



NAPIER PILOT CITY TRUST

UNITY DAY 2023

Award Winner Citations

ANNA MILDON

Tom Silverwood, Sacred Heart College

Anna is the first recipient of the Napier Pilot City Trust's Schools Unity Award. We, along with Sacred Heart College, would like to acknowledge the outstanding volunteer work of Anna Mildon and her service to the community. Anna says she is motivated to be involved involunteering because she is passionate about helping people.

Anna does volunteer work with "Eco Ed" in the Kaweka Forest, where she is responsible for monitoring the kiwis and doing pest control. She is also a volunteer at the SPCA animal shelter, where she is involved in feeding the animals and cleaning.

In addition, Anna has been involved in tree planting at E.I.T, and more recently has been working on flood relief in Hawke's Bay.

After Cyclone Gabrielle, Anna went to Esk Valley, where she helped farmers fix their fencing next to the roads. She also helped an Esk Valley resident clear the mud and furniture out of their damaged house.

Anna is a young person who goes above and beyond to give service to her community and we are proud to acknowledge her with this award today.

CHERIE KURARANGI

NGĀTI KAHUNGUNU KI HERETAUNGA

Nominated by Pat Magill, Napier Pilot City Trust

Brief Citation:

Cherie Kururangi is a tireless worker and advocate for some of the most marginalised members of our community. She works closely with prison inmates, gangs and whānau. In particular Cherie provides a refuge for wāhine and whanau who are in need a safe place and an advocate they can trust.

Full Citation:

Cherie Kururangi, Ngāti Kahungunu ki Heretaunga, a former winner of TVNZ / Mārae - Māori of the Year (Ratonga Hapori) and the North and South Magazine - New Zealander of the Year (Society) is a tireless worker and advocate for some of the most marginalised members of our community.

She is a Regional Relationship Manager for HBRP and Manawatu Prison for the Mahi Tahi Akoranga Trust working with prison inmates, gangs and whānau.

Cherie has more than 13 years experience in whanau ora navigation as well as over seven in specialist cultural assessments. She supports ACC sensitive claims and awhi whanau to engage with Maori therapy and counselling under Manuera Life Development Services who also work within the Prisons.

Cherie does some amazing work with some of Napier's hardest to reach whānau, with a particular focus on the whānau of gang members. She is making a difference to the lives of women and children who are alienated from existing Government and NGO support mechanisms. She is trusted by those she works with.

She has established her home for wāhine who need a refuge. It has become a safe place.

HELEN HOWARD

nominated Councillor Maxine Boag

Brief Citation:

Helen Howard cares about our community and the environment. In June 2022 she set up and runs the Napier Repair Café. Talented volunteers have managed to repair more than 256 items to a value of \$17,555.00 since launching. The kaupapa is of building community connectedness and resilience in the face of climate change.

Full Citation:

Helen Howard set up and runs the Napier Repair Cafe in June of last year. Helen cares about our community and the environment. She has been involved in climate activism and in various environmental groups and projects in Napier over the years.

Helen decided to create the Napier Repair Cafe as a counter to what she saw was the "throwaway mentality"; and ensuing waste problem that our current system fuels. She saw a need to bring the community together and connect people with repair skills to those of us who have broken items that we would rather have repaired than end up in landfill. The Napier Repair Cafe's talented volunteers have managed to repair more than 256 items, with a replacement value of close to \$17,555.00 since launching. We have a kaupapa of building community connectedness and resilience in the face of climate change, and of skill sharing, in the hope that people will learn to value their possessions and consider the benefits of repair over replacement.

Helen wants to thank Hawke's Bay Regional Council, Keep Napier Beautiful, Repair Cafe Aotearoa NZ and Switch Coffee Roasters for their support of the Napier Repair Cafe.

MICHAEL NGAHUKA

nominated Henare O'Keefe, Hastings Ambassador & champion for social change

Brief citation:

Michael's lifework encompasses what caring and love is all about. He's the quintessential servant of the people, absolutely committed to his community and parish. He excels in spreading loyalty, showing commitment, giving reassurance and he resuscitates the best in people. Michael also co-ordinated the services provided at the Hastings Sports Stadium following Cyclone Gabrielle, for sometimes up to 400 people.

Full citation:

Michael Ngahuka is described by his nominator Henare O'Keefe as the total servant, absolutely committed 24/7, along with his wife Jewel to his community and his parish as a Pastor at Destiny Church in Hastings.

Michael and Jewel's days are full as they carry out back-to-back events and acts of kindness. For nearly 10 years, Michael has been putting on street BBQ's and running personal growth and parenting classes for men and women. He excels in sharing love, spreading loyalty, showing commitment and giving reassurance to those in need. He resuscitates the best in people, says Henare.

