

## SCA (Vic) Board Nominees



### Matthew Bourke

It is with enthusiasm that Matthew submits his nomination for re-election onto the SCA (Vic) Board of Directors. He believes the Board has been extremely active in the past two years working on a number of initiatives, and he looks forward to playing his role in providing a sense of continuity.

He is passionate about making owners corporation management a more attractive industry to work in, increasing the number of job seekers who wish to turn to our industry to match the demand which is present and will only continue to grow.

For Matthew, this is more than just increasing remuneration – improving the respect for those who work in the industry, focussing on the mental health of industry colleagues and ensuring a work/life balance is in place is vital to ensure our industry becomes an attractive place to work. Lifting the standards of Management within the industry is also a key pillar.

He believes the SCA has a fundamental role in driving this improvement, from within its membership base and that it must start with the continued rollout of relevant education and non-acceptance of unethical behaviour in our industry.



### Michelle Cummins

Michelle has worked in the strata industry for over 30 years and feels fortunate to have worked for leaders who shaped our industry into what it is today. She was fortunate to work with Herman Klein when he engaged with Rockend to install software, working with Herman and Tony Maple-Brown (Rockend founder) she spent countless hours testing the software and making suggestions to make it the best it could be. She then joined Brian McGrath at Inscor Services, a founding member of what is now the SCA, and finally worked with Greg Haywood at PICA. All of these leaders instilled in her the importance of giving back to our industry, which is why she wishes to apply to become an SCA Vic Board member.

She is now working for a supplier and wears many hats in her role as Chief People & Client Support Officer for MaxSoft Group, a leading software provider to the industry where she can apply her knowledge as HR specialist. She deals with people (staff and clients) and works with everyone to find the best outcome. She coaches and guides multiple teams, reviews internal processes and works with multiple clients to offer best practice HR advice and improve cultural alignment within their business. Her strength is to adapt to the needs of the people she is talking to and working with and understanding how to motivate people. Whilst she does not come from a technical background, she currently manages a technical team and believes that as a leader your biggest skill is in connecting with people - something she feels very comfortable doing.

Whilst she is not an HR specialist with a Master's degree in HR, she has worked in all aspects of strata - from accounts, to strata assistant to strata manager. Throughout her career she has worked within the strata industry for 30+ years. She therefore understands the challenges our industry faces relate to the struggles that people in this industry are feeling. She has been there!

Michelle is committed to the strata industry. She is currently a Director of Strata Community Australasia (SCA) National and chairs the Professional Standards and Research & Development Committee and Co-Chairs the education committee. She has also been a subject matter expert to CAMICB exam development committee for 7+ years.

Above all, she is passionate about education and believes that as an industry we must continually raise the standard. In 2020-2021 her passion was rewarded by winning the Strata Community Australasia Presidents Award for her work in education.

Michelle can identify with the values of SCA – she is great with people – big picture/strategic thinker – resilient – passionate to make a positive impact on the industry / passionate to contribute with her knowledge and experience for the “better” of the strata industry.



## Alan Ferre

Alan has over 15 years' experience in the strata sector, working for two suppliers who are strata specialists.

From May 2008-March 2022, Alan worked for CHU Underwriting and was the Regional Manager Victoria, Tasmania, South Australia and Western Australia. He led a team of over 50 people situated across three states and was responsible for all aspects of underwriting, claims and client relationship. In his time at CHU, he gained an in-depth understanding of the Victorian and wider Strata Market (strata management, legal, banking, regulatory, political, suppliers, clients). He was a regular industry presenter on insurance and related matters and its impact and relevance to the sector.

Alan took over as CEO from the business founder at Scotia Property Group in March 2022. This role builds on and is very complimentary to his in-depth understanding of the Victorian Strata Market (strata management, legal, banking, regulatory, political, suppliers, clients).

He has undertaken industry training on key aspects and considerations relevant to strata managers and OCs about repairs and maintenance.

