

## ANILE, ROSS

### DIRECTOR



#### Rosario (Ross) Anile

As a Western Australian family-owned supermarket operator for the past 40 years I have had the pleasure of being an MGA Board Director for the past 5 years and I am seeking reelection.

During my time as a retailer, I have represented WA on State and National Boards, as well as a variety of state marketing, promotion and pricing committees.

My family has recently sold our business and despite this I still have the drive and passion to fight for the independent supermarket industry, and now have more time to do so.

With the ever-changing political landscape in our country, it is important to have experienced and knowledgeable representatives on the MGA board, who can work with all governments and their representative departments.

The past 2 years I have represented the MGA on the WA State Covid Council, WA banning of single use plastics, Trading Hours matters, WA State packaging advisory council and recently I have been asked to represent the MGA WA on the Logistics & Defense Skills Council on the future skills advisory committee for retailing.

I am a passionate about the prosperity of family-owned businesses and will continue to work hard in their best interests.

## Master Grocers Australia Limited

# CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

## Scheduled Election – E2022/89 Stage 1

For the election of:  
**Director (3)**

Statements submitted by candidates in accordance with MGAL Rule 21.23.

*The contents of the statements in this document have been reproduced as received from the candidates. Only the presentation has been amended for publication purposes.*

**Shehan Liyanage**  
Returning Officer  
MELBOURNE

## **HARPER, JEFF**

### **DIRECTOR**



#### **Jeff Harper**

My name is Jeff Harper and I am seeking reelection as a MGA Board Director.

Together with my family, we have owned and operated multiple independent supermarkets including stores in Ashburton and Southbank in Victoria for nearly two decades,.

Throughout my years in the industry, I have held and contributed to a variety industry positions, including Chair of various Food, Grocery and Liquor state Boards and Committees over the past 15 years,

I have also been a Director of the MGA for 3 years, where we have advocated for the interests of independent grocers across the country on a wide range of matters including trading hours in Queensland and the illicit tobacco trade.

As a member of these State and National Committees, I have gained a broader understanding of store challenges and how to aid our unique industry. It has been a pleasure to engage with retailers to address their concerns and establish a profitable and effective independent network.

As a Board Director, I will strongly advocate for independent grocers and liquor stores. I will continue to place a family-owned and -operated company model at the centre of my decision-making, giving future generations the voice, they need to maintain the industry's vitality.

## **HOPPER, RAELENE**

### **DIRECTOR**



#### **Raelene Hopper**

Manager Director – HG Retail

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With a family history in retail, I am excited to be nominated for the position of director in the upcoming MGA elections.

I have learnt the business from the bottom up and there isn't a role in the company from front end through to Managing Director that I have not filled or do not understand intimately. This experience, my worth ethic, sense of humour and passion for the industry have contributed immensely to the growth and ongoing success of HG Retail.

HG Retail has been at the forefront of independent retailing in Queensland for many years and I have brought many new initiatives into the industry and continue to strive for improvement and excellence in all areas of operation.

It would be a privilege to represent MGA and work to ensure ongoing success for the association and its members.

## **SMITH, DEBORAH MAY**

### **DIRECTOR**



#### **Debbie Smith**

I have had the great pleasure of being an MGA Board Director from 2005 and I am seeking reelection to continue my tenure as a Director of MGA's Board.

Being a Queenslander, I was the first Director appointed from outside of Victoria. Over these years I oversaw the development of the current MGA

constitution and its rules to create a national organisation which represents all independent food, grocery and liquor store owners, inclusive of all states.

In my current role as President, I am proud to impart that this philosophy of inclusiveness, equity and integrity remains one of our key principles.

In my career as Owner/Operator of several Queensland supermarkets in head-to-head competition with the major chains, I have intimate knowledge of both the political and procedural systems at play, and believe I have the right mix of experience and drive to continue lobbying for positive change on behalf of our retailers.

It is the task of board directors to present strategy that the MGA can develop and implement to help our members, and it is my personal mission as a director of the MGA to continue to represent our businesses to government and regulators.