



ON THE SMALL SCREEN: Councillor candidate Richard Orchard addressing the audience at Wednesday night's Meet The Candidates forum at the Workers Club. Photo: Gerard Walsh.

Candidates drive home their points

By LOUISE THROWER

ANDREW Banfield revved up the crowd, driving his imaginary bus on a four-year council journey.

There were a few bumps on the way, but all in all, the wheels were turning in the right direction.

"It's not a bad bus to drive, with Mayor Kettle at the helm," he declared.

Turning off the imaginary engine, Cr Banfield jumped back into serious delivery at the *Goulburn Post's* and Goulburn Rostrum's Meet the Candidates night on Wednesday.

Some 150 turned up to the Workers Club to hear 17 of the 18

ELECTION COVERAGE

- Videos of each of the candidates speaking can be viewed online at goulburnpost.com.au
- More Meet the Candidates coverage, pages 4 and 5

hopefuls contesting Goulburn Mulwaree's September 8 elections. Roger Lucas was an apology.

As in council meetings, the driving analogy was used to good effect.

Cr Geoff Peterson reminded everyone of his 2009 'P for Peto' pitch. All his supporters were driving

around with P plates, he said.

"That still applies, but I've thrown away the P-plates," Cr Peterson quipped.

Current councillors counted on four years' experience to win voters. Cr Peterson declared Council a "she-mozzle", even a "disgrace," when he was elected at the 2009 by-election.

Three senior staff, including the general manager had resigned, the Highland Source was highly controversial and the council had lost "\$10 million" on CDOs.

"So I walked in - there was no management, no money, no water and no hope. But look at us now."

He and Crs Margaret O'Neill, Nina Dillon and Bob talked up major developments like Bunnings, Target,

Warrigal Care's expansion, Aldi, the new Toyota site and Marys Mount residential growth.

Some declared the saleyards and airport "sagas" over and the Highland Source "on time and on budget."

Former banker Cr Kirk called on voters to reap a return on their four-year investment. The current crop had developed in to a "very cohesive group" and he didn't detect a mood for change.

Others, like Cr Neil Penning, saw more work ahead.

"What we don't have yet is modern, properly functioning, asset management," he said.

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Motorcyclist dies in Crookwell Road crash

LOCAL police are preparing a report for the Coroner after a motorcyclist died on Crookwell Road on Wednesday afternoon.

The rider hit a tree, approximately five kilometres from Crookwell, and died at the scene.

Police are yet to release the name or age of the deceased and are appealing to the community for information.

They have asked anyone who might have seen the man travelling on the road before the crash to contact them immediately by calling Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

Alternatively, people can visit: <https://www1.police.nsw.gov.au/>.

Information provided will be treated in the strictest of confidence.

Police remind the public not to report crime information via its Facebook and Twitter pages.

Police investigate 1980s child sexual abuse claims

POLICE investigators from Monaro Local Area Command are appealing for public assistance to locate any victims of alleged sexual abuse in the State's south during the 1980s.

In 2011, police arrested and charged a man from the Southern Highlands area with the alleged sexual abuse of boys in the Braidwood area between 1983 and 1987.

The man will face court later this year.

Police wish to speak with anyone who may have been a victim of other offences involving child sexual abuse, or anyone that has any information which may assist police in locating witnesses to child sexual abuse in the Braidwood area during the 1980s or at any other time.

Anyone with information is urged to contact Queanbeyan Police on 6298 0555 or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

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