In his 15+ years in strata, he has developed a deep understanding of the strata sector in Victoria and nationally. He has spent considerable time with strata managers across the country and this has allowed him to understand their business, challenges and expectations from their professional body

He has previously served on the SCAV Board for four years, in that time he committed to deliver:

- Increasing sector awareness and influence with key external stakeholders (political, regulatory, advocacy groups, employees)
- Raising the professional standards and profile of strata management sector
- Ensuring the sector has a high standard of ethics and integrity
- Training and development of new and existing staff in the sector
- Creating value for all SCAV member stakeholders
- Financially stable and relevant professional body
- Appropriate integration with SCA National and
- Stakeholder lobbying to achieve better outcomes for the strata sector

After stepping back from the Board due to work commitments he remained very active on various sub committees and as an A100 trainer.

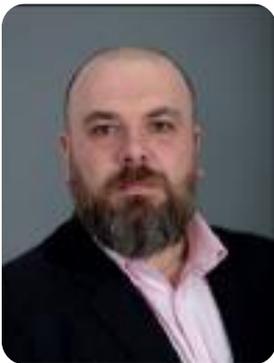
He believes strata is an ever-growing sector and an increasingly important part of the Victorian and National economies and that it is vital to have a strong, diverse Board of the professional body to promote and grow the strata sector.

With his extensive experience in the strata sector, he feels he can bring:

- An in-depth understanding of professional strata management and service provider businesses
- Strong relationships across the sector
- A perspective that is in strata but not strata management
- Awareness of the contemporary and emerging issues, challenges and opportunities in the sector (Victorian, nationally and the broader region)
- Ability to talk to stakeholders at all levels and explain and promote SCAV
- High level stakeholder influencing to gain superior outcomes for all

Outside of work, he has been married for 25 years and a very proud father to two wonderful daughters and has two dogs and a cat.

Whilst he will never make the Tour De France, he enjoys road cycling and is a dreaded MAMIL! He is an OK cook, average DIY'er and a "non green fingered" gardener.



## Tim Graham

After more than a decade as a Partner of HWL Ebsworth Lawyers, Australia's largest law firm, Tim joined the partnership of Bugden Allen Graham Lawyers in 2021, his name being added to the firm's brand.

Tim is one of Australia's pre-eminent strata lawyers and is internationally renowned. He is President of the Australian College of Strata Lawyers (ACSL) and a Fellow of the College.

Tim is a Board Member of Strata Community Association (National) and Strata Community Association (Victoria) and a Fellow. He chairs a number of sub-committees. He sits on the Property Law Committee of the Law Institute of Victoria. Tim has been selected in Best Lawyers® in Australia seven (7) times.

Tim has been recognised in Doyle's Guide as:

- Leading Property and Real Estate Lawyer
- Leading Litigation & Dispute Resolution Lawyer

He has received the following awards from international publications:

- Partner of the Year - Australia
- Most Outstanding Partner in Australia
- Real Estate Attorney of the Year - Victoria
- Construction & Infrastructure Partner of the Year
- Partner of the Year – Australia



## Julie McLean

Julie has over 20 years experience in the building construction industry and been involved in design and construction of mechanical services for commercial buildings. She has managed building services for leased premises and 17 years managed a NATA quality system for a scientific organisation. Julie is a senior OC Manager and mentor with PICA supporting BCS (Vic) & Ace Consulting companies.

Julie has been a member of SCA since 2003, currently holds the Post Nominal of a Fellow Strata Manager and has been on Council for 17 years. Julie has invaluable contributed to Council to date by presenting and promoting green strata initiatives, participating in wide and varied strata research programs, training of A100 and other SCA courses and researching and preparing policy positions.

If elected to the Board again, Julie would like to continue her work in advocating for the sector, developing policy documents that assist in raising the standards for all stakeholders involved in the industry, implementing the SMPS, elevating the sector through professional pathways and widen SCA's stakeholder engagement.

