



CIVIC HONOUR

Pamela Mary Stevens

Whangarei District Council is proud to award a Civic Honour to Pamela Mary Stevens for her considerable contribution to the people of Whangarei and the environment.

Pam was born in the South Island. She married Grant in 1975 after a stint of overseas travel. They moved north to settle in Whangarei, where they have lived for 40 years. Pam taught in local schools until leaving to raise her three children.

While deeply involved in her children's lives, Pam also completed environmental papers at Northland Polytechnic and took on the role of Northland coordinator for Women Outdoors New Zealand, introducing women to kayaking and tramping. When her children left home, she worked part time in Grant's engineering consultancy business, which allowed her time to focus on the conservation and education projects dear to her heart.

One of these was the Friends of Matakohe-Limestone Island (FOMLI), to which Pam has devoted more than 20 years as a volunteer, committee member and chair. Under Pam's guidance, FOMLI has developed the island into a predator-free sanctuary for young kiwi, built durable support infrastructure, carried out extensive native reforestation, created a strong relationship with tangata whenua, and forged partnerships with GBC Winstone and Whangarei District Council. She was a significant force behind FOMLI's successful efforts to fund a full-time ranger on the island, and her Onerahi home, opposite the island, has become FOMLI's mainland base.

Pam's ecological values have also seen her involved with ongoing conservation projects and campaigns as a member of the Native Forest Action Council (NFAC), the New Zealand Canoeing Association and the 'Save the Rivers' campaign.

Education features as another of Pam's ongoing interests. Between 1982 and 2000, she teamed with four other young mothers to form the Storytime Children's Bookshop Co-operative aimed at addressing a lack of preschool and junior school educational materials in Whangarei. She was a member of the Onerahi Primary School Committee and Board of Trustees, and the Tikipunga High School Board of Trustees.

Pam has also served on the Te Kowhai Print Trust Board of Trustees for more than 13 years in the roles of chair, co-chair and committee member. During this time she has willingly taken on many other duties and tasks for this small arts-based organisation, including fundraising and building maintenance.

From 2013, Pam has acted as a broker between the Northland Regional Council, affected land owners and Whangarei District Council to reopen a track on an unformed legal road between Cartwright Road and Mt Tiger Road, previously known as the Waikaraka Walkway. She has led a group of Onerahi residents working to reinstate and clear the track in the hope that it will again become a popular recreational resource for the area, complementing other local walking and cycling tracks.

In 2016, Pam was awarded the Onerahi Association Order of Merit for her dedication to the preservation of Matakohe-Limestone Island, development of the Waikaraka Walkway, and involvement with the Onerahi School and Onerahi Kindergarten.

IT IS FOR THESE AND HER MANY OTHER SERVICES TO OUR COMMUNITY THAT WE NOW HONOUR HER.

.....
Her Worship the Mayor Sheryl Mai
WEDNESDAY 22 AUGUST

WHANGAREI
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CIVIC HONOUR

Russell Rawiri

Whangarei District Council takes great pleasure in awarding a Civic Honour to Russell Rawiri for his contribution to the wellbeing of the people of Hikurangi.

Born in Rawene and raised in Waimamaku, Russell left Northland in his early teens, returning in 1983 as a policeman with a wife and family of two daughters. His first position was in Waipu, however he subsequently applied for a policing role in Hikurangi and moved there with his family when he secured it.

Russell immersed himself in the Hikurangi community, with his love of people and sense of initiative bringing longstanding and positive change. He was a major force behind the introduction of the marae drivers' licensing programme to assist unlicensed drivers in gaining a legal driver's licence. He also helped organise over 70's driver testing in the District Council building in Hikurangi, and established rural and neighbourhood watch groups.

Russell was a member of the New Zealand Volunteer Fire Service for nine years, holding the rank of station officer. During this time he created the Fire Police Unit to assist the fire brigade with traffic and crowd control.

Russell was also an original member of the Waro Lake Project group and spent many voluntary hours developing Lake Waro into the community recreation resource it is today. This included taking two weeks' leave from work to drive a truck carting many hundreds of tonnes of fill from the limestone quarry to the lake for construction of the Lake Waro track and parking area.

Russell has gone out of his way to assist Hikurangi Primary School on both personal and professional levels. He has the respect and trust of the school's staff, pupils and parents, and has been an integral volunteer member of the committee organising the school's very important fundraising trail rides.

Also on a voluntary level, Russell takes Tae Kwon Do lessons for the community to promote self confidence, self esteem and self defence. He is a member and vice chairman of the Hikurangi RSA, proving especially helpful with local Anzac Day services for which he has been accorded the honour of raising and lowering the flag.

Russell attends meetings of many community groups to provide information on making Hikurangi a safer place. This includes the Hikurangi Business Association on where he has been an active member for many years, again offering advice to businesses on improved safety and security.

He has also been a valued and respected member of the Hikurangi Friendship House Charitable Trust for several years, the group responsible for caretaking of the Hikurangi War Memorial Hall on behalf of Whangarei District Council.

Russell has an extensive and comprehensive understanding of Hikurangi, its people and environment. He is well liked, well recognised and greatly appreciated by people of all ages within the community.

FOR THIS WE HONOUR HIM.

Her Worship the Mayor Sheryl Mai
WEDNESDAY 29 AUGUST

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CIVIC HONOUR

Fay Patricia Colthurst

Whangarei District Council takes great pleasure in awarding a Civic Honour to Fay Patricia Colthurst for her broad reaching service to the Whangarei community.

