

Key Fact Sheet: Completing and Returning Your Ballot

Important Dates

Ballot Closing Date: **5PM** on **18th November 2025**. No ballots will be accepted after the closing date.

Annual General Meeting (AGM): **12PM** on **25th November 2025**. Announcement of results, only.

Voting Instructions

Complete your ballot paper by marking your choices clearly. To cast your vote, place a mark in the box next to the name(s) of up to three (3) of your preferred candidate(s). You may vote for fewer than three (3) candidates if you wish, but not more.

Return Your Ballot

Please ensure that your ballot paper does not bear any mark that could identify you, such as your name or member number. This information will need to be included, for authentication, but should not be on the ballot itself.

Electronic Mail: Include your name and/or member number in the body of the email, on an accompanying attachment, or in the file name of your ballot paper.

Please ensure the ballot paper is attached separately to any other documents that you may be attaching.

Physical Mail: You may print your ballot paper and return it by post, if you wish. Please ensure that the ballot paper is neatly folded before inserting it in an envelope. Once sealed, write your name and/or member number on the back of the envelope for identification and authentication.

Contact Information

To return your ballot, or if you have any questions about the voting process, contact the Returning Officer through one of the channels below:

Email (preferred method)

agm@firstoption.com.au

Postal Address

Att: Returning Officer
PO Box 7063
Melbourne VIC 3004

Candidate Information

Jane Falconer

I seek election to First Option Bank's Board to contribute my expertise in governance, risk, and technology to enable First Option Bank's continued success and member focus. As a GAICD and experienced executive, I bring over two decades leading governance, procurement, and supply chain transformation across multiple industry sectors. My career includes senior roles at Macquarie Group, Coles and EnergyAustralia, where I managed portfolios exceeding \$2B, embedded risk management frameworks, and ensured compliance with multiple legislative and regulatory requirements, e.g. the Corporations Act, Banking Act, AML/CTF Act, and APRA/ASIC regulatory standards.

I have direct board and committee experience, serving on my Owners' Corporation Committee with responsibility for financial oversight and governance. I have supported company Boards and stewarded risk across KYC, third-party risk, cybersecurity, WHS and contract governance. Experience interpreting financial statements and assessing financial position and risk will ensure strong stewardship of First Option Bank's financial health and fiduciary performance.

My deep engagement with technology innovation, commercial experience with banking platforms, cloud and cybersecurity programs, and current activity in an AI start-up represent critical experience as banking evolves.

I am committed to contributing to First Option Bank's strong governance, risk management, and member-focus as a trusted, effective Director.



Lorna Clerkin

As a current Board member, I'm strongly committed to the member-first ethos that defines customer-owned banking. I'm keen to contribute further to First Option as it continues to grow and thrive, by leveraging the financial oversight experience I've built in relevant governance roles. Thank you for the opportunity to stand for re-election and to share a little about myself.

Technical and business management qualifications (BSc, MBA) sharpened both my analytical and strategic thinking and allowed me to build a successful food industry career in roles such as production management, product development, productivity, and continuous improvement in Ireland and Australia.

Alongside my career in industry, I've been involved in customer-owned banking throughout my working life. From volunteering at Cadbury Credit Union in Dublin to serving as Board Member and later Chairperson of Old Gold Credit Union in Melbourne, I've valued the co-operative banking model. Since Old Gold merged with First Option, I've been proud to see the bank offer products and services comparable to any available at mainstream banks while staying true to the member-owned, member-first values at its core.

I ask for your vote in this upcoming election. For my part I undertake to keep members interests first and to uphold the values of trust, transparency, and community service that form the backbone of member owned banking.

Timothy Matthews is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, a Fellow of the Certified Practicing Accountants and holds a Bachelor of Business (Accounting).

Bringing over 35 years of experience with Ericsson Australia Company Group, I have held multiple senior finance leadership roles, including Australian Group Taxation Manager and positions focused on financial reporting and compliance. I have been a Credit Union / Bank Director for over 30 years. As Director and Chairman of Ericsson Employees Credit Union – 16 years and following on 18 years as a Director of First Option Bank (Credit Union). With First Option Bank as a Director, I have served and currently serve in specific roles as, currently as the Chair of the Audit Committee and as a member of the Risk Committee.

I am a keen advocate of the “not for profit” Credit Union / Bank mutual banking financial sector and the excellent member benefits and services that can be gained. As a Director I will use my extensive financial business experience and the years of involvement in the Credit Union (mutual) banking sector to be part of First Options Bank’s continued success and financial growth and the opportunities provided to and for members including: Friendly customer service with a member “first” focus, Maintain existing low-cost services and products, and Competitive savings and loan interest rates.



My name is **Annette Mathews**. I have over 20 years of Board experience. Firstly, with Tab Credit Union and then First Option Credit Union. During this time, I have served in numerous roles including Deputy Chairman and as a member of the Board Executive, the Risk and Audit Committees. I have substantial business and IT management experience gained by more than 20 years as a key member of the senior management teams of medium to large companies. I have also been a Non-Executive Director for three years, two as Chair, of a State Sporting Organisation, Vice President of a community sports club and Secretary of an outdoor activity club. In 2025, I was a finalist for the NSW Community Sports Awards – Volunteer Director of the Year. In 2024, I was also a finalist for the NSW Volunteer of the Year Awards in the Not-for-Profit Voluntary Governance category.

I am an energetic, results-orientated professional who uses First Option as my financial services provider of choice.

During my time on the Board, this Credit Union has grown substantially in terms of services offered to our members, the number of members and host industries. I am committed to maintaining our commitment to outstanding customer service and to our low fee philosophy.

My qualifications include a Bachelor of Applied Science from the University of Technology in Sydney and a Company Directors Diploma from the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

Patrick Pathinathan

I bring over two decades of experience in the financial services and technology sectors, combining deep commercial acumen with a passion for purpose-driven governance. My background spans leading digital transformation programs that modernised core banking, compliance, and customer experience platforms—delivering measurable value through innovation, efficiency, and trust.

Having worked closely with banks and financial institutions on risk management, data integrity, and service excellence, I understand both the regulatory and customer-centric imperatives facing mutual organisations. My expertise in digital transformation enables me to contribute to the bank's ongoing shift toward secure, data-driven, and member-first banking solutions.

Equally, I am deeply committed to community engagement and growth. Through leadership roles in education, not-for-profits, and technology partnerships, I have championed initiatives that strengthen communities and create lasting impact.

As a Non-Executive Director, I would bring a balanced blend of strategic insight, governance discipline, and digital fluency—focused on helping First Option Bank grow sustainably, enhance member value, and continue its proud tradition of ethical, community-based banking. Together, we can ensure the bank remains innovative, resilient, and truly member-owned in a rapidly changing financial landscape.



BALLOT PAPER

2025 ELECTION OF DIRECTORS

Candidates are:

- ☐ Jane Falconer
- ☐ Lorna Clerkin
- ☐ Tim Matthews
- ☐ Annette Mathews
- ☐ Patrick Pathinathan

Voting Instructions

There are three (3) board positions being contested in this election. You may vote for up to three (3) candidates. To cast your vote, place a mark in the box next to the name(s) of your preferred candidate(s). Ballot papers with more than three boxes marked will be deemed invalid.

Once you have made your selections, please return your completed ballot paper as directed. If you have any questions about the voting process, contact the Returning Officer at agm@firstoption.com.au