

June 2021

Dear NZMEB followers,

It is with great sadness that we would like to let you know that Beverley Read, whose inspiration, beliefs and drive founded NZMEB, passed away on Thursday 24 June 2021.

Having taught piano for a long time, Beverley had very strong beliefs about how she thought her students should be examined, appreciating the holistic model offered by AMEB. In 2005, on learning that they were leaving New Zealand shores, Beverley took action and with a group of like-minded people developed and created the New Zealand Music Examinations Board to take their place. With a desire to acknowledge the importance of New Zealand music and use the New Zealand musicians she knew so well as examiners, NZMEB was up and running within a year, with the first exams offered in 2006. This belief in the power of our local music community remained with Beverley always, along with her concern that young musicians in New Zealand have a system of examinations that enables them to become useful musicians. Beverley's commitment saw her working on board matters until just a couple of weeks ago.

Beverley loved company and worked hard to make connections with people. She had a very loyal following of friends, students and colleagues who will miss her enormously. We would like to send our sincere condolences to Beverley's three children and eight grandchildren.

