

AGM 2019 NOMINATIONS

Please note - additional nominations can be accepted at the AGM if you are present to confirm the nomination or send a nomination form before the AGM.

Names recorded as received and positions are listed in the order they will be elected

Members can nominate for more than one position. Once elected for a position they automatically withdraw from remaining nominations (and vice versa).

1. PRESIDENT

Christopher Dean (VIC)

2. VICE PRESIDENT

Danie Tregonning (VIC)

Christopher Dean (VIC)

Holly Wulf (VIC)

3. SECRETARY

Kurtis Carter (NSW)

Jayde Gray (VIC)

4. TREASURER

Ricky Li (VIC)

Christopher Greaves (VIC)

5. ORDINARY MEMBER

Danie Tregonning (VIC)

Christopher Dean (VIC)

Ricky Li (VIC)

Jayde Gray (VIC)

Holly Wulf (VIC)

Gemma Schuhmann (QLD)

Michael Romano (WA)

Simone Mary McDonnell (SA)

Fleur Menezes (VIC)

Nominee Statements – as received

Danie Tregonning

Hey you, it's me again!

Yes I am running for committee again after a really successful 2018/19 year.

This time, I am throwing my hat into the ring for Vice President as I believe I am ready to take the next step; to take more responsibility on OGAE matters. I also believe that women are underrepresented globally amongst OGAE clubs in the roles of President and Vice President. A third of our club's membership identify as female so there is room for more representation.

As a club we have worked together to bring a bit of Eurovision home this year and I would like to expand on that in the Netherlands; helping lead a team to share the experience of Eurovision for those at home. I'm open to ideas from members on what they would like to see during Eurovision week. I also want to encourage events during Eurovision week at home by the club for the members. We have been lacking that element somewhat so it's time to build on that.

I would also propose an update to the social media policy to ensure things are clearer and fairer for the members; including reviewing the rule on "self-promotion" in the Facebook group. I want to work on expanding the Member's Corner of the website to celebrate and encourage all our members to share their Eurovision exploits that occur separate from the club.

We need a club where everyone feels included, and no one is made to feel ostracised. This community is for everyone. Bullying has no place in this club. There have been too many instances over this club's formative years, and we must now all come together and embrace Eurovision. It doesn't matter if you're a huge fan or a newbie; my aim is to encourage inclusiveness for all members.

Jayde Gray

As an active member for just over a year now, I've had the privilege to work with committee members in aspects regarding photography and filmography. I've been honoured to assist the Australian fans of the Eurovision Song Contest connect more through my art and create engagement, including working with OGAE Australia at Australia Decides on the Gold Coast, and in Tel Aviv at the 2019 ESC. I want to run for committee to continue to do more; give back what I have been given as a fan, and to be a people person for the club.

Holly Wulf

After what has been an exciting, eventful and highly educational six months of being on the OGAE Australia committee, I am delighted to have the opportunity to run for election for the first time! I have been a member of ESCFAN since 2017, and in that time, have found myself becoming engrossed in this brilliant organisation. As a result, I have spent hours upon hours making costumes (you may know me as Netta, or one half of Dihaj and Horse Head, from various Melbourne and Sydney parties), watching and rewatching editions of both the senior and junior Eurovision contest, writing reviews and profiles for the club's social media pages, and I think most importantly, making countless friends. This organisation has given me so much, and I wish to continue to give back. As a result, I will be running for Vice President, as well as an Ordinary Committee Member.

I am currently studying a Bachelor of Music at university, and you better believe I've been weaving Eurovision into my recitals and performances! However, my previous experience is varied and full of skills that I believe would be beneficial to the ESCFAN committee.

- Events are the backbone of what makes ESCFAN the fun, joyful, colourful place that it is, and I have extensive event planning experience, having worked with my local council in the Freeza program for a number of years, planning and helping to run music festivals in various backstage, FOH and artist liaison roles.

- Our website and social media reach has been growing exponentially over the years, and as well as my experience growing up in a world saturated by social media, I previously studied journalism and media at university, and have skill in varied forms of writing as a result.

- Years of debating and performing arts have helped me to become confident and well spoken, both interpersonally and in public settings, with an understanding of how to communicate with a diverse

range of people. This club is nothing without its people, and I hope to be able to continue to foster a culture of acceptance and mutual respect.

As a young, queer woman, I think that I can provide a voice to the ESCFAN committee that we are yet to see in a senior role. I adore the way the club has made me feel welcome and free to be myself, and I hope to provide the same outlet and liberty to others.

Christopher Greaves

In support of my candidature, I would like to include the following relevant details:

1. I acted as the Treasurer (voluntary) for a UK charity (National Ugly Mugs) between 2015 and 2017. This charity had a turnover of approximately 250,000GBP. As Treasurer, I was obliged to provide oversight to the statutory requirements of a charity with regards to corporate annual returns. I was also required to give guidance on financial procedures as well as signing off on annual reports as well as operational budgeting.
2. I held the position of Treasurer for a small figure skating club (turnover 3,000GBP). I processed member subscriptions, reconciled bank statements and produced a treasurer's report for the AGM.

