

New Zealand Accordion Association (NZAA)



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President:	John Statham
Vice-President:	Harley Jones
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Committee:	Campbell Bettridge, Kathryn Fletcher, Leilani MacDonald, Heather Masefield, Stephen Vincent, Rien Wills
Competition Secretary:	Anne Marie Panzic

Internet Site: www.accordion.co.nz

News from New Zealand...

Allan William Jones Memorial Scholarship Evening:

The 2004 Merit Award was presented to Campbell Bettridge, a NZ representative at the CIA Coupe Mondiale in Sweden - 1995, London - 2001 and he was the highest placed New Zealander in Copenhagen in 2002 when he achieved a third placing. Campbell holds the Accordion Teachers Diploma of New Zealand, an Associate of the Institute of Registered Music Teachers and is currently teaching the accordion part time at the Music Education Centre. Campbell has been an active committee member of the NZ Accordion Association for many years and has enjoyed fostering the accordion.

NZAA at 56th Coupe Mondiale: The NZAA was represented at the 56th Coupe Mondiale in Slovakia and Hungary by Mylie and Hilary Thwaites and Shanxi Upsdell.

CIA Awards: The NZAA was delighted and extremely proud that member Christine Adams was voted to receive the 'CIA Merit Award' for her development of the Accordions Worldwide International News and that NZAA Secretary Marie Jones was voted to receive the newly established 'Honored Friend of the Accordion' award in recognition of the many years of work coordinating NZAA activities in New Zealand.

NZAA South Pacific Championships in Auckland, NZ: The 2004 New Zealand and South Pacific Accordion Competitions welcomed featured Guest Artist, Pavel Mangassaryan the 2003 CIA Winner of the CIA International Competition for Piano Accordion, as well as festival competitors from China, Australia and New Zealand.

Pavel Mangassaryan thrilled the audience with his accordion mastery, demonstrating why he was judged the winner of the 2003 International Competition for Piano Accordion. The concert also showcased selected New Zealand and South Pacific competition winners.

The concert also provided us the opportunity to publicly thank the three NZAA members who competed at the 2003 Coupe Mondiale, Mylie and Hilary Thwaites and Shanxi Upsdell. Each were presented with special awards acknowledging the hours of practice, their single-minded dedication, along with the personal expenses of both time and money to compete at this level. It was also a perfect opportunity to publicly present to Marie Jones the CIA Honored Friend of the Accordion Award and to Christine Adams the CIA Merit Award.

Accordion now offered at Auckland University: In November 2002, a milestone for the accordion in New Zealand was created when Kathryn Fletcher completed her Bachelor of Music in Accordion Performance at Auckland University. This was the first time accordion had been accepted into a University in New Zealand. Among the jury for this historical event was CIA President Kevin Friedrich. The accordion program at Auckland University now offers accordionists the opportunity to continue their accordion and musical studies at a higher education facility, marking an important development for the future of the accordion in New Zealand.

Music Expo 2004: Accordion House and the NZAA were featured exhibitors during the three day New Zealand Music Expo '04 providing continuous music and information to trade show attendees and guests. Music was provided by many of the NZAA Accordion Champions from the 2004 Festival.