



Coeliac NZ, Chairperson's Report 2024

Coeliac New Zealand continues to punch above its weight in getting up-to-date and relevant information out to members and the wider coeliac community.

I extend my gratitude to Wendy and her team for making the most of the resources they have available to push into new areas of advocacy and research. Examples, such as working with WINZ around the child disability allowance and MPI with a view to cooperating on verification of the hospitality industry, demonstrate the value they are providing to coeliacs in less visible areas with far-reaching impacts that go beyond the first year of assistance that the majority of members appreciate the most.

I also thank the Medical Advisory Panel for their unwavering support. Initiatives such as the DHB pathways, as well as your continued participation in our external events and your ongoing research, are of course hugely valuable to members and the broader coeliac community, and we are all grateful for your insights and the hope for a better future that you bring.

Thanks, as always, to our Crossed Grain Logo and Dining Out Partners, our ambassadors, and all our sponsors for their continuous support of Coeliac NZ. We are immensely thankful for your ongoing commitment and look forward to collaborating more closely in the coming year.

Coeliac NZ is incredibly fortunate to have a dedicated and enthusiastic membership. We offer our heartfelt thanks and admiration to all our members, especially our Area Coordinators and numerous volunteers who generously contribute their time and energy to support Coeliac NZ. Your commitment and valuable contributions are greatly appreciated and do not go unnoticed.

Lastly, I want to thank our board members. We have had a number of changes in the past few months, and through a very popular recruitment process led by Kirsty and Corinne, we have co-opted some very talented individuals who we believe will add valuable skills and new energy to the governance team. Our core group continues to provide support and valuable insight to the management team, and Coeliac New Zealand is grateful for your efforts as volunteers.

Regards,

Brett Thorburn

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