned about issues experienced by older people regarding digital technology.

**Jack Kagan** has lived in Port Melbourne for the past seven years and was a commercial builder working in planning, project management and running his own company prior to retirement. He is currently on the Race Management Committee and Redevelopment Committee with the Port Melbourne Yacht Club and is a volunteer with the beach patrol group. He has two children who identify as LGBTI. He currently supports his mother who resides in a retirement village. Jack would like Port Phillip to maintain its current sense of community and culture, and not get over developed. If appointed to the Committee Jack would like to advocate for older people to have community spaces and opportunities to connect and would like to see more places where people can drop in and meet up, like the Men's Shed.

**Mary Noall** has been a resident of Emerald Hill CaSPA Care for the past three years and prior to that has lived and worked in Port Phillip on and off since 1969. Mary established a successful local business 'Mary Noall' in Middle Park in the 1990's which is now being run by her son. Mary has also had a long history of volunteering including at the Children's Hospital in the 1940's, with the Red Cross in the 1950's, teaching English as a second language and being a member of the Heritage Council in the 1970's. Mary is currently a member of Emerald Hill Library book club. If appointed to the Committee, as a representative of CaSPA Care, Mary will highlight issues/interests of the Residents and would also like to focus on Council maintaining nature strips and footpaths.

**Wendy Priddle** is an Elwood resident who has lived in Port Phillip since 2000. Wendy has recently retired as a financial planner and now feels she has time to give back to her local community. Wendy is currently a Hospice Volunteer with Very Special Kids. Wendy is under 60 and recognises that she will be representing the younger age group on the Committee. If appointed to the Committee Wendy would like to focus on issues people may experience when transitioning to retirement. She would also like to raise awareness of the difficulties older people may have managing finances where a partner who had previously handled their finances has passed away, and the desire for older people to financially help their adult children whilst juggling their own needs. Wendy would also like to advocate for people to remain living independently for as long as it is medically and physically possible.

**Rosemary Rule** is a Port Melbourne resident and prior to retiring was a journalist for 50 years. Rosemary has been the Co-Chair of the Port Phillip Citizens for Reconciliation for the past decade and works closely with Port Phillip's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community. When volunteering as a teacher's aide at South Port Community Centre in English as a Second Language classes, Rosemary discovered that many older students with limited English had few social connections outside their own communities and some were very isolated. If appointed to the Committee Rosemary would like to advocate for older people, not proficient in English, to become included in mainstream community activities, and have opportunities to participate in activities that are tailored to them. Rosemary would also like to foster meaningful interactions between the older Indigenous and non-Indigenous community.

**Aileen Rzesniowiecki** is a Middle Park resident and has lived in Port Phillip since 1990. For several years Aileen was a committee member, office person and convenor with a local service 'Learn for Yourself' which was funded by Council and the State Government's Home and Community Care Program. Aileen was also one of the founders of Port Phillip's Life Activity Club in which for several years she served on its committee and convened activities. Aileen is currently a member of Council's Seniors Register Linking Neighbours Program. Over the past few years ill health has curtailed Aileen's capacity to fully participate in community activities and she needs a walking frame to move around, this has given her more insight and empathy with many older persons with similar mobility issues. If appointed to the Committee Aileen would like to advocate for pedestrian crossings to have adequate time for people to cross, particularly where this poses a direct danger to pedestrians who are not agile. She is concerned that some of the new gutters that have been upgraded are prone to flooding and this is creating a safety issue for older people's mobility. In addition, Aileen is concerned that there is an assumption that everyone can go to WWW. and go online and this is not the case for many older people. She also wants to read Divercity in hard form.