

# Citation for life membership of Repertory Invercargill

Nominated by Nola Calvert and passed unanimously

AGM 26th April 2023

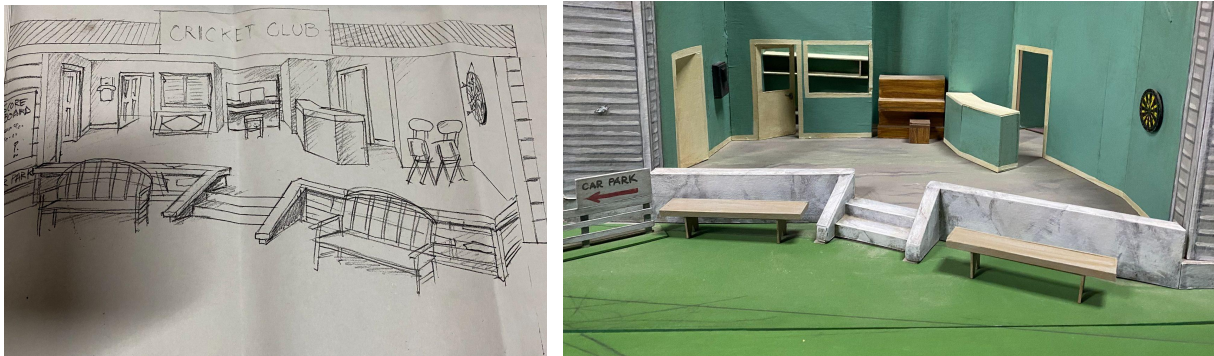
## MALCOLM McDONALD



Malcolm McDonald has been beavering away behind the scenes at Invercargill Repertory for many years. At the same time he has also been creating sets for Invercargill Musical Theatre and the Ballet Society.

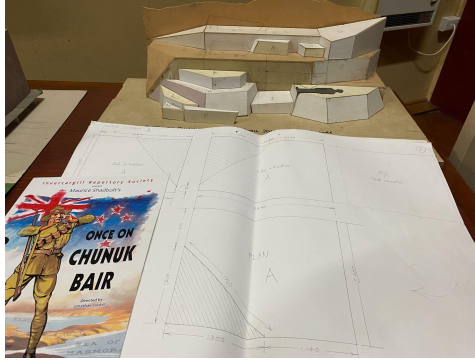
The first plays for us Malcolm was involved with were *The Importance of Being Earnest* in 1976, followed by *Harvey* in 1977 and *The Effects of Gamma Rays on Man in the Moon* the year after that. After a spell living up north he returned to Invercargill and once again was busy with designing and creating the magnificent vineyard scene of *Spreading Out* in 2006. The next year it was *Night of the Iguana*, *Last Gasp at the Parched Throat Saloon* and *Alone it Stands* (where he portrayed the crowd at the rugby). Then it was *Brigadier* in 2008, *Boeing Boeing* in 2009, and *Outside Edge* in 2010. In

2011 he designed a car, a gondola and four interchanging sets for *Four Flat Whites in Italy*. The same year he was also part of the team for *Are You Being Served*.



Malcolm created the beautiful garden backdrop for *Hay Fever* in 2012 and again a garden backdrop for *Mum's Choir* in 2013. We will all remember the gigantic cliff face of polystyrene made out of blocks which the actors could hide behind or act in that he made for *Once on Chunuk Bair* 2015. After a wee spell it was *Central* in 2018 (reusing the vineyard scene from *Spreading Out*), *Venus in Fur* 2019 and *On the Right Track* in 2020. In 2021 it was *Blackadder*, *the Golden Age* and *Secret Bridesmaids' Business*, last year *18 Eden Avenue*, *Killer Boobs* and *Wanted One Body*. This year he has carried on perfecting his skill with *Blackadder*, *Butler to the Prince*.





We are all aware of Malcolm’s talent in creating sets and his fastidiousness that all should be perfect. Each of the sets he has been involved with in recent years has involved hundreds and hundreds of hours of his time and we are so grateful that he shares his time and talent with us. The sets for *18 Eden Avenue* and *Blackadder, Butler to the Prince*, where he created triangular revolving sets, with each of the sides forming another room, each spectacularly painted and dressed, have been magnificent. On opening night of *18 Eden Avenue* when the curtains opened, the audience applauded, appreciating what a clever vision was in front of them. That set deservedly won the Best Set Category in the OSTA awards. And on the opening night of the last *Blackadder* play he wasn’t happy with a framed picture of the Prince, so by the second performance it had been redone.

