



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

15 June 2016

### **Guild welcomes new President and Vice President**

The new Board of Directors of the Pharmacy Guild of New Zealand (the Guild) has elected Graeme Blanchard as President, and Cameron Monteith as Vice President.

Both Graeme and Cameron are experienced community pharmacists and pharmacy owners who have previous board experience. Guild staff and the rest of the Board look forward to working with Graeme and Cameron throughout the next year.

Graeme has been Vice President of the Guild for the past nine months and has been a board member since 2011. Graeme has also been a member of many sector groups, including the National Health Information Clinical Leadership Group and the Community Pharmacy Services Agreement Quality Assurance Group. Graeme is passionate about community pharmacy and about the work and the support that the Guild provides to the sector.

Cameron joined the board in June last year and has experience in the Australian and UK pharmacy market. Cameron has keenly advocated for Guild members and pharmacy during his time with the Guild so far and we look forward to what can be achieved with Cameron as one of our leaders.

Graeme is replacing Ken Orr who has been President since 2014. Ken has provided dedicated and uncompromised leadership to the Guild throughout his presidency. His ability to look at the bigger picture and plan for the future has been invaluable. His expertise and leadership throughout this time has been greatly appreciated by the Board, Guild staff, and members. Ken will continue to have a role on the Board as one of our Northern Electorate board members.

The Guild also welcomes to the Board this year Catherine Keenan, owner of Vivian Pharmacy in New Plymouth, who will represent the Guild's Midland Electorate, and Jason Wright, partner in Prices Pharmacies in Nelson and Blenheim, who will represent the Guild's Southern Electorate.

The Guild farewells Paul Larson who left the Guild Board this year. We thank him for his dedication and contribution to the Guild throughout his time on the Board. Paul's effort has been much appreciated.

## **ENDS**

Media contact: Nicole Rickman – 04 802 8217

### *Notes:*

- The Pharmacy Guild of New Zealand (Inc) is a national membership organisation representing community pharmacy owners. We provide leadership on all issues affecting the sector and advocate for the business and professional interests of members.
- For additional information on the Guild and community pharmacy, visit [www.pgnz.org.nz](http://www.pgnz.org.nz).