



HDC NEWS



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Hundreds of reasons to remember

Tunnelling Company Chaplain Rev. Marjorie Tyson dedicates the Tunnellers' Field of Remembrance at Gilmour Reserve, Waihi, last Sunday. Photo courtesy Scott Simpson MP.

Why do we remember? 100 years after the first Anzac Day, that will be the theme of Waihi Heritage Vision chairman Kit Wilson's address at Waihi's Anzac civic service. Besides asking why it's important for individuals and communities to remember those who served and the sacrifices they and their families made during and after the war, he'll share what form those memories take and our responses to them.

Last Sunday, 100 white crosses were dedicated at the New Zealand Tunnelling Company memorial in Gilmour Reserve. Installed by Waihi Heritage Vision in partnership with the Waihi Memorial RSA, each bears the name of a tunneller who died either during World War I, as a result of war service, or through suicide following the war.

The dedication marked 100 years since the death of Sapper Michael Tobin, the first New Zealand Expeditionary Force member to die on the Western Front. His cross and those of his comrades will remain in place until next weekend, so they'll be part of Anzac commemorations. "We invite people to bring a written message or a poppy to tie to a 'tree of memories' next to the memorial," says Kit.

The crosses were funded by the Fields of Remembrance Trust, and Council assistance in mowing the reserve ready for their installation and providing ongoing support to the tunnellers' memorial project is also appreciated, he says.

At Paeroa's civic service on Monday, Paeroa College principal Doug Black will pay tribute to the strength of community – something that Anzac Day brings home especially in small towns.

Lieutenant Colonel David Harvey will speak at the Anzac civic service in Ngatea. He's based in Waiouru and Wellington, but has lived in Whitianga for 14 years, has family connections in the Thames and Ngatea areas, and since first enlisting in the New Zealand Army in 1978 has served or trained in Fiji, Singapore, Australia, Malaysia, Angola, Bosnia, Bougainville, the United States of America, and Canada as well as at home.

"This year, the 100th anniversary of Anzac service on the Western Front and the centenary of the RSA, it's right that we should recognise New Zealanders who served there and in Gallipoli," he says. "But Anzac Day also remembers those who served our country since; and the impact of modern warfare on us all."

Following their school's own Anzac Day dawn service, Hauraki Plains College students will speak at the Kaihere community service. "The spirit of Anzac is about who we are and what we do as New Zealanders. We can never repay the Anzacs, but we can remember them," says head boy Gus Barrier. The teens will share the key speaker role with Kaihere School senior students Memphis McClelland and Charlize Giltrap, whose messages will have a strong local flavour. "It's part of our community involvement," says Kaihere School principal Peta-Maree Parsonage.

At the conclusion of the Ngatea and Kaihere services, plaques in memory of local residents will be unveiled at the communities' respective memorial walls.

We encourage everyone to be part of our public services, which will be preceded by street parades and RSA dawn parades. You might also like to check out the Anzac displays in our libraries, featuring pamphlets and fiction and non-fiction books for adults and young people.

Chance to recognise our unsung heroes

Nominations are now open for the Council's 2016 Citizen and Young Achiever Awards, which this year will be presented in the Waihi Memorial Hall on 31 August – earlier than usual to avoid clashing with local body election time.

The annual Citizen Awards acknowledge the service of Hauraki residents who have committed substantial personal time and effort over a sustained period to benefit their community. Last year's recipients included volunteers who have made a difference through social work, services to children and young people, environmental enhancement, preserving and celebrating local heritage, education, sport, and service club roles, to name just a few ways. Our past awardees may spark thoughts of unsung heroes you know of.

The awards are presented at a gala evening which since 2006 has also celebrated the achievements of local 13 to 25-year-olds in community service, arts or culture, leadership or enterprise, academic fields, sport, or recreation. While in previous years a high proportion of nominations have come from schools, we also want to focus on individuals making a positive impact in the wider community they live in. We see our young achievers very much as exceptional "young citizens".

Candidates for both sets of awards can be nominated by organisations or by at least two individuals. Nominations must be received by 4 pm on Friday, 3 June, on forms available from our offices or on our website. Don't leave it too late! Our judging panel needs time to ensure that any awards given truly reflect the value of the recipients' efforts.



END OF A CHAPTER: Millie Fletcher shelves her last books after a 23-year role as a Paeroa Library volunteer. She says working with "lovely librarians" like Lesley Young (centre) and Karen Wickcliffe (right) has been one of the most enjoyable parts of the job.

Longtime volunteer checks out

Instead of retiring in her 60s, Millie Fletcher was just getting started – as a Paeroa Library volunteer. After 23 years, the now 91-year-old stepped down from duty at Easter. But she was called back on April 9 for an informal Thank You lunch with library staff, former staff, and some of her fellow volunteers.

Millie says she has "always been fond of books and reading, and was a librarian at a secondary school, so this role was a natural progression." She has also enjoyed the people she's worked with, "especially the lovely librarians here. And volunteering in the library has helped locals get to know me."

There have been big changes over the years, she says. "The library used to be very quiet, and not very many children used it. Now there are far more. The librarians have a lot more things to do, and there are so many new books coming in." She hasn't used the new computer technology – though she does have a computer at home and is proficient on a keyboard thanks to her shorthand typing training as a young woman in England.

