



BELINDA VON BIBRA

As a lifelong advocate of sustainable, affordable and experiential travel, I have been a dedicated YHA member for nearly two decades. With over a decade of experience as a Non-Executive Director and senior executive, including leading a \$100M not-for-profit organisation, I bring expertise in governance, strategy, and financial oversight. My background in biotechnology commercialisation, sustainable innovation, and stakeholder collaboration aligns with YHA's focus on eco-tourism and sustainability. I have successfully led transformations that drive growth and enhance customer outcomes. Key challenges I see for YHA include adapting to shifts in remote workforce and tourism trends, ensuring financial resilience, and meeting the evolving needs of travellers. It would be a privilege to contribute my expertise to supporting YHA's commitment to inclusive, sustainable, and impactful travel experiences.



CRAIG BERGER

I am passionate about contributing to the diverse YHA board promoting affordable accommodation, travel and services. A current director having served on all board committees since 2023, I chair the Strategy and Innovation Working Group enabling management to drive an innovative growth agenda, so our 'For Purpose' organisation reinvests surplus funds for the long-term benefit of members. Recently, YHA launched the Travel to Learn charity, YHA Explorer app providing member benefits, significant investment refurbishing existing properties, and new initiatives such as food, beverage and travel experiences. As a full-time director, my complementary experience includes large regulated global boards and local NFP charities, previously senior management building a market-leading partnership business within Macquarie Group. Post Graduate qualifications include Applied Finance and Investment, and GAICD certified director.



DAVID YOUNG

My career has revolved around the aviation and hospitality industries in Australia, NZ the United Kingdom and Asia. I joined YHA in 1988 in London and have spent time in operational roles with Ansett, Air New Zealand and Qantas. More recently I led the Commercial team at Qantas Loyalty and later as Executive Manager Sustainability for Qantas Group. I'm passionate about building strategic partnerships with likeminded organisations and developing strategies to grow revenues and customer engagement. A Chartered Accountant, I am also GAICD. My Board experience includes roles with Bobby Goldsmith Foundation, Golden Stave Foundation and oneworld Sustainability Group. I'm excited to be bringing my broad commercial experience to the YHA Board in a post-COVID world and to start travelling the world again.



VARUN NAIR

I am an advocate for YHA and its mission, having worked with the board as an observer for the past two years. YHA plays a key role in the tourism sector, and I believe we can continue to strengthen its platform to connect travellers to destinations around Australia. I am an avid traveller within Australia and internationally and am passionate about the impact properties and destinations can have on people and the broader community. This has been the core focus of my career in property over 15+ years, where I have worked in development, design and construction, asset management, technology, ESG and operations. I hope to use my experience to further contribute to the board of YHA, supporting the organisation and leadership team.



CHRIS GAWAN-TAYLOR

I am excited about the travel experience and ongoing growth of YHA. I first joined YHA as a student and have stayed in YHA hostels around Australia. I now advise organisations on strategic growth and stakeholder relationships globally. A development of a leading MBA and corporate advisory at a top-tier strategy firm. Initially a registered Architect I continue to work across the property spectrum. I have advised on property and capital for Peninsula Hotels, IHG, Shangri-La, Hilton, and a Virgin-Macquarie Bank JV.

An AICD member having served on several boards and now the YHA Board (Environment-Social-Governance and NRHR Committees and, Strategy-Innovation and Railway-Square-Development-Working Groups). I support a sustainable YHA that delivers quality travel experiences, unique environmental properties, friendly efficient service, and a respected brand presence.



SIMON SPICER

I bring a unique perspective to YHA, combining my passion for travel with professional qualifications and international commercial experience. My experience is across a wide range of businesses, including in "for purpose", member-based organisations, including Surf Life Saving, Business NSW and Children's Cancer Institute. Since joining YHA's Board in 2018, and as Chair of YHA's Audit and Risk Committee, I have contributed significantly to ensuring YHA emerged from the pandemic more sustainable and stronger than ever, financially and organisationally, and, most importantly, maintains its relevance to members and all travellers. I am passionate about ensuring that YHA continues to excel at providing exceptional experiences for all guests, Australian and international, and I really enjoy meeting them during my regular stays in YHA's.