



## **IRMTNZ**

### **President's Annual Report 2020**

It is with much pleasure that I present the 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Report of the Institute of Registered Music Teachers of New Zealand.

Ehara taku toa it e toa takitahi engari he toa. Our strength is not that of an individual but that of the collective.

### **Life Members**

At the IRMTNZ AGM in January 2020 members approved two new life members. Our congratulations go to Rae Patterson, Northland branch and Sharon Martin, Auckland branch.

### **Strategic Plan**

The Strategic Plan that Council began implementing in 2016 had largely been completed by the middle of this year. At the Council meetings in July the Plan was reviewed and a new Plan was adopted. This Plan has five major goals that will be developed over the next four years.

1. Goal 1: to establish recognised qualifications in private music teaching;
2. Goal 2: to establish IRMTNZ as an organisation embracing cultural diversity;
3. Goal 3: to locate IRMTNZ and its members more firmly in the national music education sector;
4. Goal 4: to ensure the needs of national-only members are met; and
5. Goal 5: to become carbon neutral by 2030.

Councillors are working in teams to implement and achieve these new goals.

### **Membership**

It has been good to receive a steady flow of applications for both Provisional and Associate membership throughout the year. No new Leading Associate members this year. I am quite sure there are many experienced registered music teachers in the branches that could apply for Leading Associate membership and to this end support their branch in providing assistance in the leadership of the branch. The Leading Associate membership application form can be found in the Members Only section of our website, LearnMusicNZ.

## **IRMTNZ Membership**

As of 30 November 2020 we have:

- 933 Financial Members;
- 6 Affiliate Individual Members;
- 11 Affiliate Organisation Members;
- 4 Honorary Members and
- 2 Honorary Fellows.

## **National Awards**

On behalf of the Institute, I extend my warmest congratulations to the following members:

### **New Year's Honours 2020:**

- Gillian Bibby of Wellington, Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit (MNZM) for services to music education.
- Rosemary Stott of Christchurch, Queen's Service Medal (QSM) for services to music.

### **Queen's Birthday 2020 Honours:**

- Mrs Audrey Coreen Gray of Mt Maunganui QSM (Queens Service Medal) for services to choral music. Coreen is a long-standing member of the Bay of Plenty branch.

## **Registration Board**

The Registration Board comprises one Council member (elected by Councillors at the first meeting of each three-year term) from each district plus the Government Nominee. This is a requirement of our Act of Parliament. The Registration Board works to set criteria, to assess applicants to ensure professional standards are maintained.

As of 30 November, the Registration Board approved:

- 0 Leading Associate but 2 renewals approved;
- 15 Associate members;
- 6 Provisional to Associate members;
- 6 Provisional members;
- 1 Affiliate member and
- 1 member adding an additional subject.

## **Financial Requirements**

A big thank you to members who paid their subscription within the early-bird time frame – 30 April. This came straight after the Covid-19 lockdown and it was quite a worrying time for Council just knowing if members were going to be able to continue their membership in this difficult time. I am very pleased to report that 90% of our members were able to pay the early-bird rate. Since then, our Registrar has been following up members who had not paid their subscription by 30 June. There are still a small percentage of members who will be receiving a final subscription reminder. We do hope these members wish to remain financial members.

Over the past 18 months Council has been reviewing the ANZ banking services supplied to the Institute. Council carried out due financial diligence by comparing the services of other banks and we found that ASB best fitted our requirements. It has been a long drawn-out business moving accounts and Covid-19 has not helped but we are almost

there. Next year when you are paying your subscription you will notice a new bank account number.

At the end of 2019, our Auditors informed the Registrar that they would no longer be taking on auditing work. The Finance committee researched other firms and it was decided that we would engage PKF Goldsmith Fox Audit to undertake the Institute audit in 2020. We were very happy with this firm's work and suggestions they have made to make life easier for everyone in 2021.

I am sure all will agree that money invested in term deposits is no longer providing any significant return. The Council, as custodians of the Institutes' investments, have done due diligence and over this past year have been looking into ways that our invested money can continue to work for us. To this end some of our investments have been put into long term managed funds.

### **Communications**

The Communication subcommittee chaired by Sian Williamson has had a busy year developing branding, marketing and advertising. Members now have available to them branded business cards and letterheads. Postcards to promote belonging to the Institute and Find Students can also be downloaded from our website. Pens, pencils, rulers and bookmarks can be ordered off our website. Our Communications subcommittee have provided members with many marketing tools to use.

Through our branding we aim to have consistency in all our IRMTNZ communications.

