

## Coeliac New Zealand Inc Governing Board Profiles for 2023 AGM

The Board shall comprise a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 10 individuals, each appointed in accordance with these Rules.

### 2 existing board members not requiring re-election until next year:

- 2021 Max and Jenny (3-year term ends 2024) not required to resign and stand for election until 2024 AGM.

#### Jenny Kuttel



Jenny Kuttel joined the board in 2021 and has wide-ranging business experience in industries including rail operations in New Zealand and Australia and sawmilling operations in New Zealand. She has expertise in project management, policy development and implementation, operations management, human resources management and management consulting services. She has been a member of CNZ since 1986 and still remembers the difference the society, made for her when she was first diagnosed. Now retired after a busy career and returned to NZ she would like to contribute to the ongoing success of the society and the work it is doing for all those with coeliac disease, dermatitis herpetiformis or, gluten intolerance. She knows there are still challenges with raising awareness across many sectors, including the medical profession and the hospitality industry. CNZ can take credit for the dramatic changes in awareness over past decades, and she would like to assist with that continuing journey.

#### Max Smitheram



Max Smitheram joined the board in 2021 and is a policy analyst and has his own consultancy company. He was diagnosed by biopsy in 2007 and is interested in encouraging earlier and improved diagnosis rates for all people with coeliac disease. As a coeliac for life, he believes that retaining and extending our membership base and working together is critical to effective advocacy as is having a strong national voice and organisation. Max also likes to drink cold gluten-free beer - preferably at a cabaret or in a sweaty salsa joint, with his cat Dr Roosgrit or onboard a small boat! He is a supporter of the Dining out Programme and is keen to improve food and beverage labelling requirements and compliance, which would provide more selection and help keep coeliac's safe.

## 5 existing board members not requiring re-election until 2025:

- 2019 Kirsty, Corinne, Rosie, Ben, and Gary (3-year term expires 2025) not required to resign and stand for election until 2025 AGM.

### Kirsty Vercoe (Deputy Chair)



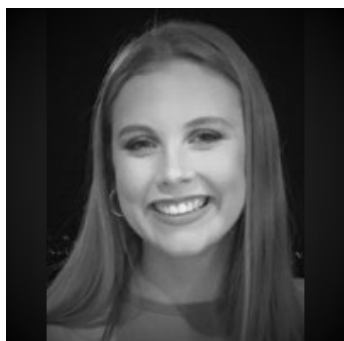
Kirsty Vercoe has been on the Board since 2019. She is the Board representative amongst the MAP group, a pharmacist by training and currently the General Manager of a health services company based in Auckland. Her journey with Coeliac NZ began in 2012 when she was diagnosed with coeliac disease in her late 20s. Despite having family members and friends with the disease, she found that the support and information she received from the organisation during those initial months helped her adjust to the new diet and lifestyle. She lives in Auckland with her food scientist husband and young children and has a passion for health and wellbeing..

### Corinne Cameron (Treasurer)



Corinne has been on the CNZ board as Treasurer since 2018. Her desire to be part of the Coeliac NZ board stemmed from her family's journey into the gluten free world in 2016 when her eldest daughter was diagnosed with Coeliac Disease just prior to her fifth birthday. She believes in the positive power of a support network behind each person diagnosed with Coeliac Disease and sees Coeliac NZ playing an important part of that. She now believes it is her turn to give back and have a direct influence in the support other CNZ members receive to enable them to live healthy lives.

### Rosie Jerram



Rosie Jerram was co-opted onto the CNZ board on 6 Mar 2019. In the years following her diagnosis, CNZ provided Rosie with guidance and a strong support network to help with the adjustment, motivating her to contribute to the organisation. She is particularly interested in helping young people adjust to living a full life with coeliac. Having graduated from Otago University a couple of years ago, Rosie understands the curve balls that coeliac disease can throw when transitioning into young adult life. Rosie now lives in Auckland and works as a Corporate Finance Analyst.

## Ben Grant



Ben Grant is originally from Balclutha, and grew up on a farm, so his core values were instilled in him early; he is an honest and hard-working team player that enjoys a challenge no matter what it may be. He has over 12 years' experience in the electrical industry, as a line mechanic, and in health and safety and management roles. Ben was diagnosed with Coeliacs disease in 2018 while living in Dunedin and joined Coeliac New Zealand as a member when he moved to Auckland later that year. He became a volunteer for the Auckland region in 2019 and was co-opted to the board in 2022. He feels the community has been a huge support for him personally and is committed to ensuring that support continues for young professionals.

## Gary Peacham



Gary Peacham is originally from the UK and has lived in New Zealand for almost 15 years. He has a background in High Performance Sport and has worked for a variety of National Sporting Organisations across NZ. He is the current Sports Director for Special Olympics New Zealand where he helps support people with an intellectual disability on their sport and recreation journeys. Gary was co-opted on the board in 2022 and his motivation to join the CNZ Board comes from seeing the journey his brother-in law has had with coeliac disease over the past decade.

### **3 existing board members standing for election this year:**

- 2020 Brett Thorburn re-elected by rotation (term expires 2023)
- Parminder Morgan co-opted in 2022 standing for election
- Richard Aitken co-opted in 2023 standing for election

Please view their profiles on the next page:

### **Brett Thorburn (Chairperson)**



ambitious than his successful ascent of Kilimanjaro in 2008.

Brett Thorburn has been on the Coeliac NZ Board for over 10 years and contributed to the development of the Dining Out Programme. He was previously living in Italy where his daughter was diagnosed with coeliac disease at age 2 years old which initiated his involvement with the Italian Coeliac Society. Brett's long-term involvement in the organisation brings continued stability, knowledge, and experience in his role as Chair. In his spare time, Brett likes to explore the Hauraki Gulf or take to the hills on tramping expeditions – although most hikes are less

### **Parminder Morgan**



Parminder Morgan was co-opted onto the CNZ board in August 2022 and is a fundraising professional with over 20 years' experience in the charity sector in the UK, Switzerland and New Zealand. She is currently Head of Fundraising at Make-A-Wish Foundation New Zealand and was formerly the Director of Fundraising at Variety. Parminder understands the challenges faced by children with Coeliac Disease with her own daughter being diagnosed in 2021. Parminder hopes to use her skills and experience to help Coeliac NZ diversify their funding.

### **Reverend Richard Aitken**



Richard Aitken was co-opted onto the CNZ Board in early October 2022. His willingness to serve on the Coeliac NZ Board was driven by his experiences in supporting his daughter Dani who was diagnosed with coeliac disease in 2014 aged seven. This was a totally new world for Richard and his family, and they felt incredibly supported by their connection with Coeliac NZ as they worked their way through the myriad of food and lifestyle changes that had to be made. Richard sees his time on the CNZ Board as being an opportunity to return some of that support to the community that gave so much hope and encouragement to them as they embarked on their journey. Richard is an Anglican Priest living in Invercargill and he has served, indeed still serves, on a wide variety of not-for-profit governance boards.

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### **Nomination Forms have been received for those requiring election:**

1. Brett Thorburn – nominator Corinne Cameron, seconder Kirsty Vercoe
2. Parminder Morgan – nominator Corinne Cameron, seconder Kirsty Vercoe
3. Richard Aitken – nominator Corinne Cameron, seconder Danielle Aitken