She would also like to continue participating in education workshops, representing SCA and industry stakeholders on forums addressing climate change and building community to continue learning and sharing that information to all SCA members.

Julie believes that as an industry we need to embrace human centric co-design solutions and elevate our business to beyond minimum legalisation delivery. She also believes that we need to embrace technology, the opportunities climate change presents and be prepared to widen our outlook and skills to meet the new challenges looming.



## Rupert Murray-Arthur

Having been in the Strata Industry since February 2016, delivering the A100 Finance module from 2017 and presenting at both Victorian and National conferences, Rupert is passionate to continue his support of our industry.

He acknowledges the excellent work of the previous Boards and wishes to continue to build on their progress. He is acutely aware that the current economic climate with accelerated wage costs and seemingly downward pressure on revenue lines is creating significant compression for our members. He believes this is not a simple problem to solve but will be a focus of his to support our industry.

Having worked both in a smaller management business and now a national brand (BCS) and franchisee (Ace Consulting), he is well positioned to understand the challenges across all facets and sizes of businesses forming our membership.

As a Chartered Accountant, he brings an experienced financial background focused on governance and professionalism. He believes that as a membership-based organisation, there is a need to continue to focus on the voice of members, providing holistic support and advocacy for our members and consumers.



## Benjamin Quirk

Benjamin has been in the Strata industry for 11 years and continues to find the industry both interesting and rewarding. During his time in the industry, he has gained experience managing various types of strata properties in the Melbourne area. These include residential, commercial, and mixed use which incorporate a variety of apartment complexes, townhouses, offices, factory units, shopping centres, estates and retirement villages. He has also managed company title properties, stratum title properties along with strata title properties. Recently, he has been the Manager of several large, high-end developments in metropolitan Melbourne.

Throughout the last 7 years, he has worked with his employers to assist with the training and development of other Strata Managers and support staff. He gets a real buzz from mentoring fellow team members and assisting in their growth in the industry. He has developed strong professional relationships with consultants and contractors that has helped in the design and implementation of training for industry specific topics. He has also developed and facilitated his own internal training sessions for staff on various topics.

Recently he was a mentor in the SCA Mentorship program with a Strata Manager in Adelaide, which he found hugely rewarding. Providing assistance and to be a sounding board for up and coming Strata Managers that are still learning and developing their skills in the industry is his passion. He continues to focus on attending online and face to face training, reading industry and relevant legal updates, keeping up to date with case law and attending seminars and forums to continue to develop his own industry knowledge and to provide him with the tools to continue his training and development role in his current company. If his board nomination is successful, this is an area he is keen on providing assistance to SCA members on.

Recently, he has been involved in project managing the rollout of EV Stations and load management systems in a number of large mixed-use developments in the CBD. This has involved a number of steps including load analysis audits, liaising with consultants and electrical contractors to develop the design and plans for the sites, speaking to Fire Engineers and the FRV on Essential Service requirements in the buildings prior to installation, speaking to various companies and parties about funding options and opportunities, sourcing pricing and information on the EV Stations and billing options with various companies, drafting the expression of interest documentation and legal motions required based on the desired model of the OC and the physical rollout of the cabling and stations in the buildings.

Benjamin has been involved in the conversion of Company share properties and Stratum Title properties into Strata title properties which was a huge success for all owners involved. Experience in Heritage listed and older pre 20th century properties, some of which were converted and refurbished has provided him with a greater understanding of repairs and maintenance and upgrades of infrastructure and building assets for buildings of this vintage.

He feels that his experience and knowledge gained in managing large and complex projects can be shared with the industry via the SCA Board to help develop and draft templates and guidelines for future industry professionals.

Benjamin feels he has had success in a number of key areas and industry experience that he can bring to the SCA board and to help develop guidance and framework and help set strategic direction and drafting of learning tools for future SCA members. He thanks the outgoing board and to all SCA members for their consideration of his nomination.