



WHANGAREI
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Civic Honours

Citation – Loha Bruce

It is with pleasure that Whangarei District Council awards a Civic Honour to Loha Bruce.

Loha has been a member of Whangarei's Victim Support since joining the organisation in the early 1990s. In the last 17 years, she has helped many victims of crime regain control of their lives after suffering the trauma of assault, accident, personal invasion or tragedy.

Being a Victim Support volunteer means being on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week to provide support and help to some of the most vulnerable members of our society.

Commitment to Victim Support has seen Loha undertake numerous training courses over the years to better assist victims. As a trained homicide support worker, she was one of the first to hold that qualification in Whangarei. Other training has been in areas such as family violence, serious crashes, victim impact statements, Women's Refuge, brain injury and working with children.

Loha was a reasonably late comer to victim support work. She emigrated from Hong Kong to Kaikohe as a two year old and had an 18-year career in the Justice Department where she rose to the position of Acting Registrar. She was one of the first women to hold that position, before moving with her husband to Whangarei and beginning a long career in education here.

Joining Victim Support following the death of her mother in an accident, Loha began working on streamlining procedures between ambulance and police services. This brought her into contact with a Salvation Army officer who was impressed by her empathy and suggested she do voluntary work.

Loha chose Victim Support, where her familiarity with court procedures was of great assistance. She and her husband also worked as Ambulance volunteers for several years.

In the early years, the Victim Support organisation had a relatively low profile. Membership was slim, meaning Loha and other volunteers could work several days, usually weekends, without a break.

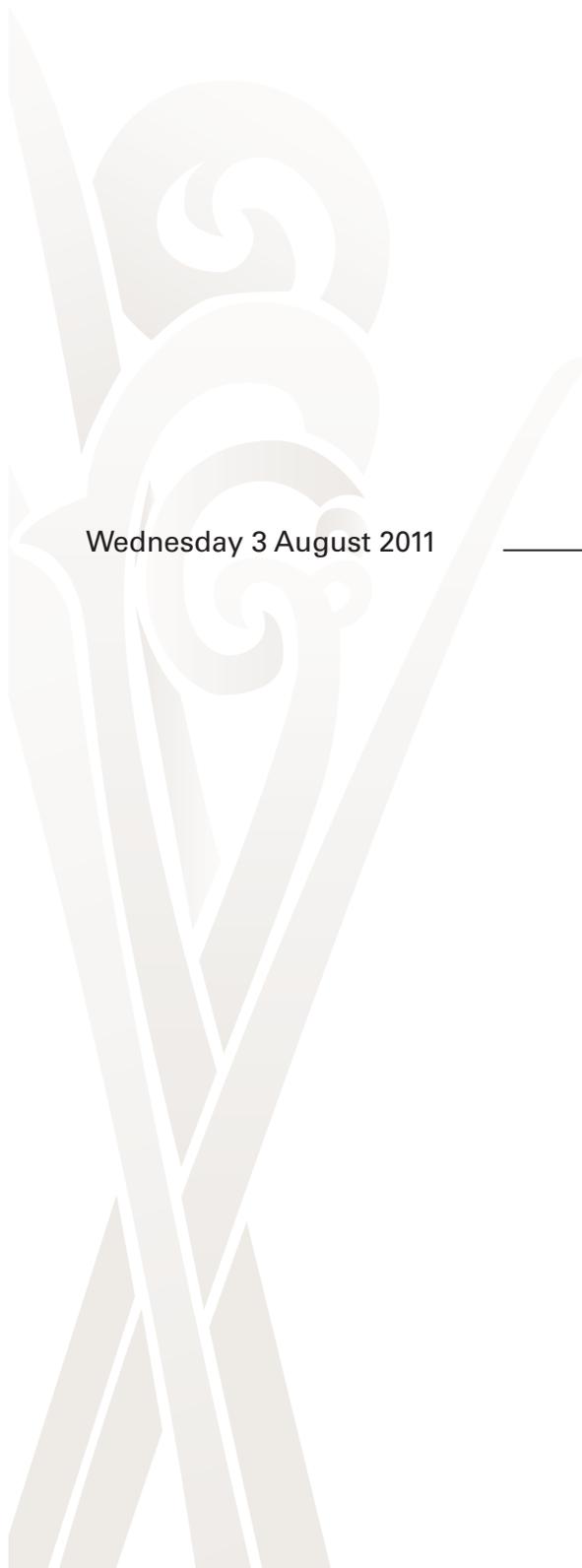
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Loha cites a supportive husband and extensive training as helping her cope with the on-going provision of emotional support and care to victims of trauma.

She has no intention of giving up her work with the organisation and gets great satisfaction from helping people overcome trauma and learn to live life again.

