



**Hugh Price  
Director**

**Hugh** has lived in the Quirindi district for 20 years. Born in England, he attended Warwickshire College for Agriculture and Farm Business Management before emigrating to Australia in 1979. Employed in corporate agriculture for 20 years with significant budgetary and staff responsibilities, he has completed business and people management courses, and in 2008 the NSW Northern Inland Region Leadership Course. Hugh operates a small business advisory service predominately to the farming community in addition to his farming property. Hugh was Chair of the Eloura Appeal and has helped with Relay for Life, and other community committees, and in 2010 was Liverpool Plains Citizen of the Year. He is a past Managing Director of AgVance Farming, past Vice Chairman of Liverpool Plains Land Management and a past recipient of the Brownhill Cup. Presently Hugh is Chair of the Community Advisory Committee advocating the agricultural interests of the region to the Namoi Catchment Water Study. He was elected a Director of QRHL for the first time at the recent 2011 AGM.



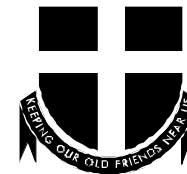
**Caroline Cudmore  
Director**

**Caroline** has a Bachelor of Commerce from the University of NSW, Sydney with a major in accountancy. She has worked in the accounting profession in Sydney and Tamworth for 18 years. Caroline is a partner in an agricultural based family business. She is also currently studying for an Advanced Diploma of Nutritional Medicine through the Nature Care College, St Leonards, Sydney. Caroline was elected to the Board at the 2011 AGM. She recognises that the opportunity to have a facility like Eloura in a small rural community is tremendous. She also recognises community commitment is needed to support Eloura and wanted to be involved in that supportive role.



**Philippa Hunt  
Director**

**Philippa** was born in New Zealand and has a Bachelor of Arts, psychology major from Macquarie University, Sydney and a Graduate Diploma in Rehabilitation Counselling from Cumberland College of Health Sciences, Lidcombe. A career change saw her move into journalism and she spent 14 years as a radio journalist in three countries, seven of those years with ABC Radio. Philippa then worked in health public affairs for five years as Public Affairs Manager for the Far West Area Health Service. She started a small home based consultancy when she came to Quirindi with her family in 2002. Philippa joined the Board at the 2011 AGM. She believes in contributing to the community where she lives and is also a volunteer with the Quirindi Royal Theatre.



## The Chair's Report 14 November 2011

Welcome to the first of what will be regular newsletters from myself and the Board to residents, their families, Eloura members and staff, and the interested community. The Chair's Report will not be replacing the Eloura News but will be a communication supplement. As an introduction to our Board, pictures and profiles are highlighted in this first edition. May I thank Bob Hudson who has stepped down as Chair for his guidance and counsel as I step up to take the helm for the first time. Unfortunately Bob was away when our group photo below was taken. May I thank also outgoing Directors Geoff Ingall, Frank McKinley and Gwen Benham for their work over the years.

The wellbeing of our residents at Eloura is without question the most important consideration as we move forward during what has been and continues to be a challenging time for the organisation. Since the Annual General Meeting the Aged Care Standards and Accreditation Agency have been undertaking a review of all 44 Expected Outcomes. This is part of the ongoing review of Eloura's performance

and progress in addressing the unmet expected outcome of Information Systems. This process is continuing as is a review by the Department of Health & Ageing to address areas of non-compliance. It is a slow but necessary process to ensure the changes that are being introduced are sustainable and that we have the systems in place to support best practice. You would be aware we have employed aged care specialist advisors Wendy Smallwood and Helen Hill who are working closely with staff. You may also be aware that to support the staff the Board decided to put on hold any immediate new admissions, although some residents who are Low Care will be admitted. We do not know for how long this will be in place.

I would like to reiterate a key message from the AGM – that as we move through this process, we all move together in a positive direction. I felt this was evident at the recent Auxiliary Fete. It was very pleasing to see such a large crowd there with brisk business being conducted at the stalls. The Board congratulates and thanks all those involved.  
**Sally Doyle**





**Sally Doyle  
Chair**

**Sally** began her career as a social worker after gaining a Degree in Social Work at Sydney University. She worked in Tamworth for a number of years after moving to the Quirindi district when she married. Sally manages the family property with her husband and married son, and has always been actively involved in volunteer work such as preschool and school committees, Red Cross and the Children’s Medical Research Institute Committee. Sally became connected with QRHL when her parents-in-law moved into town to live at The Gables in 1995. She became a Board member the following year and was the Deputy Chair for the past several years. Sally was elected Chair of QRHL following the 2011 AGM. She has been thankful for the residential aged care offered in Quirindi as several of the older members of the Doyle family have benefited from that care.



