



# **NAPIER PILOT CITY TRUST**

## **UNITY DAY 2019**

### **Award Winner Citations**

#### **JIM & JOANNE GAUDIN**

#### **For outstanding service to the disenfranchised**

Jim and Joanne Gaudin work together as a team supporting each other in their efforts to create better outcomes for the disenfranchised in our community.

They are Lay Preachers and an integral part of the parish Council at the Trinity Methodist Church. Jim also undertakes the Pastoral care regularly visiting with the sick and elderly giving reassurance and advice; both have a vision for Trinity involving more outreach from the Clive Square premises than is currently possible.

Jim's community involves serving meals at the WIT premises in Clive Square twice a week; he hopes to create a bond with the people he feeds and assist them to achieve good outcomes.

Since coming to Napier he has also been involved with:-

Literacy Aotearoa; HB People's Advocacy Service - he is still using his advocacy skills for those in need of advice and guidance on a one on one basis through his own agency Phoenix Advocacy; Worked for Diabetes HB as a programme facilitator and counsellor but now works for Health Hawkes Bay as a Chronic illness Program facilitator and is currently running these classes at HB Prison for the Correction Dept. He believes that what the inmates learn from these programs will not only benefit their health but help them reintegrate back into society when they are released.

Both Jim and Joanne are members respectively of Ahuriri Rotary and Inner Wheel. Jim has been Director of Ahuriri Rotary's Social Projects Committee and is to be Club president for the 2019-20; Joanne joined her mother in the Inner Wheel club of Ahuriri and soon began a journey that has seen her be Club President; District Chairman and Inner Wheel New Zealand President 2016-17.

Currently she is an International Inner Wheel Board Director assisting in the growth of this International Women's service group in countries where the role of women is only now starting to evolve.

For the past 5 years they have both been involved with the Napier Community Christmas Lunch, first as Kitchen coordinators and then as the event coordinator's. They will be involved in this again for 2019 and it is Their vision is to create a blueprint for the luncheon that any team of coordinators can follow in the future, ensuring that it continues to involve the entire community.

Although the purchase last year of JJ's Crafts in Taradale has curtailed some of the activities Jim & Joanne are able to be involved in it is hoped that this will become a place where members of the community can come for companionship, colour therapy and leave feeling better able to deal with the world.

## **RONNIE ROCHEL**

### **for outstanding service to Māori and Pasifika youth**

**The Te Aratika Group Director and our award winner, Ronnie Rochel, expresses her motivation as follows:**

**He aha te mea nui i te roto i te ao? He tangata, he tangata, he tangata**

**What is the most important thing in the world? The people, the people, the people.**

This whakatauki is what Ronnie Rochel the Director of Te Aratika Group is passionate about. It's been the driving force behind the establishment of Te Aratika Group and most recently Te Aratika Academy. It is the heartbeat to provide a positive platform for change for our young people and their families. With over 20 years' experience working in business across Asia, Europe and Aotearoa, Ronnie works to share these skills, opportunities and positive pathways for our young people to be successful and find their "Ara Tika", their "Right Path". Ko au, ko koe, ko koe, ko au. I am you and you are me.

We heard this morning about the vision of the Te Aratika Academy, situated at Mangateretere. To recap, this is a charter school which accommodates up to 50 male Māori and Pasifika students who can enrol at age 11-13.

Started in 2017, the Academy is committed to advancing the cultural, academic, physical, spiritual and social needs of Māori and Pasifika youth through educational, cultural and work related programmes and projects. Through this commitment, the Trust proposes to re-engage Māori and Pasifika youth and improve outcomes for them individually, their families and their communities.

This initiative is the result of the efforts of the Te Aratika Group who have been drilling, trenching and installing utilities here and overseas for 20 years. As well as providing inspiration and financial support, they provide work experience and jobs for the students and they more recently sponsored a cultural exchange trip to Europe.

## **JAN HIHA**

### **for the development of peaceful resolution of conflict in schools**

Jan comes from the deep south originally. She was a sergeant in the NZ police for 13 years and has also had a career as a Project Manager. As a mum she managed a rugby team and a hockey team and was on the board of trustees at St Patrick's School, Napier. At William Colenso College she has managed hockey teams as well as coaching basketball. Her three children have excelled both academically and on the sports field.

Her husband Shane is principal at Te Aute College and was previously Deputy Principal at William Colenso College where he led the Middle School and worked with Principal Daniel Murfitt to establish a Restorative Practice approach there.

She began work at William Colenso College in 2005 where her organisational skills were quickly recognised, and she was given responsibility for organising Relief Teachers. In 2011 she began working as the full-time restorative facilitator; a position unique in New Zealand schools.

Her leadership has been instrumental in developing and leading the transformative change towards a fully integrated restorative approach to behaviour change at William Colenso College. She goes the extra mile to support students and their whanau work toward harmonious resolution of issues.

This change has seen staff, students and whanau change their own behaviour towards managing incidents both within and beyond the school gates.

## **HEATHER ANN TURNER**

### **for her work with children, the arts community and the disadvantaged**

Heather was a kindergarten teacher and an advisor for preschool education and district advisor for Hawkes Bay before she retired. She also studied craft and design at Hawkes Bay Polytech.

Heather began mostly voluntary work as a pre-school teacher at the Napier Women's Refuge. She also took classes for older children, helping them adjust their behaviour in their new environment.