Nothing illustrates that more than the way Michael spearheaded the delivery of services and support for those sheltering from Cyclone Gabrielle in the Hastings Sports Centre at the height of the civil emergency in February this year. Between 200 to 400 people congregated at the stadium and were cared for and comforted by a huge network of volunteers co-ordinated by Michael.

His life's work encompasses what caring and love is all about. And he doesn't just say it. He comes down from the pulpit, gets real with the people, and gets dirt under his fingernails. Michael is a genuine man championing the people in his community.

MARY MOHAWK

nominated by Councillor Maxine Boag

Brief citation:

Mary is chairperson of the Tu Tangata Maraenui Trust, a not-for-profit organization that works in Maraenui. Mary and her husband volunteer with Kai Oha Food for Rescue Hawke's Bay, picking up, packing and delivering kai three times a week. They network with a Kohanga Reo, church and Māori wardens who deliver to Whanau- and on Mondays to Pakeke Maraenui.

Full citation:

Mary informs us that she was born to serve and that this is a gift from the highest Ahlayah, the name of God in Hebrew.

In Māori culture it is natural to be hospitable. It is what we are good at, hospitality. For Mary it is in her Māori blood, from serving our visitors, to visiting parents, the first thing we did is make a cuppa.

To the Marae to help whether at a wedding or a gathering, sports or even a tangi. Even if we didn't know the Whanau, that's just what you did. Mary was brought up in a small country town and believes she had the best childhoods, we looked after one another.

Mary has five children and nine grandchildren. She cares for and homeschools two grandchildren. Mary is chairperson of the Tu Tangata Maraenui Trust, a not-for-profit organization that works in Maraenui.

She recently resigned from her full-time work with the Ministry of City Rock Church to become the full-time carer of her husband. Mary and her husband volunteer with Kai Oha Food for Rescue Hawke's Bay. This involves picking up and packing and delivering kai three times a week.

They network with a Kohanga Reo, church and Māori wardens who deliver to Whanau- and on Mondays to Pakeke Maraenui.

THE KINGS HOUSE CHURCH

nominated by Councillor Maxine Boag

Brief Citation:

Following the February Cyclone, The Kings House Church under the leadership of Pastor Charles Faletutulu provided a home for Pacific Islanders who were displaced. For many it was like coming home to the care and hospitality provided by the Kings House Church. All their immediate needs were met - meals, bedding, social and religious needs.

Full Citation:

Following the aftermath of the February Cyclone, The Kings House Church under the leadership of Pastor Charles Faletutulu provided a home for Pacific Islanders who were displaced. Many of those employed under the Recognised Seasonal Employer (RSE) were housed in areas that were most severely impacted by the rapidly rising flood waters. Many were plucked off roofs to safety in the most traumatic of situations. 340 RSE workers were housed at the Kings House Church in Riverbend Road on the outskirts of Napier. After their traumatic rescues, it was like coming home to the care and hospitality provided by the Kings House Church. All their immediate needs were met - meals, bedding, social and religious needs.

The leadership of the Kings House Church collaborated with Government agencies as well as with other Pacific organisations such as the Poly Active Hub and Kainga Pasifica.

The Pasifica Medical Association was involved providing mental health assessments, immunisation and medical assessments.

All the displaced and evacuated workers have now been rehoused and, while the Church has returned to normal business as usual, they are actively involved in follow up welfare and support.

PUKEMOKIMOKI MARAE

nominated by Nathan Harrington Te Kupenga Hauora

Brief Citation:

Pukemokimoki Marae stood up for the community during the cyclone. Initially supporting evacuees from Hukerere College and the Esk Valley providing meals, bedding and Manaakitangi. They then transformed into a hub for the community. Providing food packs, meal, toiletries, clothing and bedding for the many who had lost all their possessions.

Full Citation:

On 13 February the Iwi set up the Marae in preparation for cyclone Gabrielle. This was ably led by Tiwana Aranui and Maureen Mua.

As the flood hit, the marae became a key evacuation centre for Ahuriri Napier. Evacuees from Hukerere College, the Esk Valley and some RSE workers were welcomed. Meals, bedding and Manaakitangi were provided for all those who needed help.

Following the rain and the stop bank bursting on the 14th it was decided that the Marae might flood and the evacuees were moved to other venues. This was very efficiently organised. When the flooding did not impact on the Marae, the Marae became a hub for the community. Providing food packs, meals from the kitchen, toiletries, clothing and bedding for the many who had lost all their possessions.

Volunteers were welcomed and put to work. Agencies such as MSD, WINZ and Insurance representatives became involved supporting the public access help and support. The amazing people of Kahungunu continued to provide for the community for as long as it was required being ably assisted by the staff of Roopu a Iwi who understood their local community.

