

John Hartnell – Chair



John Hartnell is an experienced agribusiness leader and apiculture specialist with more than 40 years' experience in New Zealand's primary industries. His career spans beekeeping, marketing, and the export of honey and related products to global markets, supported by a long-standing commitment to industry good initiatives and sustainable food production.

John has played an instrumental role in shaping New Zealand's apiculture sector, contributing to the Apiculture New Zealand Industry Conference, the American Foulbrood Pest Management Plan, and multiple Standards, Regulations, and Biosecurity & GIA focus groups. A strong advocate for innovation and the advancement of the primary sector, he continues to champion excellence in food production and environmental stewardship.

His extensive governance experience includes national-level appointments across the food and agriculture industries. He has served on the Boards of Federated Farmers of New Zealand and Apiculture New Zealand Inc, and as Chair of the AFB National Pest Management Plan, APINZ GIA/Biosecurity, the NZ Tegel Growers Association, and the Canterbury Poultry Meat Producers Association.

Within the harness racing sector, John brings strategic leadership and a passion for the sport's long-term growth. He is Chair of the New Zealand Metropolitan Trotting Club and Addington Raceway, Chair of the HRNZ National Industry Forum (Clubs & Kindred Bodies), and Chair of the HRNZ Upper South Island Forum. He also serves on the HRNZ Board Appointment Panel and the New Zealand Sires Stakes Board.

John has been involved with standardbred breeding and racing for more than 20 years through his family's operation, Kowhai Standardbreds, breeding and racing horses under the Kowhai banner.

Nick James – Deputy Chair



Nick James is a Chartered Accountant and accomplished entrepreneur with more than 20 years' experience owning and operating multiple successful businesses across New Zealand. Since qualifying as a Chartered Accountant in 2008, he has built a diverse portfolio spanning accounting, automation, electrical, building, and events amongst others. His hands-on leadership and financial expertise have driven consistent growth and operational excellence across all ventures.

Passionate about governance and strategic leadership, Nick currently serves on the Boards of New Zealand Metropolitan Trotting Club (currently Deputy Chair), Te Tahī Youth and Parklands United Sports Club. At Te Tahī Youth, he has been instrumental in strengthening financial stability and governance, helping the organisation achieve long-term sustainability. At NZMTC Nick brings both financial and strategic leadership and a passion for the sport's long-term growth. His practical business experience and analytical mindset bring strong commercial insight to every board he serves.

Nick's interest in harness racing started when he was gifted a share in a horse and it won at Addington, an experience that inspired him to become an active owner and investor in both harness and thoroughbred racing. He now owns several trotters and pacers with various trainers (including Kevin Townley in Christchurch) as well as gallopers with various trainers around the country, achieving success at Group level in both codes.

Outside of business and racing, Nick is a passionate sportsman and spends many hours with his kid's sport, his daughter is achieving high results in cheerleading and his son in football. A former Canterbury representative in yachting and squash, he continues to support grassroots sport as a coach and team manager.

With a strong track record in business growth, financial management, and governance, Nick brings energy, strategic thinking, and a genuine passion for harness racing to his role on the New Zealand Metropolitan Trotting Club Board.

Toni Rowell



Toni Rowell is a Chartered Accountant and experienced Director with more than 25 years of governance and senior financial leadership across New Zealand and the United Kingdom. Her career spans infrastructure, financial services, property, healthcare, FMCG, and telecommunications, combining strategic insight with commercial and operational depth.

As Chief Financial Officer of Christchurch City Holdings Limited (CCHL), Toni oversaw governance and financial performance across a \$6 billion infrastructure portfolio, encompassing the city's airport, port, electricity and fibre networks, property, and water maintenance services. The role demanded strong stakeholder engagement, governance oversight, and leadership across complex shareholder and subsidiary relationships.

Toni's executive background includes senior finance roles with Heartland Group, Powerhouse Ventures, Pacific Radiology Group, Westpac, AMP Capital, and Pepsico International, as well as earlier international experience in London with Aviva Funds, AXA Investment Management, and Warner Music

Currently a Director of the New Zealand Metropolitan Trotting Club (Addington Raceway & Events Centre), Toni has also served as a Board Member and Finance Committee Chair at Paparoa Street School. A member of both the Institute of Directors (MinstD) and Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand (CAANZ), she brings a collaborative, commercially astute, and values-driven approach to governance.

John Grainger



John Grainger has been a Director of the New Zealand Metropolitan Trotting Club since 2012 and brings more than three decades of senior leadership and governance experience across the wool, manufacturing, and racing industries.

He served as a Director of Harness Racing New Zealand from 2018 to 2024, including two years as Deputy Chair, and was also a Director of NZ Metropolitan Properties Limited between 2016 and 2018. John has held numerous leadership roles in both corporate and family-owned businesses, including more than 20 years as a company director.