Throughout her life Heather has been very involved in the community. She has had various roles in her church, playing the organ, taking Sunday School and Bible Study, and being a cub and scout leader. Heather set up a studio at the Waiohiki Craft Community and taught felting and crafts there, offering classes for at risk and disabled children. She also taught at the Keiranga Arts Community. She has had the roles of president of the Napier Weavers and Spinners Group and the Potters Club.

Heather volunteered for two years at the Citizen's Advice Bureau. After becoming aware of community organisations being donated more items than they can manage, for the last fifteen years she has taken it on herself to spend a significant amount of time picking up these items, sorting them, cleaning them. Despite being nearly 80 Heather then distributes the donated items; clothing and toys, to organisations such as Birthrite, the police, fire service and anyone she hears of in need because of their circumstances. It is this humanitarian work that drew her to the attention of the Trust, but it is clear that her lifetime's contribution to the community has been equally valuable.

Because of Heather's commitment to working with children and their parents she is delighted to hear that one of the Napier Pilot City Trust's goals is to gain acceptance for Napier to become a UNICEF Child Friendly City.

## **BELINDA PUKEKE**

### **for making it possible for free goods to be distributed in Maraenui**

Belinda came to Napier from Wairoa 18 years ago.

In Wairoa she was active in supporting the Kohanga Reo and despite living in Napier has continued to be active in supporting her Marae.

Despite having small children to contend with, she coached her daughter's netball team for about seven years in Maraenui.

About four years ago she noticed that the Maraenui community garden, that was kindly set up by Peter Findlay and EIT was not being cared for. She took it on herself to keep this maintained and she still does. The very healthy and plentiful plants growing in the raised beds are testament to her skilled care. Anyone can come and pick what they need, and they do.

As well as nourishing people with vegetables, about a year ago she took over the day to day running of the Koha Shed (container) next to the gardens in Longfellow Ave. People can bring any clothes or smaller household goods here for free distribution and it is open for anyone to come and choose what they would like.

Belinda is there most working days from nine to four. She is very cheerful and welcoming and works hard, first to move goods to the grounds outside the container, second to receive goods and sort them, third to display them well. Recently she damaged her back doing this work and was forced to close the shed for a while. She now gets family members to do heavy lifting.

Belinda is to be commended for the care and passion she puts into maintaining a valuable community asset which helps those struggling to make ends meet.

## **AARON GARNHAM-PITCHER**

### **for being an outstanding contributing citizen**

Aaron began learning Taekwondo at Havelock North High School.

He has continued until this day and has become so good at this that competed at an international disabled Taekwondo competition in London England. He paid for his fare by fundraising. He came third in his category. He was a buddy for another competitor. What a wonderful achievement.

Aaron has also become very good at 10 pin bowling. He entered a Special Olympics 10 Pin bowling event in Hastings. He came first in the doubles event and his team came second.

Aaron is very busy. He practices and plays his sports five days a week, and he spends two days working for the Napier City Council Planting trees in Clive by the river as part of the Wetlands project. He says he plants very many trees each day. He has never had a day off sick and is always on time and works hard. Aaron travels everywhere by bus and is quite independent.

Aaron lives with his Nan and his cousin. They say he is respectful, helpful, cheerful and very easy to have around.

Aaron shows an extraordinary ability to be focused, reliable, and enthusiastic. He is making the most of his life and is a shining example for all of us.



## **VICKY JULIAN**

### **for outstanding contribution to Napier Sports**

Vicky moved to Napier in 1978 from Waipukurau.

She says she was not particularly into sport but became involved as a spectator at her partner's softball games.

She was asked to become the team scorer and she has never looked back. Next she became the manager of the team and then became the softball delegate for Maraenui Rugby and Sports Association. She was elected to the Hawkes Bay Softball Board and is still involved 25 years later.

She was made a life member of the Softball Association four years ago.

Vicky was club captain of the Maraenui Rugby and Sports Association for many years and says she got involved with everything. She has run the bar and says that she was one of only a handful of people prepared to do things.

She is presently in her second year as the president of the Association. This caters for 300 members of all ages in the following codes:

- Junior and senior softball.
- Senior netball
- Junior and senior rugby
- Whaka ama club
- Senior rugby league
- Pool – 8 ball competitions

Vicky says she volunteers to help keep her small community involved with sport and finds this very rewarding especially when you see the youth achieve to the highest level in the country.

She works full time, and her commitment to sport in Maraenui is such that she has little time for anything else in her life, but she also enjoys the friendship of a tight group of hard working volunteers.

## **SHERIDAN IHAIA-ROGERS**

### **for outstanding service to the youth of Napier**

Sheridan is a resident of Whakatu.

She has been attending William Colenso College in Onekawa since 2014 and is now in year 13.

She comes from a community minded family and for one so young, she has been involved in an impressive number of voluntary activities.

Most days, Sheridan and other family members, pick up food from Hastings and deliver it to Napier as part of the Nourish for Nil organisation which distributes left over food.

In another daily before school routine Sheridan helps her Nan make breakfast and lunch for the up to 50 young men who attend Te Aratika Academy from 7.30 am to 5.30 pm week days.

Sheridan is also an organiser for a homework club in Whakatu.

In year 9 Sheridan was an organiser for social activities for the students of her school.

In year 10 she helped cook for a Matariki festival. She also helped with ushering for a dance competition. Last year Sheridan was the International Leader at her school which involved being a mentor for all international students at the school.

This year she is Maropea House Captain leading a large group of students when they are assembled. As well as all of this activity, Sheridan is able to keep up with her school work and maintain good grades. She achieved excellence for her art board, which takes a great deal of work to produce. We wish her well with her goal of a career using her art.