



Executive Committee Nominee Biographies AGM 2026 Cerebral Palsy Society of New Zealand

The 2026 AGM does not require members to vote for candidates as there were fewer candidates nominated by the nomination deadline than positions available.

All nominees will be elected unopposed at the 2026 Annual General Meeting on October 18.

Below are the biographies submitted by the 2026 nominees.
Biographies are listed alphabetically by surname:

- Mike Bishop
 - Chantelle Hunter
 - Meg Smith
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Mike Bishop



It has been a privilege to serve on the CP Executive Committee during 2026.

We are doing innovative work that will enable the CP community to benefit considerably in the future and I would be delighted to continue to serve the CP Society.

I graduated from Massey University with a Bachelor of Business Studies and I'm an Associate of the Bankers Institute of New Zealand.

Through medical misadventure at birth I have lived a life with right hemiplegic cerebral palsy which affects the left side of my body. Despite my disability, I played senior rugby for 4 years, premier and representative cricket over 25 years and professional cricket in the UK for 4 years.

After working in senior finance roles both in New Zealand and overseas, I have been a sport Chief Executive for 32 years with key roles in both cricket and rugby and I now head Harbour Sport, the North Harbour Regional Sports Trust.

I'm also a Board member (and former Chair) of Disability Sport Auckland, Laura Fergusson Trust, The Auckland Disability Trust and the Hibiscus and Bays Local Board. I was also a Board member of Paralympics NZ until recently.

I bring my lived experience of disability and as a Chief Executive and Director/Trustee with over 32 years of experience to the CP Society.

I have proven experience in Business Growth, Stakeholder Relationships, Change Management, and Financial Growth and Sustainability.

I have also sat on and provided governance advice to numerous regional and national boards and trusts over many years.

Chantelle Hunter



Kia ora e te whānau,

My name is Chantelle and I am a māmā to my six-year-old son, who has cerebral palsy.

The journey with my son has reshaped my life and led me to the path I am now on, and what draws me to stand for the Board of the Cerebral Palsy Society.

Professionally, I am CEO of Arohanui Trust, a disability day service for adults.

This gives me hands-on operational and leadership experience in the sector and a

grounded understanding of the realities facing whānau, staff and providers alike.

Equally, I have a long background in Marketing and Communications both from a global corporate point of view as well as a regional and national health care lens.

Through my CEO role, I also sit as a Forum member with the Western Bay of Plenty Disability Support Trust, keeping me closely connected to regional disability networks in our part of the motu.

I also serve as a regional representative Trustee with Good Bitches Baking (GBB), a non-profit that supports other organisations clients (e.g. Women's Refuge, NICU, Hospice), through the kindness of baking.

I would welcome the chance to bring together both my lived and governance experiences in service of the CP Society and its members.

If elected, my main aim is to bring a strong regional lens to the Board's thinking - making sure whānau outside the main centres are as heard, included and supported as much as those inside them.

Nāku Nā,
Chantelle

Meg Smith



It has been a privilege to serve the Cerebral Palsy Society (CPS) community as an executive committee member over the past five years.

I am proud of what we have achieved and would be delighted to continue contributing to the Society's strong strategic direction, team and vision.

My personal connection with CP is through my daughter, Molly, who has taught me about what matters in life.

I feel humbled and privileged to be her mother, and her journey has motivated me

to contribute to positive change. This led me to complete doctoral research exploring the experiences of whānau raising tamariki living with CP and am now focused on sharing the research findings and advocating for meaningful change.

I have been a nurse for more than 35 years, predominantly in health management and leadership roles.

I hold a Doctorate and a Master's (Health Management, First Class Honours) Degree. Previously I worked as a Charge Nurse Manager for the Paediatric Orthopaedic Service at Starship Children's Hospital, where I gained valuable insight into the health needs and systemic barriers experienced by tamariki with CP and their whānau.

I currently work as a Clinical Nurse Director for Te Whatu Ora, providing professional leadership to a large nursing workforce.

My experience as a parent and health professional has given me a strong understanding of the challenges of navigating health, education systems and disability services.

I would love the opportunity to continue using my skills, knowledge and experience to support CPS to ensure people living with CP and their whānau are heard, included and supported to live fulfilling lives.