Countless victims and their families throughout Northland have benefitted from Loha's skills, empathy and care.

For this we honour her.



Wednesday 3 August 2011

Acting Mayor





WHANGAREI
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Civic Honours

Citation – Henry Davis

It is with pleasure that Whangarei District Council awards a Civic Honour to Henry Davis.

Known to all as Harry, he is a long time resident of Whangarei who has grown his love of the sport of bowls into the formation of a charity group which has raised money for the benefit hundreds of Northlanders in the last two decades.

After leaving Whangarei Boys High School in 1945 Harry trained as an engineer, beginning a career which would take him around New Zealand working for Caltex Oil.

He returned to Whangarei in 1977, the year that saw his renewed involvement in bowls that would later evolve into the charitable group Kitty Hawks.

Harry began playing the sport as a 30-year-old at the Kensington Club, in the days when bowls was very much considered the domain of the elderly. He then left the District to further his engineering career, before returning to Whangarei and rejoining the Kensington Club.

He was soon serving on the executive committee and was later elected Secretary and Secretary/Treasurer. In 1993 he was elected President and awarded a Life Membership for services to the club. He still plays there today.

It took only six months to establish the Kitty Hawk Bowling Club Northland. The camaraderie Harry experienced when playing around the country fired a vision to extend the scope of the sport by establishing a club which would benefit less fortunate Northlanders.

Taking its cue from an Auckland model, the Kitty Hawk Club Northland would extend from Leigh to the Far North. Seven of the 22 foundation members are still with the group and the current club's invited membership is close to 100.

Remembering his early days as a player, Harry recognised the importance of attracting young bowlers to maintain a vibrant membership.

The Kitty Hawks currently play two summer tournaments and one in winter on greens offered by established bowling clubs. All funds raised through entry fees and raffles are donated to organisations like Hospice, Westpac Rescue Helicopter, St Johns Ambulance, Child Cancer Foundation and Foundation for the Blind.

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The guiding motto of both Harry and the club is “to donate to people less fortunate than ourselves”.

Currently the club is nearing its \$22,000 target to provide a guide dog for a Northland resident. Overall, more than \$100,000 has been raised and distributed to worthy causes around the North thanks to Harry’s vision, passion and hard work.

Harry takes great pleasure in the club’s success. He retains his passion for the organisation of which he is now President and Secretary/Treasurer. From his own love of the sport, he has created a bowls charity group that has served and benefitted many throughout the North.

For this we honour him.

Wednesday 3 August 2011

Acting Mayor



WHANGAREI
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Civic Honours

Citation – Fraser Sim

It is with pleasure that Whangarei District Council awards a Civic Honour to Fraser Sim. Fraser has lifelong ties with the Waipu area, and his love of music and mastery of the bagpipes has brought pleasure to thousands of residents and visitors to the region.

Although Fraser first moved to Waipu as a youngster, his family connections reach back to the original settlers in the area. In the late 1800s his forebears were involved in the construction of the Waipu Presbyterian Church which is now one of the settlement's historic buildings.

Schooled in Waipu and Whangarei, Fraser then joined the Army which took him out of the District for many years before he returned to live in Waipu about nine years ago. From that point he began to weave his tapestry of involvement in community service, which continues today.

Joining the Whangarei Pipe Band as an 11-year-old and learning to play the bagpipes fanned the passion that would become a defining feature of Fraser's future years.

He was a founding member of the Junior Pipe Band and is now a member of the Waipu Pipe Band, where he currently holds the position of Pipe Major. Fraser is also Band Custodian, caring for the kilts, musical instruments and equipment that provide much of the spectacle and special atmosphere when the Band performs in public.

Fraser's love of music extends far beyond playing it. For almost a decade he has been sharing his love of music and the pipes by teaching bagpipes to pupils of Waipu Primary School and Bream Bay College. Many of his students are now part of the Waipu Pipe Band.

Rugby is another of Fraser's interests. He manages to combine it with his love of music by making the Waipu Rugby Team possibly the only team in the country to have its own pipe band. Often accompanied by other Pipe Band members, Fraser plays at all home games when the team takes the field, when it scores and at the half time interval.

