



**Nelson Mail**  
**16/01/2012**  
**Page: 1**  
**By: Anna Pearson**  
**Section: General News**  
**Region: Nelson Circulation: 15989**  
**Type: Provincial**  
**Size: 177.00 sq.cms**  
**Frequency: MTWTFS-**

# Good things come in threes for Dame Suzie

**Anna Pearson**

annap@nelsonmail.co.nz

One thing is for sure: Dame Suzie Moncrieff has had a pretty good start to the year.

First, she was made a Dame Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit in the 2011 New Year Honours list.

Today, she was named a finalist in the annual New Zealander of the Year awards, described as a “visionary” and an “entrepreneur in the arts”.

And next week, she is flying to Hong Kong to realise her dream: the World of WearableArt’s first public show overseas.

“I think it’s going to be a good year,” she said.

The Kiwibank New Zealander of the Year is awarded for major contributions to the nation, through outstanding service to the country and inspiration through achievement.

Dame Suzie is joined by other finalists, Weta Workshop’s Sir Richard Taylor and Dr Sharad Paul, a plastic surgeon from Auckland who specialises in helping those with skin cancer.

“It’s a great honour to be nominated alongside two such amazing New Zealanders,” she said.

The awards announcement says Dame Suzie has “worked tirelessly to break down the barriers and make art accessible to all”.

She said: “I believe everyone has got a creative spirit and WOW gives them an opportunity to find that part of themselves. Anyone can enter and I think that’s what makes it so special.”

Dame Suzie returns from Hong Kong next month, in time for the New Zealander of the Year awards ceremony on February 16.

Then, it will be full steam ahead for this year’s WOW show in September.

Sir Richard has become a global player in the film industry with his animations and creations. He and his company created all of the props, costumes, prosthetics, miniatures and weaponry for *The Lord of the Rings* film trilogy. They were rewarded for the work with four Academy Awards.

Dr Paul gives more than 5000 free skin cancer checks a year from his surgery clinic in Auckland. In 2010, he was hailed for inventing the first new skin graft technique in more than 100 years. The procedure cuts costs, pain and healing time for patients. He also runs an award-winning bookstore in Auckland.



**Suzie Moncrieff**