### **Ritmico Online**

Ritmico Online (RO) has been delivered into your 'Inbox' approximately every six weeks. We have been able to enjoy reviews of many of the Auckland conference sessions along with celebrating members awarded life membership, national awards, articles on Beethoven, string and woodwind masterclasses as well having many resources recommended, just to name a few. RO has diverse range of topics for members to read. We have also been kept up to date with Covid-19 requirements and any Council decisions. In addition, RO keeps us up to date with what is happening in the music scene both nationally and internationally. Thank you Catherine Martin for all your work as the Ritmico Online editor.

### **Ritmico**

On behalf of the Institute, Sian Williamson, Catherine Martin and I, farewelled our long standing Ritmico editor Joy Aberdein in Wellington on 9 March 2020. As mentioned in RO issue No 9 - In 2005, Joy brought her experience as a musician, teacher and journalist to her new role as editor of *Ritmico*. Her citation for Honorary Membership stated, "Joy has the IRMTNZ at heart and is an outstanding editor of our journal[....] She provides invaluable support to the IRMTNZ and its members and in doing so makes a substantial contribution to music and music teaching in New Zealand." At the beginning of the year Catherine Martin was appointed the editor of Ritmico. Ritmico is now published annually. It remains the 'flag ship' of the Institute.

### **Newsletters**

Once again Sian Williamson and Margaret Whitworth collated two Council newsletters outlining Council decisions and actions (following Council meetings in January and August.) These newsletters were emailed to members.

All branches distribute newsletters once a term outlining forth coming events. As a result of Covid-19, branches have sought alternative ways to keep in touch with their

members. During lockdown Zoom became the in thing that allowed many branches/members to communicate. Branch chat meetings, topic meetings and recitals were held online. Interesting photos of online gatherings were seen in branch newsletters. Well done to all our branch committees for keeping in touch with their members and providing different ways to provide professional development.

### **Annual Survey**

Thank you to the 461 members (49.49% of our total membership) who completed our annual survey. This number is up from last year but Council really needs everyone completing the survey. There are very few requests we ask our entire membership to do for us - the annual survey is very important for a number of reasons, as was mentioned in the preamble to the survey. The survey provides information of value to all of us, i.e. IRMTNZ members and the Institute as a whole. Information collected includes evidence of our professional expertise, experience, activity and diversity. This is vital for our reporting to the Charities Commission and supports our profile as a lead player in music education in New Zealand. Information collected helps us to understand the needs of our members so we can support you in your work. The more members who participate, the more accurate is the information we glean.

Council will be reviewing the survey questions in the early part of 2021. We will aim to make the survey as clear as possible so all members will be able to answer all questions.

### **Proposed IRMTNZ Qualifications Stage 2**

The NZQA accepted the result of the industry consultation, but advised that they now also require both Māori and Pacific Island consultation. This is an ongoing process which was started and then became somewhat challenging and stalled due to Covid-19. The process is somewhat fragmented as there are no immediate or recognisable pathways and organisations to consult with. However we are in discussions with contacts in the Maori and Pacific Island department at Massey University and the discussions we have had with individuals from both sectors are proving fruitful but the journey is much slower within these communities because they have multiples conversations with their colleagues. Although progress has been somewhat slow, we are positive about the end result.

### **Teacher Training Education Committee (TTE)**

This committee oversees the entire Teacher Training Courses we run. Wendy Hunt is the coordinator of both the Teacher Training Courses TTC, (Foundation, Intermediate and Advanced) as well as the Teacher Education Refresher course (TER). This year we have had 10 people working through the Foundation Course, 2 people are working through the Intermediate Course (both have already completed the Foundation Course) and at this stage no one has undertaken studies in the Advanced Course. Once again it is pleasing to see some branches awarding scholarships to members' senior pupils keen to complete the Foundation Course. The TTE committee would like to thank members who have willingly become mentors to young teachers pursuing the Foundation Course, your experience is valued. Part 3 of the Foundation Course 'Upskill' can be taken as a short refresher course for IRMTNZ members only (please refer to page 27 Ritmico Journal No. 113 October 2020 for more details). We do encourage our own members to look at this course. During the year there have been Contact Workshops conducted in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch where the majority of Course participants reside. The TTE committee appreciates the time and effort branches have put into the organisation of these days. This year we have had 1 person complete the TER

course, 2 have failed due to repeated non-observance of due dates and currently there are 3 people working on the course, 2 of whom will complete early 2021. There have been 12 enquiries without follow-up enrolments. The polydojo enrolment form is expedient for the Course participants, the IRMT Registrar and Wendy (for TCANZ monitoring).

