



District Commander John Price presents Dorothy with her Certificate of Service at her retirement ceremony in 2020.

RETIRED NEW ZEALAND POLICE Detective Sergeant Dorothy McPhail has been named the recipient of the 2023 IAWP Heritage Award. The Heritage Award is a unique honour bestowed upon an individual member of the organisation by the International Association of Women Police to recognise substantial and significant contributions to women police and to the IAWP.

Dorothy served 35 unblemished years of service with the Canterbury District of New Zealand Police, retiring as a Detective Sergeant. In her stellar career and her work with IAWP, Dorothy has exemplified the importance of reaching out and giving back.

Dorothy was introduced to the IAWP in 2004, when she was awarded the IAWP Annual Scholarship to attend the conference in Boston, Massachusetts. When asked recently what IAWP has meant to her, Dorothy says: "I have met some amazing people through IAWP and have been able to utilise the knowledge I have gained in my day-to-day work."

A Lifetime Commitment

Since attending that first conference, Dorothy has returned an ongoing commitment to IAWP that

has served this organisation well. She has attended 17 IAWP conferences and numerous board meetings, has held several board positions and committee memberships and has amplified her knowledge, gifts and abilities to progress the mission of IAWP.

She is a valued member of IAWP, as she models all its guiding values, operating professionally, whether in uniform or when representing IAWP. As a lifelong traveller, Dorothy is comfortable with diversity and is the epitome of one who embraces change. In any task she undertakes, Dorothy has always been proactive, determined and discreet; she generates trust through curious inquiry and focused listening.

Dorothy is also well-known for being consistently open, honest and fair. When she was approached



Dorothy was the IAWP Annual Scholarship recipient in 2004. That launched her long-standing contributions to the organisation.



Top photo, Dorothy with fellow board members at the 2013 IAWP conference in South Africa. Bottom photo: Dorothy did her initial police training at the Royal New Zealand Police college in 1985.

about her nomination for the IAWP Heritage Award, her immediate concern was for others she felt could be equally or more deserving of recognition. Dorothy's efforts in binding the critical working relationship between the IAWP and the Australasian Council of Women and Policing (ACWAP) have ensured the success of these important partnership conferences in both 2017 and 2023.

Paving the Way for Others

When *WomenPolice* magazine asked Dorothy what had kept her involved with IAWP, even hosting two international conferences over the years, she answered: "Being able to combine overseas travel with attending IAWP conferences all over the world has been incredible for me, and I am keen for others from my own country to be able to experience a conference."

So, in her home in Auckland, New Zealand, the host city of this year's IAWP-ACWAP training conference, we acknowledge retired Detective Sergeant Dorothy McPhail, who has lived her career and her personal life strengthening, uniting and raising the capacity of women in policing internationally. She is truly deserving of the International Association of Women Police Heritage Award for 2023. 🇺🇦

Dorothy McPhail and the IAWP

Over the years, Dorothy has been an active and valued member of the IAWP. Here are just some of her contributions through the years:

2021: Co-produced video presentations of the 2021 Award Winners which were used in virtual presentations for the COVID-restricted IAWP conference from Indonesia.

2019-present: Served as Auckland 2023 IWPC conference committee member and initiated the joint 2023 ACWAP-IAWP conference. Was a member of the original bid committee, promoted same at Niagara Falls 2022 and has continued in an advisory and liaison role throughout the preparation of this event.

2019–2021: Worked with website developer to revamp the IAWP website

2018-present: Co-chair of the International Scholarship Committee

2013-present: Constitution committee member

2014-2017: Member of the Cairns conference committee, acting in an advisory and liaison role between IAWP and ACWAP and promoting the event at the Cardiff and Barcelona conferences

2012-2018: Served as Region 24 Regional Coordinator, liaising with IAWP members within the region via a Facebook page and email and running regional meetings at IAWP conferences while attending AGMs at IAWP conferences

Contributed articles for the IAWP's flagship *WomenPolice* magazine

Contributed IAWP conference articles for New Zealand Police publications

Sponsored IAWP life membership for an African IAWP member



Dorothy in the parade at the IAWP conference in Boston 2004.

A History of Service

Throughout her career, Dorothy McPhail has contributed to the police profession off the job through her work with organisations. Among the ways she has served her police community are:

2019–present: ACWAP Journal editor and member of ACWAP executive – produce three editions of the journal each year, which are distributed both digitally and in hard copy throughout Australasia

Nominated people for ACWAP awards and has served on the selection panel for ACWAP awards

1998–present: Committee member Canterbury Women in Policing Network; Chairperson 2001-2009

2007: Awarded a District Commanders Commendation for work with Canterbury Women In Policing

1994, 2005: Organised the National Police Triathlon Championships in Christchurch, New Zealand

About the Heritage Award

The Heritage Award is bestowed upon an individual member by the International Association of Women Police. Heritage Award recipients represent the legacy of the IAWP. They ensure that the historical memory of the organisation continues to grow. Through their active involvement in the history of the IAWP and their determination to see the organisation evolve, these leaders address core goals and demonstrate the honour it is to serve the IAWP. The bestowing of this honour ensures the recording, recognition of and appreciation for outstanding and dedicated service to IAWP over a period of years – especially during milestones of the organisation.

Dorothy with fellow Canterbury Police staff celebrating 75 years of women in policing.



