



CIVIC HONOURS

Awards 2020

John Shanks

Whangarei District Council takes great pleasure in awarding a Civic Honour to John Shanks for his service to the Whangārei community.

John has dedicated his life serving others through acts of volunteering, fundraising, coaching and mentoring. John is one of the longest serving, most respected rugby referees in New Zealand, served in the Auckland, Hauraki and 3 RNZIR (Auck, North) Territorial Regiments for 18 years. In the 1970's he was O.C. A Coy Whangārei and achieved the rank of Major. He has been a Rotarian for 30 years, acting as Club President among other leadership positions, and is a Paul Harris Fellow. John is still an active member of the Whangārei South Club today, and has served on many community volunteer groups.

John is married to Olive and they have raised a family of three children and have three grandchildren. John's working life has been in education, teaching initially in the Waikato and Auckland before coming to Waimate North as Principal in 1964. He completed his B.A. in 1965, then moved to Whangārei in September 1968 where he was Deputy Principal at Tikipunga Primary and Kamo Intermediate and then Principal at Morningside and finally at Horahora. John's style of Principalship ensured that children, staff and parents felt valued. He influenced the careers and lives of many through his inspiring leadership.

John was the proud recipient of a Fulbright Scholarship. This prestigious award saw him teaching the 1974-5 year at Rio Lindo School, Oxnard, California. He had an extensive involvement in the Whangārei Primary Schools' Sports Association, the Whangārei Principals' Association and the NZEI, Te Riu Roa.

On retirement in 1993 John, with a small group of other retired principals, became involved in arranging luncheons for retired teachers and principals. John has

MC'd these events for more than 10 years, which has been greatly appreciated by those who participate.

John became involved in the Lonsdale Park Outdoor Education Centre in 1979, holding the position of Chairman for 20 years. More than 40 years later, John is still actively involved in the Education Centre, and currently holds the role of Secretary. He has been involved in many major improvements over the years, including a new ablution facility, the orienteering course and a camp fire amphitheatre. John has been an integral and valuable part of this vital resource, which has benefitted a huge number of young people and schools in Northland.

John has been a member of the Northland Rugby Referees Association (NRRRA) for 55 years, which included 24 years active refereeing. He has held various leadership roles including President in 2006-2007, and is a Life Member. He has been coaching referees for 27 years. His understanding of constitutional matters, meeting procedure and rugby law knowledge is second to none, and he is often called on to share his wealth of knowledge.

At the 2019 NRRRA Awards Dinner, John won 2 awards: Services to Coaching and Development, and The Graham Nock Memorial Blazer Award for Most Outstanding Contribution to the NRRRA. This year, John and Olive were presented with the Cancer Society Life Membership Award in recognition of their more than 20-year dedication to the Cancer Society of New Zealand's Daffodil Day appeal.

John Shanks has given selflessly of his time and energy throughout his life, and continues to bring people together with his unique style of humble leadership.

For this we honour him.

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Her Worship the Mayor Sheryl Mai



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Rosemary Sanderson

Whangarei District Council takes great pleasure in awarding a Civic Honour to Rosemary Sanderson for her broad reaching service to the Whangārei community.

Rosemary has the wisdom, energy, drive and inspirational leadership of an exemplary leader. An extraordinarily energetic and selfless person, Rosie has given generously of her time and effort to many community organisations and charities.

Rosie came to live in Whangārei District following her marriage to Bill Sanderson in 1984, and between them they have five children and 13 grandchildren. Once settled into Whangārei, Rosie immediately embraced her new situation, becoming a very giving member of the community.

Northlanders will know her for her unstinting work as Chair of the Quarry Gardens Trust, from October 2009 until the present day. She was elected to the Trust in 2002 and served as Treasurer before taking the chair. During this time, the Quarry Gardens have matured and flourished into a distinctive and important feature to visit and enjoy in Whangārei.

Under her exceptional leadership we have seen the Gardens mature into a stunning feature they are, along with various additional facilities and projects Rosemary has inspired and managed. These include building the Visitor's Centre with café, opening in 2015, and the popular Golf Cart Tours which were introduced under Rosemary's watch thanks to a generous donation by Patron of the Gardens.

Rosie started Whangārei Garden Discovery in 1996 and now the Bi-Annual Garden Discovery Festival and Sculpture Northland are firmly on the map, events which have helped raise the profile not only of the Gardens but

also our District as a whole. Many local groups enjoy the venue, including Sistema, Northland Youth Theatre, wedding parties and other public and private events.

More recently Rosemary has become a trustee of Taitokerau Education Trust. Rosemary is a firm believer that education is the key for young people to be launched into successful and happy lives, and is committed to making it possible for every Northland child to be able to reach their potential. To this end the Taitokerau Education Trust makes it possible for lower decile schools and their families to access affordable digital devices, giving equal access to online learning.

Rosemary has led a successful professional life in medical research, secondary school science teaching, biochemistry laboratory work, tutoring at NorthTec, as a Liaison Officer for University of Auckland and Contract Co-ordinator at Northland Orthopaedics. Continuing with her dedication to education, Rosie is also President of Uni of the Third Age (U3A), Whangārei, which is dedicated to ongoing learning in later years and ongoing social interaction with the community. Rosie organises speakers for monthly meetings, is Chair for the meetings and a friend to many.