### **Continuous Professional Development (CPD)**

In this challenging year all our branches have done their utmost to provide interesting workshops, seminars, masterclasses and student recitals, when not in the various levels of lockdown. This year on our own website, LearnMusicNZ, we were able to view online webinars. They have proved quite popular especially over national lockdown and again towards the end of the year. As forward thinking music teachers we should always be looking for new resources, developing our skills as a teacher /performer and problem solving the challenges we face in our career - how apt this year. Council also request that teachers complete the annual CPD schedule. You may ask why?

*The main reason is that it enables us as an Institute to provide evidence that we are all, like other professionals, committed to maintaining quality and improvement in our work. The Institute needs ALL its members to be engaging in and recording CPD so we can engage in actions on behalf of the membership that will benefit music teaching and learning in this country. Our reputation and standing as a professional organization depends on this, for it aligns us with other professional organizations. In many organizations CPD is a strictly enforced requirement of membership.*

This year due to Covid-19, members have been asked to only to send their CPD points to their branch CPD champion, however please keep your own records for any future auditing purposes.

After Council meetings in January 2020 the personal CPD record sheet was updated following further suggestions by our members. This is a living document that when completed each year shows that our members are fulfilling their own professional development.

### **Conference Auckland *Bridging Cultures; Beethoven 250 and beyond***

Council wishes to thank the Auckland branch committee led by Sarah Watson and Diane James for organising a stimulating conference. To have the New Zealand String Quartet in residence was such a thrill for everyone. The concerts were a special highlight of the week along with thought provoking keynote addresses, masterclasses and lectures on specific topics, many of which have been reviewed in Ritmico Online and Ritmico. If you were unable to attend this conference some of the sessions were video recorded, you can go to our website and view them.

### **Conference 2021 Rotorua Postponed - *mesto***

After much discussion the Rotorua Conference Committee together with Council agreed to postpone Conference 2021 due to the uncertainty surrounding Covid-19 and the associated financial risks for both Branch and Council. However.....

### **Conference 2022 – *felice* - AKO PUORO From the Lakes to the Geyers**

I am delighted to remind you that Conference 2022 will be held in Rotorua Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> to Friday 28<sup>th</sup> January. It is the first time the Rotorua branch has organised a conference and I know that we can all look forward to being treated to some very exciting days.

## **Conclusion: *Fine***

It has been my pleasure reporting to you the year's activities of your Institute. Thank you to our Registrar, Elene Anderson. This year has been extremely taxing because within the Registrar's role came the continuous updating on our website of all the Covid-19 information as well as fielding many phone calls from stressed music teachers. Ongoing work within the financial area of the Institute has also been challenging in the year's environment. All this on top of the Registrar's normal workload. We are fortunate to have such a capable Registrar.

December 2020 completes the second year of this Council's current three-year term. On the Finance committee we have Margaret Maw (Chair) Andrew Buchanan-Smart, Jocelyn Donaldson, Margaret Whitworth and Annemarie Gasparini. Our Communications subcommittee is chaired by Sian Williamson complete with Katherine Jones, Catherine (Cathy) Martin, Margaret Whitworth and Margaret Maw. The Registration Board committee is chaired by Wendy Hunt alongside Sian Williamson, Annemarie Gasparini, Jocelyn Donaldson, John Drummond and Margaret Maw. The Teacher Education is chaired by Margaret Maw complete with Wendy Hunt, Jocelyn Donaldson, Katherine Jones, Andrew Buchanan-Smart and Sian Williamson. Continuous Professional Development (CPD) committee is chaired by John Drummond assisted by Margaret Whitworth and Andrew Buchan-Smart. Katherine and Andrew are also on the combined Council/Branch Conference committee. As mentioned elsewhere in this report Catherine Martin is the editor for both Ritmico and Ritmico Online. Thank you to Andrew Buchanan-Smart for his continued work on our NZQA project. John Drummond our Government Nominee is now half way through his three year term. We are very grateful for all the extra work John undertakes on Council over and above his role as Government Nominee. As President I am involved in all committees in various ways. This does enable me to keep my curved fingers on the pulse of the Institute. On behalf of our members I would personally like to thank all members of Council for their commitment to the Institute over this past challenging year. Councillors not only kept their private teaching going they continued their Council committee work through lockdown and all the various levels different areas/branches have been in. At times no mean task.

Hapaitia te ara tiki pumau ait e rangatiratanga mo nga uri whakatipu, Foster the pathway of knowledge to strengthen independence and growth for future generations.

Wishing you all a Blessed Christmas and a relaxing summer break.



**Margaret Maw**

President IRMTNZ

15 December 2020