



Tim Kennedy

Master Electricians National Vice President Biography

May 2026

Firstly, I would like to thank my Upper South Island branch committee for nominating me for the Master Electricians Vice President position.

I am about to complete my two-year term as president of our local branch, and I have served as our National Presidents' Advisory Forum representative since 2021. During this time, I have been lucky to have been involved with several different aspects of the Master Electricians National Office. All these opportunities have helped me gain a better insight into the running of our organisation. I believe in the direction of the board, and I feel I have the skills and experience to contribute to this moving forward. Some of the responsibilities I have been entrusted with are as follows:

- **Appointments Advisory Council:** As part of the AAC, we evaluated, interviewed and made a recommendation to the board for the then vacant CEO position.
- **Rules committee:** Helping bring our association rules in line with the new Incorporated Societies Act and future-proofing some out-of-date clauses.
- **Meeting with Minister Penk:** Master Electricians attended parliament with a small delegation to express some of our industry concerns. This would ultimately lead to AS/NZS3000:2018 finally being adopted.
- **Regional Manager Appointments:** As our branch president, I helped interview candidates for the South Island Regional Manager position. Through this process, we set a business case to the board to take on the two outstanding candidates we had, and this was also the catalyst to bring the Nelson Marlborough area into our local branch, thus creating the Upper South Island Branch.
- **Apprentice Challenge:** I have been involved in the apprentice challenge for nearly 20 years as a local coordinator and judge, also judging at the nationals. We encourage all our apprentices to compete in this, and we have produced several finalists, plus two national winners.
- **Tradeshaw Committee:** I have been part of our tradeshow committee for about 7 years and have helped secure sponsorship and have been our MC and host of our industry dinner, which has helped me gain confidence in public speaking.
- **Excellence Awards:** We believe in show casing our projects and use the Excellence Awards to do this. We have won multiple gold awards and I was humbled to receive the Industry Champion Award in 2024.

I am a manager and shareholder in Aotea Electric Canterbury Ltd (AECL), where I have worked for a total of 25+ years. I was brought up on a farm in Te Anau, and I started working in the electrical industry from the age of 12, doing work experience in the school holidays. I moved to Christchurch when I was offered my apprenticeship with AECL. I progressed through various roles at AECL including electrician, foreman, supervisor to my current role as contracts manager. Through succession planning I will step into the managing director's role mid next year. I am a Director on the Aotea Electric Marlborough board, having been appointed by the Aotea Group. Last year, I was appointed to the Aotea Electric Canterbury board. My leadership style is very inclusive, and people driven. I am an enthusiastic learner, and I take any opportunity presented to me to increase my knowledge base. I have been very lucky to have had some exceptional mentors who have helped shape me into the competent leader that I am today. I believe in training our own apprentices and producing quality tradespeople for our industry.

I am a very proud husband and father of two children. I love getting involved in helping with my children's interests and have coached cricket, coordinated school trips, co-chaired our PTA and served a three-year term on our school board, two of which were as Presiding Member.

I am a passionate advocate for Master Electricians and our industry. I believe I have demonstrated my dedication and commitment to getting the best outcomes for the people and companies that make up the electrical industry and the membership of Master Electricians.

If I were lucky enough to be elected for the Vice President role and, in turn, the President role, I would strive to elevate our organisation to new heights. The members need to be at the forefront of everything we do. We need to better market and target our member benefits to a changing workforce, and we need to continue to advocate for the betterment of our members. Trademaster can be a great vehicle for improving the standard of our workers, not only for ME but across the board.

There have been some great achievements made by Alex and the team, and I would be honoured to help lead Master Electricians into the next phase of change as we develop our offering and strategy to be future-focused. If elected, I would relish the chance to join Rhys in driving the membership, the organisation and our industry to be the best we can be.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours sincerely,

Tim Kennedy.
Upper South Island Branch President.