From an early age, Fay has been involved in community, sports, church and girl guiding activities. On her marriage to stock agent husband Frank, the couple lived in various places around the North Island, with Fay contributing to each through the Anglican Young Wives, tennis and squash clubs, and kindergarten committees.

When the family moved to Whangarei in 1970, Fay continued her community service as a member of the Whangarei Rugby Junior and Intermediate Management Boards, the Judicial Panel for Teenage Rugby, and the Horahora and Matarau Primary and Kamo High School Parent Teacher Associations. She also joined a group of Ruatangata tennis players, and supported their efforts to have artificial courts laid.

In 1982, Fay was appointed a Justice of the Peace (JP) for the Ruatangata community, and in 1984 she became a Judicial JP. She has since served on the Whangarei and County, and Whangarei and District, JP Associations, becoming president of the former from 1987-1988 and the latter from 1996-1998.

In 1999, Fay received the Thomas Kendall Award for her outstanding and meritorious services as JP president and training officer, and for her dedicated and efficient duties in all branches of the court. She was convenor of the Judicial Panel and, after 34 years, has just retired as the presiding JP officer and from her other regular judicial duties at the Whangarei Court House. Fay has also been training officer for both Ministerial and Judicial JPs and is now president of the Northland JP Association.

In her 20 years as a marriage celebrant, Fay has officiated at 574 weddings, all for just the cost of her petrol. In 2000, she also began a 17-year involvement with North Haven Hospice, first as a volunteer and then through operational and governance responsibilities. In 2010 she became a Hospice board member and chairperson. She trained in 'Nurturing Touch' palliative massage for patients, helped train new Hospice volunteers and advocated for and represented Hospice at various events.

In the 1970's, Fay took on a leadership role at the Kamo Rugby Club that saw the addition of squash as part of the Club. She played a central role in hosting major tournaments, and in 1973 became a founding member of the Kamo Squash Club, serving as women's squash club Captain in 1974-75 and 1983. She was chairperson of the Squash Committee, and in 1990 was made a life member of the Kamo Rugby and Squash Club Inc, serving as president from 2008 - 2010. Fay was also secretary of the Whangarei Junior Rugby Committee.

During the years that Frank coached the Northland Rugby Team, Fay supported the players' wives and partners. She assisted Frank in organising the annual Vikings Rugby Golf Tournament for many years and was a major contributor to other fundraising activities for the Vikings Rugby Club.

For five years Fay has also held an official but voluntary role as a community representative for a government department.

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WEDNESDAY 29 AUGUST

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CIVIC HONOUR

Warren James Daniel

Whangarei District Council takes great pleasure in awarding Warren James Daniel a Civic Honour for his outstanding contribution to the Ruakaka and One Tree Point communities.

Born in Eketahuna, Warren went to secondary school at Wellington College before heading to Sydney to study veterinary science. There he met and married Jean who returned to Hawera with him in 1962. The couple and their sons, Grant and Brett, subsequently moved to Ruakaka in 1967, where daughter Nicola was born.

As the local veterinarian for 30 years, Warren had a full daily work schedule but somehow also found time to be deeply involved in community activities.

In 1968, he helped create a foundation for the struggling Ruakaka Surf Lifesaving Club, holding the positions of Club house steward, vice president and president, introducing a constitutional change to allow women to join the Club and compete in events, and assisting the Club to grow into the robust organisation it is today.

In 1969, Warren joined the newly-formed Marsden Jaycees, his passion and talent for community improvement quickly recognised through the positions of organisation treasurer, vice president and president. In 1971, he was elected to the position of Deputy Governor of the Auckland/Northland Jaycee region and awarded a Jaycee International Senatorship for services to Jaycees and the community.

Living by the sea, yachting became a further interest and outlet for community service. In 1974, Warren became an inaugural member of the Marsden Yacht and Boat Club, holding the positions of Club commodore and vice commodore twice, and secretary three times. For many years he also coached the area's young sailors and acted as a race officer for both club and regional competitions. He is still active in all aspects of the club's activities today.

Between 1979 and 1983, Warren was a member of, and chaired, the Ruakaka Primary School Committee and Ruakaka Parish Residents and Ratepayers Association (RPRRA), the latter seeing him lobby successfully to have a police station established at Ruakaka.

When the Marsden Point Oil Refinery undertook a major expansion in the 1980's, significantly impacting the Ruakaka and One Tree Point areas, Warren became a member of the Whangarei Refinery Expansion Social Impact Group, disseminating expansion-related information from the Refinery to the community. As chairman of the RPRRA, he was also a driving force behind a move by the organisation to eliminate household septic tanks and introduce reticulated sewerage in both Ruakaka and One Tree Point.

Since 2004, Warren has been a thorough and proactive RPRRA secretary, writing submissions to councils and letters to government departments to ensure the Ruakaka and One Tree Point communities remain in the forefront of their minds, policies and planning. He has also served as secretary for the Ruakaka Scouts Group and the Ruakaka Economic Development Group.

In 2015, Warren was recognised as Ruakaka Citizen of the Year and, in 2017, he became the inaugural recipient of Bream Bay Sports Award for Community Impact.

As an advocate for, contributor to and supporter of that community, he knows few equals.

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WEDNESDAY 29 AUGUST

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