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PROLIFIC: Sam Rowland and Geoff Kettle between them secured more than 40 per cent of the first preference vote.



Goulburn Mulwaree votes

Home
Kettle 4012
Rowland 1790

Close
James 1119
Saville 969
O'Neill 887
Walker 836

* Numbers up-to-date as
of 1.15pm yesterday

And the winners are... . .

Kettle, Rowland in; James, Saville, O'Neill, Walker likely

Council election
By LLOYD SCROOPE

INCUMBENT mayor Geoff Kettle and 20-year-old Sam Rowland are clear winners in the wash-up to Saturday's poll.

The NSW Electoral Commission yesterday morning confirmed Kettle accrued 4012 first preference votes, well clear of the next best in Rowland with 1791.

Both are guaranteed a place on what's shaping as a new-look council this month.

Former mayor Carol James picked up 1119 votes, progressive group leader Robin Saville 969, veteran councillor Margaret O'Neill 887 and 27-year-old Alfie Walker - the second youngest of 18 candidates - 836.

Those to join Kettle and Rowland on the nine-person council will be determined this week.

James, Saville, O'Neill and Walker appear likely to earn seats, though their position is far from assured.

Incumbent councillors Denzil Sturgiss,

Geoff Peterson, Andrew Banfield, Neil Penning, Bob Kirk and Nina Dillion are sweating on preferences.

Sturgiss returned 582 votes, thanks largely to a strong turnout at his home booth of Tarago. Peterson clocked 559, Banfield 537, Penning 450, deputy mayor Kirk 436, and Dillion 408.

Number three on the independent ticket, Roger Lucas, received 393 votes, progressive group running mate Jason Shepherd 347, Richard Orchad 329, Andrew Thistleton 268, Frank McAlister 183 and

Laszlo Strasser 108.

The numbers show Saturday's poll was dominated by the mayor.

Kettle swept every booth bar Tarago and was aware he'd reached the quota less than two hours after voting closed.

"Coming into [the] poll, I was nervous," he said on Sunday morning.

"I think the vote the community has given me shows that the work I've been doing over the last couple years as their full-time mayor has been recognised."

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