Gemma Schuhmann

For the past year I have participated as an Ordinary Committee Member. I didn't know what to expect taking on this role, but it has been more enjoyable than I could have thought. I've been a part of the Social Media team, and have taken great pride in helping reshape our social media accounts, especially Instagram and Redbubble. As well as being part of the on ground team in Europe for 2 months during the 2019 season. Australia Decides on the Gold Coast is a true highlight for me, that I hope I will be able to improve upon in 2020 if re-elected (I have plans). I truly believe this past committee works well as a team. I hope you trust me to help carry on with the work we started last year.

Michael Romano

I have been a Eurovision fan for 14 years and a member of our Club since its foundation. I believe that I could bring fresh ideas and insights to the Committee and to the Club.

I'm in my second year of completing a degree in Politics and International Relations and Edith Cowan University and have been trying to inject as much Eurovision content into my assignments as possible.

I would be honoured to serve on the Committee and as a West Aussie, broaden the representation of States on the Committee.

Simone Mary McDonnell

Hailing from South Australia, I have been a massive Eurovision fan for about a decade (you might say I fell in love with a Fairytale...). I was only made aware of the official fan group last year, and signed up straight away. I love everything that Eurovision stands for- coming together in the spirit of unity to celebrate the good, the bad and the terrible of European (and Australian) culture. Attending my first Eurovision last year was amazing and completely life changing – it has sparked me to want to increase my participation with the group and event.

I come from a background in public policy, event management, media and marketing, and would bring to the table a desire to tap into new groups and seek media opportunities to grow our fan club, and to increase the visitor experience for people attending the event each year. I know the committee already works extremely hard in this space, but I think I can bring some fresh ideas to the table, while also supporting them with the current workload. I currently sit on the board of Channel 44, Adelaide's community TV station, and have previously held various boards and committee positions, including as a board director of the Adelaide University Union, where I was the Union Activities Chair.

Fleur Menezes

Hello, my name is Fleur Menezes. Bonjour, je m'appelle Fleur Menezes.

I am running for a position on the general committee. Yes, I am another Melbourne based member but unlike many members of this club, I am also a parent to two junior members of OGAE Australia. The reason that I bring that up is that our post 2000 demographic is a target market that needs to be catered to. Even current Eurovision performers are millennium babies now. I am in the ideal position to develop some additional connections with that age group.

I have been an avid Eurovision fan since Johnny from Frankston won the competition for the second time. So that is over 3 decades experience in following the Contest.

The majority of my work experience is in banking, customer service and retail and I am quite good with numbers. I would also like to expand the Red Bubble store if I was to be elected.

Additionally I hold diplomas in Marketing and Tourism, so naturally I would like to utilise my skills in those capacities for the role. I am also a contributor for a well-known Eurovision website and presented the Top 100 Eurovision songs on JOY FM in January this year.

I have previous experience on committees. I was the Deputy Co-ordinator of my children's playgroup for five years. I was simultaneously in charge of fundraising and served as Social Secretary, therefore I have plenty of experience in Event Planning. Also our playgroup was nominated as Victorian Playgroup of the Year in 2014. I was part of my children's school's Sustainability Committee for four years as well, so I possess a strong sense of familiarity in these situations.

If I am successful in my nomination, I look forward to working with the club, its members, sustaining a positive relationship with stakeholders and developing new ideas.

Thank you. Merci beaucoup.

Ricky Li

After been an underground Eurovision Fan for 7 years, OGAE Australia has brought me together with like minded friends giving me the desire to attend Eurovision, which I did for the first time this year. That's what OGAE Australia is, a place for Eurovision fans to belong.

This club has been a home to me for the last year. I have met some of the most amazing and diverse people with the one thing that connect us all: Our love of Eurovision. This club and its members has inspired me to want to contribute and give back to our small community of fans.

I have been lucky enough to have contribute in many of the club's events for the past year thanks to my partner Christopher Dean. Here, I started to see my passions and talents collide with the world of Eurovision. It's something that I want to pursue and develop further.

My technical and artistic design knowledge gained from my University studies will be of great benefit to the club. I have already assisted the club with video editing on the OGAE Song Contest Scoreboard, setting up the new website, and design of OGAE Australia merchandise.

Experiences and skills gained from my professional life has given me the opportunity to advise the committee members on Event management and AV Tech. My field of work in customer service encourages me to listen and address everyone's needs and concerns.

Joining this committee gives me a chance to continue giving back to the club and its members, who I've spend countless hours talking, laughing, discussing and debating over the joys of Eurovision. I believe I'm a good candidate to serve this club and to make it a more open and welcoming place for everyone