

### ***Hayley Warren – President***

Hayley is very excited to be working with the CEO and fellow Board Members to continue the great work of the Association in improving the lives of people with Down syndrome.

Hayley grew up in Margaret River in Western Australia with three siblings, including her older sister Sarah who has Down syndrome. "I understood from a young age the challenges faced by people with Down syndrome and their families, particularly in regional areas of Australia". Hayley first became involved with Down Syndrome NSW shortly after she moved to Sydney in 2015. She set up and ran the UP! Club group in the Eastern suburbs until she joined the Board in October 2017. This year she took on the role of Secretary.

Hayley is a lawyer and has also completed the Governance Foundations for Not-For-Profit Directors course at the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

### ***Margot Elliffe – Vice President***

Margot has been a member of Down Syndrome NSW for 32 years. In that time she has held various positions on the Board, including 6 years as the NSW representative on the Down Syndrome Australia Board.

Margot is a qualified Child and Family Health Nurse, Lactation Consultant and Midwife. As a health professional, Margot is passionate about education, training and community for families and people living with Down syndrome. Learning assists in improved outcomes and community connection is the corner stone for our members throughout their lives, for both country and city people. Margot has attended many Down Syndrome international congresses with her daughter Tara and has built an international network and supports Tara in her advocacy endeavours.

### ***Chris Elenor – Secretary***

Chris is father to a son, Tom, with Down syndrome and has been an active member of the Association for 37 years, including as Past President and Treasurer. Chris and his partner Paula have been part of building the Association from its inception to hosting the 6<sup>th</sup> World Congress in Sydney in 2000 and beyond to include the voices of our people with Down syndrome. In 2018, Chris rejoined the Board with a view to improving the governance and financial management of the Association. Chris has ridden his veteran motorcycle in two of the Scrapheap Challenge fundraisers.

Chris is a former Deputy Director of the NSW Council of Social Services, lecturer in the School of Business at Western Sydney University, management consultant in strategic futures and an environmental activist. He has significant experience on Boards of member-based and not for profit organisations, including Redfern Legal Centre, Strathfield Symphony Orchestra and the SEARCH Foundation.

***Nicholas Gotsis – Treasurer***

Nick has been recently appointed to the Board to fill the vacant Treasurer position. Nick is an Accountant and manages a chartered accountants' business, Gotsis Accounting. He understands financial statements and the workings of small to medium sized businesses, and looks after some incorporated associations as clients. Nick has also previously worked as a union organiser which has given him relevant experience working for a not-for-profit organisation. Nick has an adult sister with Down syndrome, and has been a volunteer at UP!Club events, where he has got to know some of our members.

***Evelyn Scott (OAM)***

Evelyn is mother to a 40 year old daughter, Kylie, with Down syndrome. Evelyn and her family were committed to ensuring Kylie had the same opportunities in life as her older sister, and after considerable lobbying, Kylie was the first child with Down syndrome to progress through the ACT school system and complete year 12.

Evelyn was the founding president of the ACT Down Syndrome Association, and held various committee positions as well as for other intellectual disability organisations, including Special Olympics, until moving to Sydney in 2009. Evelyn worked as a Court Reporter and became a Hansard Editor in the Australian Parliament from 1996 to 2004, giving her extensive knowledge of the law and governance.

Evelyn is keen to ensure the NDIS follows and fulfils its goals; improving awareness of self-advocacy and independence for people with Down syndrome; and a commitment to ensure that Down Syndrome NSW becomes more knowledge based through its membership of Down Syndrome Australia and its links with international associations so it can provide the latest research and information to its membership.

***Janey Concepcion***

Janey is the mother to a 6 year-old with multiple disabilities including Down syndrome. She is completing her Bachelor's degree in Inclusive Education and Disability Studies.

Janey works as self-employed educator and as a student. She is the national treasurer for Golden Key ACU-Chapter, an organisation that is composed of the top 15% students of the university. Janey is the scheduler and social coordinator of the Ponds Rainbow Club.

Janey has sales and customer service experience. Before her daughter, Portia, was born Janey completed a Bachelor's degree in International Business Management and a Diploma of Financial Planning, but decided to change career to serve children and families touched by disability.

***Andrew Hinde***

Andrew is the father of 7 year old daughter with Down syndrome. He is grateful for the amazing support from Down Syndrome NSW and has been very supportive of the association ever since his daughter was born.

Andrew works as an Enterprise Sales Manager for a late stage technology start-up and has an MBA and MGSM, which means he is comfortable with analysing financials and assisting with revenue generation. He sees both areas as critical to the successful operation of Down Syndrome NSW. From 2014 to 2016 Andrew was a Board member at Down Syndrome NSW and wishes to volunteer again to assist the association.

### ***Rene Pennock***

Rene is the father of a 10 year old son with Down syndrome. Rene's experience and skills include management, leadership, clinical and most importantly parenting roles. Rene was the CEO and/or Company Secretary for three Not-For-Profit (NFP) companies for over 14 years, ranging from small to medium sized entities. He brings a complete range of corporate and governance skills/experience, which includes the development and successful implementation of strategic plans designed to serve a community. As CEO of the Macarthur Division of General Practice with an annual turn-over of \$1 million in 2004, the company evolved and grew into South Western Sydney Primary Health Network with an annual turn-over of \$22 million in 2017.

Rene's qualifications include a Bachelor Applied Science (Physiotherapy), Post Graduate Diploma (Gerontology) and Graduate Diploma from the Australian Institute of Company Directors (GAICD), having completed their Company Directors Course.

### ***Paula Rix***

Paula has been a member of Down Syndrome NSW since the birth of her son Tom in 1981, and served as a Board member in a range of executive positions including President through the 1980's and 1990's. Paula has held appointed positions for the NSW Disability Council and NSW delegate to the Commonwealth Disability Advisory Council. Her most recent contribution to the work of Down Syndrome NSW was on the steering committee of the successful pilot of the Up, Up and Away project, the forerunner of the ILSI Program.

Paula's working life spans academic teaching and research as a sociologist at Macquarie University and UTS and subsequently in NSW Government (FACS) where she wrote "Living with a Disability and Dying for a Break – A study for respite care in NSW". She spent 9 years as manager of the Intellectual Disability Rights Service which demanded a critical focus on advocacy, community education as well as research and action on law reform for people with intellectual disabilities and their families.

Paula has served on the boards of Redfern Legal Centre, Intellectual Disability Rights Service, The Ella Community Centre, Churches Community Housing, Shelter NSW and Tenants Union NSW. Paula has a special concern to connect elder members' issues to the strategic and operational focus of Down Syndrome NSW.

***Sonja Volker***

Sonja is the mother of a 4 ½ year old son with Down syndrome, with complex medical issues. Sonja has nearly 20 years-experience working for a financial institution in a wide variety of roles. Most recently, she is working in Technology helping deliver data related projects. Sonja has a Bachelor of Social Science (Psychology & History) along with a Graduate Diploma of Information Technology. She also is a Certified Business Analyst Professional with the International Institute of Business Analysis.

***Gemma Namey***

Gemma is the mother of two girls. The eldest was born in 2014 and has Down syndrome. She is committed to human rights and the rights of people with disabilities. Gemma has a Bachelor of Economics (Social Sciences) Hons 1 and Bachelor of Laws Hons 1. She has worked as a solicitor in the government, commercial and not for profit sectors. Gemma worked at the Intellectual Disability Rights Service where she represented clients in civil and criminal matters. She has also worked at the Public Interest Advocacy Service where she represented clients in disability discrimination matters in the Federal Court.