

## **Nomination for Fellowship IRMTNZ – JOCELYN DONALDSON**

Jocelyn was born in the West Coast town of Greymouth. From an early age she was surrounded by music and her first exposure to music lessons was with the nuns at the local convent school.

At the age of 16 Jocelyn started playing the organ at church. She commented that the hymns helped her sight reading, an important skill which has continued to benefit her to this day.

Jocelyn completed her LTCL at the Nelson School of Music before embarking on a nursing career which took her to Waikato Hospital – the biggest inland hospital in Australasia.

It was at her sister's wedding that she met her husband-to-be – a Southland farmer – and they settled close to the town of Winton.

Jocelyn travelled to Invercargill two days each week to provide music lessons at St Theresa's Catholic Primary School before establishing her own practice. Her pupils continue to be successful in Royal School of Music, Trinity College, and ABRSM exams. Jocelyn is also an ardent supporter of NZMEB pianoforte and theory and is a current member of the Registration Board of IRMTNZ.

An avid supporter of all kinds of arts, Jocelyn is a trustee on the Invercargill City Council Creative Communities Trust, Assistant Convenor for the Instrumental section of the Southland Competitions Society and has recently joined the A Capella choir. Her community involvement includes as a church organist, accompanist, piano soloist and duettist. Jocelyn is an active member of the Southland Women's Club, and in her role in the Music Circle can often be found accompanying both soloists and the choir, and in more recent times, conducting the choir. Amongst her many talents is an ability to write successful funding applications on behalf of the Friends of Cathedral Music Southland Branch, and the St Mary's Basilica Fundraising Committee – the funds were used to restore the 100-year-old Casson Positive Organ and purchase the Blitz Organ which will soon be installed in the Basilica. She was also a committee member of Concert South. Her other community activities include helping Meals on Wheels and she is an accomplished artist. Her overseas trips always incorporate a musical theme, and to this end she has visited many famous cathedrals and birthplaces of notable musicians.

Jocelyn became a Registered Music Teacher (AIRMTNZ) of Piano and Theory on 1 September 1978 and in 2017 Jocelyn was approved as a Leading Associate of the Institute of Registered Music Teachers NZ (LAIRMTNZ). Jocelyn was elected on to the Council of the Institute of Registered Music Teachers in January 2007. During her time on Council Jocelyn has been a very active member of several sub committees: Registration Board, Finance and Teacher Education as well as helping to develop the course content for the Foundation, Intermediate and Advanced Teacher Training Courses. Jocelyn is a mentor for several Provisional members and a moderator for the Foundation Course. She is a highly valued member of the IRMTNZ Council and is about to enter her sixth term representing Otago/Southland.

Jocelyn has always been an advocate for continuing professional development. To this end she has arranged several seminars and masterclasses for the Southland Branch which have featured prominent musicians. Jocelyn keeps herself up to date with current musical trends and makes herself available to help less experienced teachers. In her teaching practice she adopts a holistic approach having equal concern for the welfare of the student as well as teaching piano.

Jocelyn regularly attends the IRMTNZ conferences. She has been an active member of the Southland Branch since 1999, at various times holding the office of Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, Secretary/Treasurer, Communications Secretary and Council Representative. Jocelyn was instrumental in establishing the inaugural Junior and Intermediate Scholarship in 2017.

Jocelyn epitomises a registered music teacher in today's world and is a credit to the profession.

It is with much admiration and pleasure that the Southland Branch nominates Jocelyn Donaldson for a Fellowship of the IRMTNZ.