**Bruce Gowing  
Co - Deputy Chair**

**Bruce** was elected to the Board of Quirindi Retirement Homes Limited in 2006 because he realised the strong need for members of the Quirindi community to take an active interest in the future of Aged Care Services. The owner of local business, Gowings Toyota, Bruce has had a strong involvement in community activities. He has served on the committees of several local sporting organisations, was the inaugural Rotaract District Representative for District 965, is a Past President of Quirindi Rotary, a Paul Harris Fellow and was a member of the former Quirindi Hospital Board. Bruce’s personal involvement in community activities has complemented his business being a long term supporter of local charitable and volunteer organisations. Excellent facilities such those owned by Quirindi Retirement Homes Ltd, are dependent on the continued support of all members of our community as Bruce believes it is a priority to be able to keep ageing relatives near family and friends.



**Col Stewart  
Co - Deputy Chair**

**Col** has been in practice as a chartered accountant for approximately 40 years and has recently retired. He is a Councillor on the Liverpool Plains Shire Council and Captain of the Quirindi VRA Rescue Squad. Col joined the Board at the recent AGM, but for a number of years prior to that was the auditor for Quirindi Retirement Homes Ltd. He resigned from that position at the AGM. Col’s mother was a resident at Elmswood and later the nursing home for a number of years. His reason for joining the Board is simply the wish to assist in providing this extremely important service to the community.

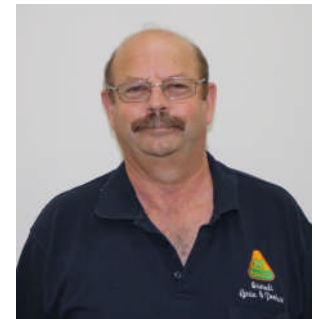
**Bob** has a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture and more recently completed a Master of Business Administration. He has been an agribusiness consultant for more than 40 years in Australia and overseas, and he has been in professional business companies since 1969. He has been a Board member of QRHL for nearly ten years and for the past five years the Chair. Bob’s interest in aged care began when his father was a brief resident in the mid 1960’s and when his mother was in an aged facility for 18 years progressing through all three stages – independent living units, hostel and high care. He was a Board member of the Namoi CMA for seven years until September 2011. He is currently a Director of Henrys (Quirindi) Pty Ltd as trustee for the Henrys (Quirindi) Trust and continues to serve on the Board of QRHL.

**Rob** has been managing a very successful family business in Quirindi for 30 years and until 2009 was a director for ten years of Ruralco Holdings LTD, a listed company, working on special projects, and audit and remuneration committees. He always found time to serve on various school, sport and service club committees and was invited to join the QRHL Board when his mother moved to the Gables 15 years ago. He has been serving as a director since that time – four of those years as chairman. Rob is passionate about maintaining the very best facilities for the aged in Quirindi. This is supported by his commitment to the organisation and seeing the completion of Eloura and the Elmswood /Henry’s renovation. The benefits of the guesthouse are two fold – it will provide funding for Eloura and is a town asset providing old fashioned hospitality with modern conveniences.

**David** was born in the Morpeth area and after leaving high school worked in the CBC Bank for three years. A career change and return to agriculture led to him completing the Tocal Diploma in Agriculture and spending the next 20 years in property management, specialising in large scale dairy operations, beef and sheep. In 1990 the Wallis family leased a 500ha dairy farm and milked 450 to 500 cows on a rotary platform. From 1982 to 1997 David was a Director of Bega Co-operative Society and was Deputy Chairman from 1985 to 1997. In 1998 the Wallis family purchased their farm Manuka, at Quirindi and produce chaff as well as milling product sourced from other farms. The Wallis family have a strong belief in supporting their local community. To achieve this Roslyn entertains the residents at Eloura and David joined the Board to contribute where possible.



**Bob Hudson  
Director**



**Rob Webster  
Director**



**David Wallis  
Director**