

## Nomination for Fellowship IRMTNZ – SIAN WILLIAMSON

Sian has a private teaching practice in Upper Hutt and has also taught music in schools as a relief classroom teacher and itinerant piano teacher. She relates well to children of all ages and levels. Teachers in her community frequently look to her for guidance and she has a gift for motivating and bringing people together.

When *Expressions Whirinaki Arts and Entertainment Centre* was built, Sian encouraged everyone to support the drive for a piano. She never misses a concert at Expressions and encourages others to attend. Sian also regularly attends concerts in Wellington including the NZSO and Chamber Music New Zealand.

Sian registered as an Associate of the Institute in July 1992. From 1997 to 1999 she was a committee member of the Wellington Branch, and then was Branch Chairperson from 1999 to 2004, and Vice-Chairperson from 2004 to 2007. Sian's capacity for voluntary work was immense. She steered many Branch activities and for several years edited the Branch newsletter. In 2008 Sian was elected as a Distinguished Branch Member. She regularly attends and assists with Wellington Branch activities, including committee meetings.

One of Sian's greatest contributions to Wellington Branch IRMTNZ was *A Musical Legacy – Wellington Branch IRMT Centennial History*, which she co-authored with Caryl Watson. This involved many hours of painstaking research and collation of material, writing and re-writing. *A Musical Legacy* was published by Wellington Branch IRMTNZ in 2009. Sian was Convenor of the 2000 and 2008 IRMTNZ Conferences held in Wellington. In this capacity she secured international and national guests, and sponsorship.

Sian was nominated to the IRMTNZ Council by Wellington Branch in 2014 to complete the 2013-16 term for District 3 on the sad passing of Judith Clark, and she began her role on 21 August 2014. She was again nominated for the 2016-19 term as a Council member for District 3 (and has been nominated for the next 3-year term). Sian has been an active and enthusiastic member of Council and she convened the Talkfest held in Wellington, January 2016, a defining moment in the reinvigoration of the IRMTNZ. She was the leader of various Action Ensembles to implement actions from Talkfest, and her roles have included updating the Code and Ethics, developing Health and Safety documentation, and developing the Marketing and Communications Plan which is currently being implemented. She has also contributed to the IRMTNZ Journal, *Ritmico*.

Sian has been extremely generous with her time for Council and it is with much admiration and gratitude that Wellington Branch nominates Sian Williamson for a Fellowship of the IRMTNZ.