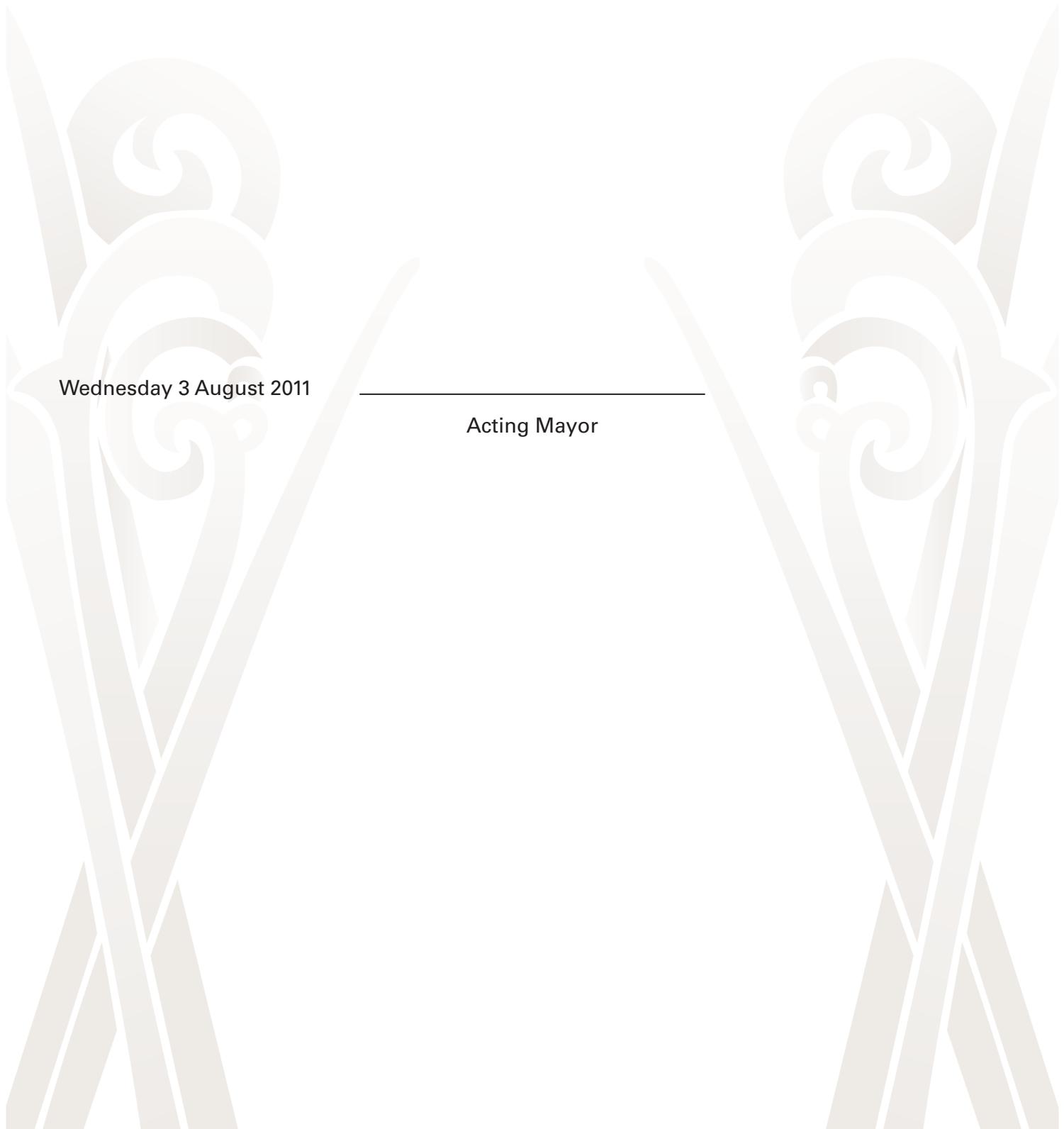
Fraser also combines his pipe playing with his love of Waipu's history and culture. He acts as solo piper for Museum events, often piping visiting tour parties into the Museum. He also plays at community market days, weddings and funerals.

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His Nova Scotian heritage has seen Fraser become a Chieftain in the Caledonian Society and take on the responsibility for raising and lowering the flags at the Waipu Caledonian Park on a daily basis.

Fraser's contribution to the Waipu and Bream Bay communities is immeasurable. His influence and passion have touched all who live there. Through the skirl of the pipes he helps them connect to their Celtic heritage and keep it alive.

For this we honour him.



Wednesday 3 August 2011

Acting Mayor



WHANGAREI
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Civic Honours

Citation – D’Arcy Bailey

It is with pleasure that Whangarei District Council awards a Civic Honour to D’Arcy Bailey.

Service to his country and community has defined the life of New Plymouth-born D’Arcy. He completed Territorial Force Service training before joining the Regular Force Army in 1961 and served in operations in both Malaya and Borneo.

D’Arcy was posted to Whangarei in the mid 1960s and has lived here ever since, apart from a few years travelling and working as an area representative for Castrol NZ.

Although he retired from military service after 18 years with a rank of Warrant Officer Class 2, he has maintained his association with the military through the RSA, of which he has been a member for close to 50 years serving at local, district and national levels.