John was Managing Director of Wools of New Zealand Limited from 1994 to 2001, overseeing a workforce of up to 100 staff across eight countries. He also served as Acting Managing Director of the New Zealand Wool Board during 1996-1997, in conjunction with his role at Wools of New Zealand. His international experience includes senior positions with the International Wool Secretariat, where he was Director of Interior Textiles Worldwide and Director for Interior Textiles in Western Europe and the Benelux region between 1985 and 1994.

From 2002 to 2023, John was a Director of Ascend Limited, a family-owned custom rug manufacturing business, and also served on the Board of the Wool Research Organisation of New Zealand. His career reflects a deep commitment to New Zealand's primary and textile sectors and a proven ability to lead complex international operations.

Erin Jamieson



Erin Jamieson is a multi-award-winning communications practitioner with extensive experience in public relations, strategic and marketing communications, and stakeholder engagement.

She began her career in media and then worked in international marketing for world-renowned brands in Australia, including Moët & Chandon and Jack Daniel's. In New Zealand, Erin held a senior in-house communications role at the then-NZX-listed Lyttelton Port of Christchurch before co-founding Convergence Communications & Marketing in 2002. Over the past two decades, she has become a trusted advisor in crisis management, media relations, and strategic communications, supporting clients across New Zealand.

Her expertise was particularly sought after during the Pike River Coal mine disaster, where she advised the West Coast District Health Board, Pike River Coal, and the receivers on communication strategy, media relations and stakeholder engagement. She has since guided organisations through major crises, including industrial accidents and high-profile product recalls, ensuring issues were managed effectively and reputations protected.

Erin is also an experienced political communications specialist, having managed Mayor Phil Mauer's campaigns for the past seven years. A career highlight included leading media relations for former United States Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's Auckland speaking tour.

A graduate of the Institute of Directors' Company Directors' Course, Erin brings more than 20 years of governance experience to her role as Director of the New Zealand Metropolitan Trotting Club. She currently serves as Co-Chair of Orana Wildlife Park and has held governance roles with the Court Theatre Trust, Naval Point Marine Rescue Centre, Gardens Event Trust, Gap Filler, Aoraki Polytechnic Media Advisory Panel, and the Banks Peninsula District Tourism and Economic Development Board.

Outside of work, Erin enjoys an active lifestyle with her family and dogs, Rodger and Ralph.

Ged Mooar



Ged Mooar has been a member of the Board since 2020 and currently serves as Racing Director. He brings extensive experience in the standardbred industry, combining operational, commercial, and governance expertise gained through a lifetime involvement in harness racing.

Ged is General Manager of Nevele R Stud and Spreydon Lodge – one of Australasia's leading commercial breeding and training operations – where he oversees strategic direction and daily management. His previous role as Marketing and Commercial Manager at Addington Raceway, held for more than four years, provided valuable insight into the multifaceted nature of the organisation and the wider racing industry. He also serves on the Board of the New Zealand Sires' Stakes and is an active member of the NZMTC.

Passionate about harness racing from an early age, Ged was introduced to the sport through his father, Bryan Mooar, a breeder, owner, and former NZMTC committee member. Today, Ged continues that family legacy as a breeder, owner, and administrator dedicated to the promotion and future growth of harness racing in New Zealand.

Prior to his current roles, Ged was Sales and Marketing Manager at Westbury Stud, one of New Zealand's leading thoroughbred studs based in Karaka, South Auckland.

Based in Ladbrooks, Christchurch, Ged lives with his wife Kate and their two adult sons. Away from the track, he enjoys running, swimming, and watching rugby, football, and cricket. Ged is also a long-term mentor with Big Brother Big Sister, having supported a young person through the programme for nine years.

Rebecca Scott



Rebecca Scott joined the Board in 2023, initially co-opted before being elected at the October AGM. She is Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee and a director of the companies holding the Club's commercial property interests.

A barrister at Canterbury Chambers in Christchurch, Rebecca was admitted to the bar in 2000 and has practised in Invercargill, London, and Christchurch. Before joining the independent bar, she was a Partner at Lane Neave Lawyers (2016-2024) and was recognised by NZ Lawyer magazine as an Elite Women Lawyer in 2022. Her legal career spans litigation, employment, commercial, and property law, giving her a deep understanding of the regulatory, governance, and operational challenges faced by commercial organisations.

Raised on a Southland sheep and beef farm, Rebecca has a strong affinity with the primary sector and extensive experience in agribusiness law. She also serves as a Trustee of the Cambridge Clinic Charitable Trust, which provides specialist medical services to survivors of sexual abuse. Previous governance experience includes serving as an Intern Director at Christchurch City Holdings Limited (CCHL), where she gained insight into the priorities of council- and community-owned trading organisations. She has also served on Lane Neave's management board and chaired its Health and Safety Committee