

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**  
**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2025 at 3:30 pm**  
Via Zoom

**A. Notice of Meeting**

Refer to AGM document pack distributed to members in early January 2025, and also published on the website Members Only area.

**B. Welcome**

The outgoing President, Wendy Hunt, welcomed members to the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual General Meeting of the Institute of Registered Music Teachers of New Zealand and opened the meeting at 3:30pm with a karakia.

**C. Apologies**

Apologies were received from: Jo Barwick; Glenese Blake; Andree Brown; Jane Coles; Lesley Collier; Emma Colligan; Elizabeth Collins; Lissa Cowie; Guy Donaldson; Elizabeth Durbin; Eva Grant; Hazel Hausman; Lorraine Horton; Ben Hunt; Raewyn Hunter; Lian Jones; Glenys Kempshall; Heather Masefield; Fay McNeil; Joel Neilson; Jody Oberlin; Rae Patterson (Life Member); Patricia Pinfold; Ajit Rasiah; Wendy Richards; Nicola Russell; Rebecca Ryan; Elaine Schreiber; Lori Silsbee; Sharon Stephens; Robert Tait; Roy Tankersley; Scott Terzaghi; Vanessa Tindle; Rachel Thomson; Janey Tracey; Julia Walls; Clodagh Warburton; Virginia Ward.

The President moved from the Chair that the above apologies be accepted. The motion was carried unanimously.

**D. In Memoriam**

It was noted that the following members had passed away since January 2024. Members are listed in alphabetical order of last name:

- Honor McKellar QSM of Otago
- Margaret Neilson of Auckland
- Anne Nisbet of Waikato
- Elizabeth (Betty) Noffke QSM of Auckland. Betty was a Fellow of the Auckland Branch
- Paul Sanders of Rotorua
- Helen Watson of Invercargill. Helen was a Fellow of the Southland Branch
- Janice Williams of Auckland

The members paid their respects to the deceased by observing one minute's silence.

**E. Current Life Members**

The current Life Members are:

- Wallace Woodley QSO of Christchurch
- Vivienne McLean MNZM of Otago
- Rae Patterson of Northland
- Sharon Martin of Auckland

Wallace Woodley read his message to the members:

*“I warmly greet all IRMTNZ Members and totally endorse the ongoing gratitude of all of us to Wendy (President), Elene (Registrar), Cathy (Ritmico Editor) and Executive Members for another year of highly successful achievement. The circulated summary of the year's activities reveals that the Institute is in very good heart. I am particularly delighted and heartily congratulate those to be distinctively honoured at our AGM who have done so much for us for such a long time. I wish all IRMTNZ Members joy and great satisfaction in teaching in the year ahead.”*

Messages from Rae Patterson and Sharon Martin were read out to the members:

From Rae Patterson: *“I send my apology for the AGM. Please convey my greetings and best wishes to everyone, and my hope is that 2025 will be a year of exciting challenges that we will be able to accept, achieve and enjoy.”*

From Sharon Martin: *“Greetings to the President, Council and Members of the IRMTNZ. The Council has had a busy year implementing the various structures being put in place ensuring the Institute continues to play an important part in the musical life of New Zealand. Please extend my best wishes to the retiring President Wendy Hunt and to the incoming Council for their endeavours during the coming year, 2025”*

The President extended greetings to the Life Members on behalf of the members present at the AGM.

## **F. New Council Term**

Nominations were called in 2024 for the Council Term 2025-2028 which begins from the date of this AGM. The nominated Council Members for the new term were introduced to the AGM.

- District 1 – Annemarie Gasparini and Dr Graham McPhail
- District 2 – Kathy Stewart and Christopher Greenslade
- District 3 – Catherine Martin (Vice President) and Louise Logan
- District 4 – Katherine Jones (President) and Christy Yau
- District 5 – Kinga Krupa and Rebecca Ryan
- Government Nominee – Dr Patrick Shepherd (Patrick's term runs from 27 June 2023 to 27 June 2026)

The departing Council members: Wendy Hunt (outgoing President), Andrew Buchanan-Smart (District 2) and Margaret Maw (District 4), were farewelled by the AGM and their many contributions to Council over the years were acknowledged.

The President explained, with the help of the diagram overleaf, the role of Council members who serve on the various Committees of Council, and who are tasked with the governance of IRMTNZ.