BRONWYNNE OLIVER

nominated by Napier City Councillor Sally Crowne

Brief Citation:

In the immediate aftermath of Cyclone Gabrielle, Bronwynne stepped up becoming the go to person for the residents of the upper Ellis Wallace Road. With the road bridge out, she became the main point of communication between the cut off residents and the Bay View Emergency Hub, co-ordinating airdrops and communications.

Full Citation:

In the immediate aftermath of Cyclone Gabrielle, Bronwynne Oliver stepped up becoming the go to person for the residents of the upper Ellis Wallace Road. With the road bridge out, all that remained was the fragile rail bridge that was in danger of collapse.

Bronwynne took on the role of coordinator after speaking out to make sure the residents were not forgotten. She became the main point of communication between the cut off residents and the Bay View Emergency Hub. With her husband she co-ordinated the airdrops to their area and helped with getting much needed supplies. "We're cut off, but as a little community of our own we are working together, making sure everyone has food and fuel for their generators".

She has been really impressed by the communication between the contractors and the community. The community met some amazing people who helped with deliveries, loaned generators and who went an extra mile to make sure we were all ok.

Bronwynne believe the adversity has built a stronger community where everyone played their part. People got to know each other and recently they had a special dinner party for those in our community and workers from site repairs.

ADRIENNE & TREVOR MORRIN

nominated by Dan Hicks, Napier City Council

Brief Citation:

When Cyclone Gabrielle devastated the Esk Valley, Bay View Hotel owners Adrienne and Trevor opened as an evacuation centre. They fed, clothed, hosted a medical centre and most importantly provided comfort for countless displaced people. Adrienne and Trevor's biggest challenge was keeping the environment controlled, calm, supportive and consistent.

Long Citation:

On the morning that Cyclone Gabrielle struck, based on their knowledge of the 1938 flood, Adrienne and Trevor Morrin, publicans of the Bay View Hotel, made the bold prediction that the Hotel wouldn't flood. With Police support they opened as an evacuation centre.

While they watched the helicopters and utes bringing people out, they began scouring the neighbourhood on foot gathering bedding and volunteers, while Civil defence worked to establish a power supply. Fifty people and their pets stayed that first night. From then on countless people came through the Hotel to be fed, collect supplies/clothes etc, and most importantly finding comfort connecting with others. The Hotel became a lifeline for many.

Initially the medical centre was born of a nurse practitioner who had been evacuated from Esk Valley and who slept in the bar with a local security guard and was accessible 24 hours a day. This grew into a full-blown medical Centre for 10 days providing invaluable service.

Adrienne and Trevor's biggest challenge was keeping the environment controlled, calm, supportive and consistent. They are justifiably proud that they along with staff and volunteers achieved.

BEVAN TAYLOR

NGĀTI KURUMOKITI. NGĀTI KAHUNGUNU TE IWI, TANGOIO TE MARAE

nominated by Hori Reti, chairperson, Te Taiwhenua O Te Whanganui-a-Orotū - Napier

Brief citation:

Bevan Taylor has dedicated over 50 years of service to the community and has been instrumental in many kaupapa across the district. He is a well-known and respected Kaumatua of Ngāti Kahungunu for his knowledge and wisdom in Te Reo Māori, Master carving and whakapapa. He was also a founding member and negotiator for the Ahuriri and Maungaharuru-Tangitū settlement claims and continues to be a dedicated Kaumatua and leader of both Tangoio and Kohupatiki Marae.

Long citation:

Bevan Taylor is a Kaumatua at Tangoio Marae, and Kohupatiki Marae in Clive where he is recognised for his resilience and leadership over many years. Both marae are steeped in history and their standing guides the younger generations to proudly treasure their culture and do everything they can to ensure it survives. With Bevan's passion and deep knowledge on tikanga and kawa, he is pivotal to this process. Bevan is also a master carver and his whanau are master weavers. Their work comprises the taonga that adorned the Tangoio whare nui, which tragically was severely damaged by Cyclone Gabrielle in February, 2023. During the cyclone Bevan showed extraordinary leadership, and despite the devastation to the whare nui, there is much will to retrieve and restore as many taonga as possible.

Bevan was the founding member, negotiator and driving force for Ahuriri and Tangoio's Maungaharuru Tangitu Trust, which eventually achieved land settlements through the Waitangi Tribunal. Taking two decades to complete the settlements, Bevan's tenacity and stamina was vital.

Bevan is relentlessly driven to keep his culture in the frame. He firmly believes Te Tiriti is still relevant today and Māori must fight to keep it that way.