

Auckland Branch Nomination of June Logie for NZGS President's Distinguished Service Award

June Logie, a longstanding member of the Society, participated in the Auckland Branch activities for many years while a teacher at Auckland Girls Grammar, and served as Auckland Branch representative on the Board of Geography Teachers on a number of occasions. In 2003, following retirement from teaching, June underpinned the organisation of the very successful New Zealand Geography conference at Auckland. When the Society's Head Office moved to Auckland she was appointed as Executive Manager and has held that position since early 2004. At the same time she was appointed Vice President of the Society. This background of experience in the wider geographical community was to prove invaluable in giving her confidence and resolve in the frequently difficult situations that have recently confronted the Society.

Over the past five years the Society's Head Office functions and related services have been in June's capable, firm and reassuring hands. As Executive Manager, she has been integral to the activities of the Society and played a pivotal role in its life. Charting her service contributions is to chart the Society's activities, its work, its successes and difficulties, its development and in important respects its continued existence, during probably the most challenging and demanding conditions in its history. Her work and the qualities that she brings to it provide a measure of the strength and virtues of the Society.

June Logie has served through dedication and commitment to the Society's aspirations, her passion for geography at a practical level, a depth of knowledge as a senior teacher, strategic understandings of the implications of Ministry of Education directives and policy shifts, reflective guidance about Society traditions and ambitions, humanity in counselling and mentoring students and staff and professionalism and honesty in every sphere of activity. As a long-standing member of the executive of the Auckland Branch June has mentored several generations of the executive with patience and a deep knowledge of NZGS affairs.

June has anchored the Head Office team of National Secretary and National Treasurer at Auckland and has given a level of continuity to the Society that is often underestimated and undervalued. Working with busy and often distracted academics her patience, empathy, quiet efficiency, sense of operational priorities and regard for deadlines provided the glue needed to ensure crucial Head Office functions were mostly completed to schedule! Her capacity to name and face the often taxing issues meant a high level of realism was brought to the Society's management. June's service has the qualities of conviction, outreach and optimism, and a deep commitment to the discipline.

An abbreviated list of June's substantial and special contributions must include managing the transition of the Head Office from Waikato to Auckland; undertaking liaison and support for the BOGT through the annual cycle of its activities; organising the regional rounds and national finale of the Matangi Whenua Level 11 competition; preparation and publication of the *Network* and *Newsletter*, which detail activities of interest to schools and individual members; coordinating the operation of the Geography Resource Centre; assisting with the publication of the *New Zealand Journal of Geography* and co-managing the transition of it to new publisher Wiley-Blackwell; managing the Society's website; establishing a management team for the EXITO resource kit

development and production; organising geography conferences; and serving tirelessly for many years on the Auckland Geography Teachers Association and the executive of the Auckland Branch of the NZGS.

June Logie is long due formal recognition from the NZGS and a worthy recipient of a President's Distinguished Service Award.