## IRMTNZ COUNCIL

We are the national governing body of IRMTNZ:

President

Vice-President

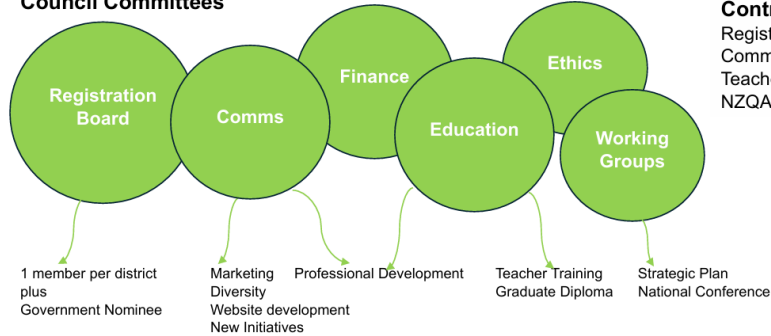
Government Nominee

10 Council Members:

- 5 geographical districts
- 2 members per district



### Council Committees



### Contracted Roles:

Registrar  
Communications Coordinator  
Teacher Training Coordinator  
NZQA Consultant

*Ma tini ma mano ka rapa te whai – many hands make light work*

## G. New Zealand Honours 2025 List

We congratulate Judith Bell on being awarded MNZM (Member of the New Zealand Order of Merit) for services to music education. Judith is honoured as a multi-instrumentalist and award-winning music educator who has made significant contributions in Canterbury and nationally to music education.

## H. Civic Awards

The following IRMTNZ members received Civic Awards this year:

- We congratulate Rachel Brownrigg on her Civic Award from Napier City Council for her dedication to music teaching and being the driving force behind Hawke's Bay Young Musician of the Year.
- We congratulate Guy Donaldson on his Civic Award from Palmerston North City for his work as a tireless champion for music education and performance.

## I. IRMTNZ Awards

### ***Distinguished Branch Member***

- We congratulate Glenys Kempshall of the Hawke's Bay Branch for her nomination as Distinguished Branch Member which has been approved by Council. Glenys' citation was read by Mary McHattie, Chair of the Hawke's Bay Branch. Glenys had been presented with her certificate at a branch function earlier in the year.

### ***Honorary Fellows***

- Dr Jian Liu was invited to become an Honorary Fellow by Council and has accepted. Head of Piano Studies at Te Kōkī New Zealand School of Music (NZSM), Jian is known to our members as a masterclass tutor, adjudicator and accomplished pianist. Together with bass trombonist Shannon Pittaway, Jian performed a memorable concert at our recent national Conference, 'Ignite!'
- Debbie Rawson was invited to become an Honorary Fellow by Council and has accepted. A former tutor at NZSM, clarinetist and saxophonist Debbie is a member of several ensembles, including The Kugels who entertained us

brilliantly at the 'Ignite!' Conference dinner. Debbie also gave a masterclass at 'Ignite!'

**Fellow**

- We congratulate Susan Smith of the Auckland Branch for her nomination as Fellow, which has been approved by Council. Susan's citation was read by Annemarie Gasparini, Chair of the Auckland Branch. Susan will be presented with her Fellow certificate at a suitable future branch function.

**Life Member Nominations**

The following IRMTNZ members were nominated by their respective branches for Life Membership, were unanimously approved by Council for their nominations, and were presented to the members at the AGM for election as Life Members:

- Sian Williamson – Sian's citation was read by Louise Logan of the Wellington Branch
- Margaret Maw – Margaret's citation was read by Janey Seed, Chair of the Christchurch Branch
- Wendy Hunt – Wendy's citation was read by Mary McHattie, Chair of the Hawke's Bay Branch

The Registered members present at the AGM voted their approval of the above Life Members, and all three nominated Life Members were approved unanimously by all members present.

**J. Minutes of the 2024 Annual General Meeting**

The President moved from the Chair that the minutes of the 2024 Annual General Meeting be adopted as a true and accurate record of the meeting. The motion was Carried unanimously.

**K. Matters arising from the 2024 AGM Minutes**

There were no matters arising.

**L. President's Address**

The President's 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Report was published in the AGM document pack which had been distributed to members in early January 2024, and on the website (Members Only Resource Page). The President summarized her report and announced that IRMTNZ is in good shape: we have energy, friendship and dogged determination. We have faced many challenges over the past few years and our light is still shining from within!

Wendy Hunt, the outgoing President, highlighted three key areas of focus from the IRMTNZ Strategic Plan:

- Membership growth and branch involvement – this will help us financially and professionally
- Embracing diversity in terms of cultural, genre and learning needs diversity.
- Developing qualifications – the Graduate Diploma has hit a few roadblocks, due to circumstances out of our control, which we are working through

In closing, the President thanked the members for their support during her term and urged the members to:

- Honour the Past
- Embrace the Present, and

- Challenge the Future

The President moved from the Chair that her report be accepted. The motion was Carried unanimously.

#### **M. Presentation of Accounts and Appointment of Auditor**

The Registrar presented the audited accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 (as per the AGM document pack that had been distributed to members) and took the members through the entries to explain key points.

The Registrar pointed out the following key messages from the accounts:

- For the second year running, there has been a decline in membership revenue since the previous year. Increasing our new membership numbers (to offset the numbers of members retiring or resigning) continues to be the focus moving forward.
- Revenue from “activities providing services” (such as Professional Development events) declined in the 2024 year when compared to the previous year, and encouraging more members to attend local and national events was critical to maintaining appropriate professional development events for our members.
- Investment income has made the difference between a net deficit in 2023 and a net surplus in 2024.