Currently, D’Arcy is President of the Northland District RSA representing 13 associations and 8300 members. He is a member of the RNZRSA National Executive Committee and has served on the Youth, Finance, Awards, Membership, Futures and Sports Committees.

D’Arcy was awarded life membership of the RSA in 1997 after an involvement that saw him serve, on top of his executive duties, as a Poppy Day collector, on the Welfare Committee, as a visitor to hospitals, rest homes and private homes and as a celebrant at veterans’ funerals.

His service to the community has extended far beyond his involvement with the RSA. He is also a life member of the Kamo Club where he has served as Vice President and President and was Welfare Officer for ten years.

Outside the RSA and the Kamo Club, he cites his involvement with Hospice as one of his most rewarding contributions to the District. He is still a volunteer for North Haven Hospice, transporting patients to and from Auckland for treatment and care, as well as coordinating monthly meetings for those who have lost a loved one through terminal illness.

Family experience with cancer prompted D’Arcy’s Hospice involvement, and it is by word of mouth or a request for help that he takes on new projects.

Over the years, his seemingly tireless energy and willingness to help has seen him assisting with and leading fundraising campaigns for Hospice, the Cancer Society, Heart

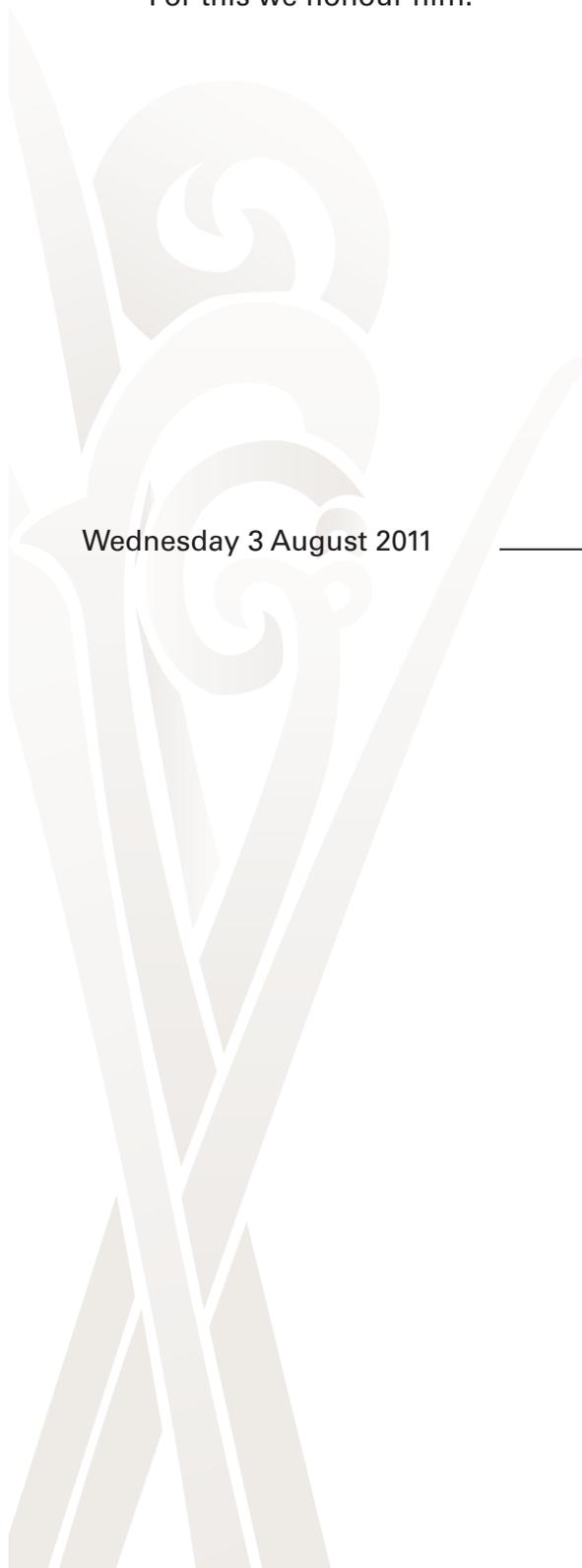
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Foundation, Blind Foundation, guide dog sponsorship and more. He has also been a Meals on Wheels volunteer with partner Jan since 2005.

For several years D'Arcy and Jan have taken Relay for Life teams of Whangarei Cadets Unit members and RSA personnel to compete in Auckland, and for more than 20 years he was the Whangarei RSA Cadet Force Liaison Officer which led to his involvement with the Whangarei Youth Network at The Pulse.

The lengthy list of D'Arcy's achievements and contributions reflects his deep concern for the welfare and care of others.

For this we honour him.



Wednesday 3 August 2011

Acting Mayor

