



## Introducing Tool Blacks Team Member

**Name:** Joy Knight  
**Skill:** Floristry  
**From** JOYFLORA® Florist Ltd, Christchurch

Joy has been selected to represent New Zealand as an international judge in the Floristry skill category at the 2009 WorldSkills Competition in Calgary, September 2009. Joy has been a leading expert in the Floristry industry for over 30 years and has travelled all over the world with her work having originally learned her craft as an apprentice in Scotland.

Joy has a passion for the Floristry industry and enjoys the challenge of keeping at the top of her field. She is a board member of the NZ Horticulture ITO where she represents Florists New Zealand Inc. (FLONZI) in floristry and floriculture as a career, and is the driving force with her enthusiasm and knowledge in these categories. Joy supports the NZHITO Young Horticulturist of the Year competition and sees the WorldSkills International competition as a 'lead in' to this. Joy sees her WorldSkills selection as an opportunity to make a difference, to encourage young people into the Floristry trade and help grow the skill level and training techniques. Joy is also a tutor for Academy New Zealand, Christchurch. Joy holds a position on the advisory board of Maori Qualification for Horticulture on Maori lands.

At the 2008 WorldSkills National Final competitions in Wellington at WelTec Joy was presented with a worldskills certificate in recognition of her outstanding contribution to Worldskills Champions Exchange - the first of these to be received in New Zealand.

Having been involved with WorldSkills for the past 7 years, this is the second time Joy will be part of WorldSkills judging team and the first time she will have a competitor from New Zealand. She is keen to network with the other judges and promote New Zealand as an international centre of skill excellence in all the trades. Joy would encourage any young person to enter the WorldSkills Competitions as it is a great learning opportunity and helps boost self esteem and confidence whilst working as a team and making friends.

Joy cites "passion for your trade and a go-for-it attitude" as essential building blocks for a successful career. She has travelled the world with her trade and understands the importance of gaining a high standard in internationally recognised qualifications. To this end, she continues to make every effort to ensure the training standards in New Zealand equate to those set overseas and sees WorldSkills as the ultimate tool for benchmarking our progress in this country. Joy says, "The New Zealand floristry industry needs to keep investing in our young people in industry training and Worldskills is the ideal avenue towards this investment."

### **You can help Joy get to WorldSkills in Calgary:**

Joy has funding from the NZ Horticulture ITO and Academy New Zealand. WorldSkills NZ and Joy would like to thank these organisations for their support of the Floristry competition.



Further donations towards Joy's total costs of \$11,500 would be appreciated. In doing so you are confirming your commitment to the development of Floristry skill levels in New Zealand. You will also give Joy the opportunity to wear the Silver Fern and represent New Zealand among the top trainers and industry representatives from around the world.