The Registrar mentioned that we need the help of all members to encourage those teaching music who are not registered to join IRMTNZ, and more members to join their local branch.

The President noted that, as part of the Strategic Plan, Council is working on the implementation of One Subscription (which will replace the separate national and branch subscriptions that currently exist). This is a major change for IRMTNZ and will require detailed consideration of all the implications and the practicalities of how it would work. A tentative timeline for this is the financial year beginning 1 April 2027 (although this may be extended if required). Council will keep members informed as we work through understanding the processes involved in making this change.

The President moved from the Chair that the IRMTNZ consolidated accounts be accepted. The motion was Carried unanimously.

The Registrar noted that PKF Goldsmith Fox had been very good to work with during the audit and thanked the Branch Treasurers and Secretaries for their work in providing the information requested by the accountant and by the auditor.

The President moved from the Chair that PKF Goldsmith Fox be appointed as the auditor for the 2025 year. The motion was Carried unanimously.

Sian Williamson then moved a vote of thanks to Elene Anderson for all the work she does for the IRMTNZ.

#### **N. New Registrations**

The Registrar noted that the number of new registrations had increased slightly with 29 new members as at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024, which is an increase of 3 from the previous year. The continued difficult economic climate has resulted in some retired members deciding to resign, which raises concerns about overall membership

numbers, but in general, most members have been able to maintain their pupil numbers and teaching by continuing to innovate, use online methods etc.

The following new registrations were granted in the 2024 year:

Associate Membership (AIRMTNZ):	19
Provisional to Associate Membership:	4
Provisional Membership:	4

In addition, 7 members have been granted renewal of their Leading Associate Membership (LAIRMTNZ), and we have 2 new Honorary Fellows.

IRMTNZ now has 19 Affiliate Organisations and 4 Affiliate Individuals. Branches are asked to help identify potential Affiliate Individuals to grow this category of membership.

**O. Renaissance 2025, 14 February, Napier**

The President explained that the new model for Professional Development events is to run, in alternate years, Council-supported Branch events and National Conferences. The Branch events may of course be attended by anyone, but will hopefully empower Branch members to be active and invigorated. They may be linked to local events of interest.

Renaissance, to be held in Napier on February 14<sup>th</sup> 2025, is a one-day Council-supported Branch event, with encouragement to stay for as many Art Deco festivals as members wish. This event will celebrate and display resilience in action. This is the anniversary day of Cyclone Gabrielle, and the Art Deco festival literally dances on the rubble of the devastating 1931 earthquake. The sessions will involve attendees in personal wellbeing, educating the 21<sup>st</sup> century pupil, enjoying old and new music styles

The President encouraged members to attend and hoped to see more members enrolling for the event and to enjoy some Hawke’s Bay joie de vivre.

**P. IRMTNZ Conference 2026: Nelson**

Members were urged to save the dates of Wednesday 8 April – Friday 10 April 2026 for the next IRMTNZ Conference, which will be held at the Nelson Centre for Musical Arts. Further details will be announced in due course in *Ritmico Online* and in Council newsletters to the members.

**Q. Membership Fees**

The Council proposed the following annual membership fees for the year 1 April 2025 to 31 March 2026.

- Full members (AIRMT, LAIRMT, FIRMT DBM-AIRMT) \$200.00  
\$10 discount for prompt payment by 30<sup>th</sup> April, for these members only.
- Provisional members \$110.00  
No prompt payment discount.
- Retired members \$80.00  
No prompt payment discount.
- Affiliate Teachers \$155.00  
No prompt payment discount
- Overseas members \$80.00  
No prompt payment discount.
- Affiliate Individuals \$85.00

No prompt payment discount.

- Affiliate Organisations \$110.00  
No prompt payment discount.

These fees are to be inclusive of GST, with the exception of the overseas member fee which is exclusive of GST.

The President moved from the Chair that these fees are set as per proposed. The motion was Carried unanimously.

#### **R. Representation Numbers**

From the registrations prior to the AGM (69), members from the following IRMTNZ Districts were present:

District 1	Northland & Auckland	19
District 2	Waikato; Hawkes Bay; Bay of Plenty; Rotorua-Taupo	12
District 3	Wellington; Kapiti; Wanganui; Taranaki; Manawatu	16
District 4	ChCh; Canterbury; West Coast; Nelson-Marlborough	16
District 5	Otago; Southland	6

#### **S. General Business**

There were no matters of general business raised by the members.

The President thanked the members for their continued support of IRMTNZ.

*Ehara taku toa it e toa takitahi. Engari he toa takitini.  
Success is not the work of one, but the work of many*

The incoming President, Katherine Jones, thanked the President for her leadership and hard work over the past Council term.

Messages of thanks were received from Sian Williamson, Wallace Woodley, and Alison Hansen.

#### **T. Meeting Closure**

The meeting concluded at 5:00 pm with a karakia.