Rosemary has also been a previous trustee of the Leukaemia and Blood Foundation. She has served on school committees, Plunket and Zonta.

For the entirety of her adult life, Rosie has contributed to the health and well-being of local people. Both in her professional life and in the countless hours spent in voluntary community activities, Rosie has proven herself to be a selfless, capable and inspirational leader within our community.

For this we honour her.

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Her Worship the Mayor Sheryl Mai



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Lily May Hooper (Betty)

Whangarei District Council takes great pleasure in awarding a Civic Honour to Betty Hooper for her service to the Whangārei community.

Betty is known and loved for her enthusiasm, vitality and creativity. She has given her heart, mind and soul to working with children in health and education.

Betty has had a love of children all her life, even though she had none of her own. Her dream was to become a teacher, however at 14 years old she was placed in a job as a live-in maid. For the early part of her life, she worked several maid jobs before taking a role at the local post office. When WWII broke out, Betty ended up in the office of a factory that was building bombs for the war.

It was then that she applied for a role as a teacher for IHC students. After two interviews she got the job to teach about 20 students aged between 4 and 28. This was a turning point for Betty, who had finally found a way to express her love for children and education.

Born in 1920 in East Sussex, Betty came to New Zealand in 1968 on a ship with her husband Joe and her mother. Making their home in Western Hills Drive, Whangārei, they bought a goat to keep the lawn down but soon saw potential in making a living from milking goats.

Tragedy struck in 1974 when her husband died suddenly, before the couple could build up the goat farm they'd planned. Eventually Betty did create a farm, becoming the first person in Northland with a permit to sell raw goat milk.

Betty soon found a way to share her teaching skills in New Zealand through becoming a special needs educator at Blomfield Special School. She has also had a big impact on students at Hikurangi Primary School, where she helped with their reading for several years. Recently Betty celebrated her 100th birthday at the school, with the hall filled with her friends and local community.

Throughout this time of teaching and helping children, Betty tirelessly researched children's health, committing more than 30 years of her life to researching the effects of food colourings, additives and chemicals on children's learning. She has presented nationally and locally, and has been interviewed on the radio in New Zealand and overseas. Betty has visited Cuba twice, where she spoke to the professor of nutrition at the hospital and visited schools.

Betty is also a renowned craftswoman - a silk screen artist, spinner, dressmaker and fabric artist. She has exhibited her silk paintings and taught silk screen painting in America. The local Co-op Village Store in Hikurangi has created the 'Betty Hooper Room', for Betty to sell her work. She still sits a few times a week to converse with people about her work and about health.

Betty is a very positive and practical woman who has put much of her life's energy into helping others - particularly children. Her love is the most uncritical, unjudgmental wonderful thing, she is a force of positivity. All who meet her love her. Betty Hooper is a living treasure.

For this we honour her.

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Her Worship the Mayor Sheryl Mai



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Terence Ward

Whangarei District Council takes great pleasure in awarding a Civic Honour to Terence Ward for his broad reaching service to the Whangārei community.

Terry is committed to building a better community. He is humble, quietly spoken, kind, generous and yet a force to be reckoned with. A superb fundraiser with the ability to quietly and successfully galvanise teams to achieve their highest goals, Terry has given selflessly of his time and energy throughout his adult life.

Terry started his working life with State Insurance in Whangarei. After a short time, he joined Farmers Fertiliser Works in Whangārei, and it was here that he met his future wife Lynette. Eight years later, Terry joined the family business of W E Wood Glass Company Limited, where he worked until his retirement in 2012.

In November this year Lynette and Terry will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. He and Lynette have two children, Michael and Karla and now are the very proud grandparents of five grandchildren.

Terry's outstanding contribution to his community began in October 1978, when he was inducted into the Lions Club of Whangarei at his father-in-law's invitation. Terry has now been a member for 42 years, during which time he has held every office within the Club, including his current role of record keeper. He has held this position for more than 30 years.

In 1981, Terry was elected to the Board of the Lions Club of Whangarei, and in 1984 he was elected as President.

Terry has been involved in countless projects with the Lions Club of Whangarei, including assisting with the

Have Pride in NZ campaign (judged to be one of the Top Ten projects carried out by Lions Clubs anywhere in the world), numerous charity race days, galas, public pledge events and annual Lions Golf Tournaments. This annual golf tournament alone has raised more than \$230,000 for Whangarei charities such as Alzheimers, Arthritis, Multiple Sclerosis, Experiencing Marine Reserves, and Riding for the Disabled.

Terry also led the Whangarei Lions fundraising team for Project Promise to raise a portion of the \$3m dollars needed to build the Jim Carney Cancer Centre. Terry coordinated the inaugural fund-raising dinner which raised \$30,000 through ticket sales, and \$75,000 in pledges. The Whangarei Lions raised more as a single group than any other entity for Project Promise; and Terry's guiding hand was instrumental in that success.

Terry's outstanding contributions to his community have been recognised both in 1997, with the awarding of the Honoured Membership in the Lions Lloyd Morgan Trust, and in 2006 with the awarding of the Melvin Jones Fellowship Award. This award is made for dedication to humanitarian services, and is the highest award any individual Lion member can receive.

Terry Ward is a community treasure. He takes every opportunity to make his community a better place, working with a determination that is rarely seen, achieving results that make a real difference to the lives of the people around him.

For this we honour him.

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Her Worship the Mayor Sheryl Mai