Paeroa librarian Lesley Young says Millie's kind, gentle personality and sense of humour have made her a very special volunteer. "She's methodical and can always be relied on. She's already missed – Friday afternoons won't be the same without her."

Being of slight build, Millie sparked a few smiles when reaching for the top shelves to put books away. At cuppa time, her home-baked sponge drops have become legendary; and until recently she has insisted on making her own coffee. Lesley feels privileged "that I've finally been trusted to do it!"

Councillor Julie Bubb, whose own eight years on the library staff before being elected gave her a personal connection with Millie, presented the long-server with a framed certificate of appreciation from the Council. She said Millie was "an inspiration for people to keep volunteering, no matter what their age."

Julia Lowe, who was library manager 23 years ago, remembers that whatever help was needed, "Millie quietly got on with it, with no fuss or bother." She has been actively involved in other community interests too: the Ohinemuri Singers, local drama productions, and – together with her husband Arthur who she met during World War II while they were both serving in Italy – the RSA.

While Millie may have been farewelled as a volunteer, she'll still be a regular at Paeroa Library... every time she needs more books to read.

PUBLIC NOTICES

NOMINATIONS OPEN FOR THE 2016 CITIZEN AWARDS AND 2016 YOUNG ACHIEVER AWARDS

The Hauraki District Council invites nominations for deserving nominees to be considered for Council's 2016 Citizen Awards and 2016 Young Achiever Awards.

To be eligible, nominees must satisfy the specified criteria. **Young Achievers Awards:** Further information on eligibility and nomination forms are available from the Mayor's Office by contacting Erin Wood at 07 862 8609 (or 0800 734 834 within district).

Citizen Awards
Further information on eligibility and nomination forms can be obtained from Council's Service Centres in Paeroa, Waihi or Ngatea, or by telephoning Customer Services at 07 862 8609 (or 0800 734 834 within district).

All nominations should be addressed to: The PA to the Mayor, Hauraki District Council, PO Box 17, Paeroa 3640, to be received no later than 4.00 pm on 3 June 2016.

ANZAC DAY COMMEMORATION SERVICES 2016

Citizens are invited to attend public Commemoration Services to be held in the Hauraki District on **MONDAY 25 APRIL, 2016** at the following locations:
Paeroa: 9:15am at the War Memorial Hall, preceded by the Parade starting at 9:00am.

Waihi: 11:00am at the Memorial Hall, preceded by the Parade starting at 10:45 am.

Ngatea: 11:15am at the Ngatea War Memorial Hall, preceded by Parade starting at 11.00am.

Kaihere/Patetonga: 9.30am at the Kaihere Hall. JP Tregidga MNZM JP MAYOR

KEREPEHI PUBLIC MEETING

TUESDAY 3 MAY 2016

7 pm at the Kerepehi Memorial Hall

This is an opportunity for the residents and rate-payers of Kerepehi to meet with representatives of the Hauraki District Council and other community groups to hear an update since the last public meeting.

KERBSIDE REFUSE AND RECYCLING COLLECTIONS FOR ANZAC

Due to Monday, 25 April 2016 being a statutory holiday, kerbside collections scheduled for that week will be carried out a day later than normal.

Please see the schedule below showing the dates for collections in the Hauraki District for the week of 24 to 30 April.

Collection Day	Township	What to put out
Tuesday 26 April	Whiritoa	Refuse and recycling
	Kerepehi	Refuse and recycling
Thursday 28 April	Ngatea	Refuse only
	Turua	Refuse and recycling
	Waitakaruru	Refuse only
	Kalaua	Refuse only
Friday 29 April	Waihi	Refuse and recycling
	Waikino	Refuse and recycling
	Karangahake	Refuse only
	Mackaytown	Refuse only
	Paeroa	Refuse only

Collection days will be back to normal starting Monday, 2 May 2016.

Transfer stations will be closed on 25 April - all other days they will operate as normal.

LD Cavers
Chief Executive, Hauraki District Council

Balancing act rewarded for young achiever



2015 Young Achiever Adrienne Erasmus.

Adrienne Erasmus knows that excelling as a student takes a lot of time and effort. But at only 18, she has also enjoyed two years of teaching, at Waihi School of Dance where she and Alyssa Thurston shared the head teacher role in 2014 and 2015.

She says running a ballet and contemporary dance school while attaining top marks at Waihi College – and serving as a 2014 student representative on the school's Board of Trustees – required "managing my time carefully." She describes dancing as her second life, having started ballet at age five after emigrating from Zimbabwe to New Zealand with her family.

Last year, Adrienne's attainments were recognised with a Hauraki District Council Young Achiever Award. "It was a real surprise, and quite humbling, because there are a lot of other people who deserve the honour," she says. "At the same time it was rewarding to be acknowledged, because I worked really hard."

It's not everyone who receives civic recognition before officially becoming a citizen, but Adrienne recently took centre stage at another special Council ceremony, when she and younger sisters Haylee and Robyn and their mother Amanda were sworn in as Kiwi citizens by Mayor John Tregidga.

Now studying toward a Bachelor of Occupational Therapy degree at Wintec in Hamilton, Adrienne believes her Young Achiever accolade will benefit her for the future, as it's a testimony to her leadership abilities and work ethic.