

Ngā Tohu Hōnore ā-Hapori 2022

Civic Honours Awards 2022

AUGUST 9 2022



Photo: Above Hawke's Bay



HASTINGS
DISTRICT COUNCIL
Te Kaunihera ā-Rohe o Heretaunga

Order of Ceremony

MASTER OF CEREMONY

COUNCILLOR HENARE O'KEEFE,
HASTINGS AMBASSADOR

5.00PM WELCOME DRINKS, TOITOI – FUNCTIONS ON HASTINGS

5.30PM KARAKIA/MIHI WHAKATAU

Waiata: Kahurangi NZ Māori Dance Group

5.45PM ADDRESS TO THE RECIPIENTS OF CIVIC HONOURS AWARDS

Her Worship the Mayor: Sandra Hazlehurst

5.50PM GUEST SPEAKER

Korrin Barrett

6.05PM PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Councillors Henare O'Keefe and Malcolm Dixon

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

- Mohinder Singh Nagra (Health & Welfare)
- Marion & Mike Shakespeare (Health & Welfare)
- Leah Baterbonia (Health & Welfare)
- Sayeed Ahmed (Health & Welfare)
- Kane Koko (Health & Welfare)
- Owen 'Jerry' Hapuku (Health & Welfare)
- Vivien 'Viv' Brown (Education & Youth)
- Traci Tuimaseve (Health & Welfare)
- Ruiha Tiakina Erueti Woodward (Education & Youth)

6.25PM PERFORMANCE

Kahurangi NZ Māori Dance Group

6.30PM CONTINUATION OF AWARDS

Councillors Henare O'Keefe and Malcolm Dixon

INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

- Christina McBeth (Health & Welfare)
- Lara Ventura (Health & Welfare)
- Ross Webb (Sport & Recreation)
- Julie Hart (Health & Welfare)
- Edward 'Joe' Simmons (Health & Welfare)
- Barbara Walker (Health & Welfare)
- Ave Faka'osi (Education & Youth)
- Ron Wilkins (Health & Welfare)
- Tofilau Talalelei Taufale (Health & Welfare)
- Kevin Hodges (Health & Welfare)

7.20PM KARAKIA

Kaumātua Mr Jerry Hapuku

Waiata: Kahurangi Māori Dance Group

7.30PM CEREMONY CONCLUSION

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HAWKE'S
OPERA HOUSE



It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the 2022 Civic Honours Awards – our long-standing annual event which recognises the champions in our community.

The Civic Honours Awards is a highlight in our year. We've been celebrating the outstanding work our community does for more than 30 years.

Message from the Mayor

It's a chance to acknowledge and honour the hard-working, selfless people who give so generously of their time and energy to help make Hastings the great place it is.

The ways the recipients have served our community are many and varied, and all have made a positive impact to others' lives.

Tonight is about expressing our thanks to them and their families for their effort. The positive change you create is inestimable.

Congratulations to our Civic Honours Award recipients tonight. We are very grateful for your tireless work for the people of Hastings.

On behalf of the Hastings District, I thank you all for your hard work in making our community the best small city in Aotearoa!

Sandra Hazlehurst
Mayor, Hastings District Council

Korrin Barrett

GUEST SPEAKER

Korrin's life changed dramatically in 2012 when she became a quad amputee. But from the trauma she grew more than ever and realised she was built with a resilience she never knew she had. Through the power of telling her story with honesty, humour and heart she has been able to inspire thousands of people worldwide to not give up, to draw on their own resilience and most of all to live their lives unlimited. Korrin also dedicates her time as a volunteer to several organisations and will share the positive impact this has had on her recovery and her emotional and physical wellbeing.



“There she goes again; defying logic with her indomitable will. Ignoring limitation. Living inside the impossible”.

Nausicaa Twila

INDIVIDUAL
AWARD

**Health
& Welfare**

**Mohinder
Singh Nagra**





Mohinder Singh Nagra

Mohinder goes out of his way in his own time to help out people in the ethnic community.

He is heavily involved in the Sikh community and temple in Hastings, and plays a big part in community sports and cultural events.

Despite being busy with his businesses, the Bollywood Stars restaurant and MP Foods grocery store, he takes time out to lend a hand at large events, that can include feeding more than 1000 people.

Also a Justice of the Peace he makes himself available at any time to verify important documents and help students and people on work visas send their documents to the correct government departments.

He helps them make the right decisions so things go smoothly for them.

INDIVIDUAL
AWARD

**Health
& Welfare**

Marion and Mike Shakespeare



Marion and Mike Shakespeare

Long-time Nourished for Nil volunteers Mike and Marion Shakespeare have both worked tirelessly for this food rescue organisation since it began in 2017.

Marion started out helping bag potatoes and then became the produce coordinator, starting early and working late every day of the week.

Mike has devoted much time and energy to the organisation since 2017 and he

became a board director in 2018. His expertise and know-how is highly valued.

Since it began, Nourished for Nil has prevented thousands of tonnes of food waste going to landfill, instead being redistributed to people throughout Hawke's Bay.



A portrait of Leah Baterbonia, a woman with dark hair, smiling. She is wearing a grey blazer over a yellow top. The background is a blurred outdoor scene with greenery and water. The image is framed by a magenta diagonal shape on the left and top right.

INDIVIDUAL
AWARD

**Health
& Welfare**

**Leah
Baterbonia**



Leah Baterbonia

The Hawke's Bay Filipino community has been well served by Leah for more than 10 years, including as a mentor, a Justice of the Peace, and as a founder and ongoing member of the organising committee of the Asians in the Bay Awards.

On top of this, she is a volunteer ambassador for the Philippine embassy, conducts Filipino language and culture classes for adults in Hastings, which will be extended to a student pilot in Hastings secondary schools, and is a committee member of the Multicultural Association Hawke's Bay and Napier Filipino Association.

She can regularly be heard on community radio interviewing Filipino guests and discussing aspects of Philippine culture,



tourism, peace and security, and assists the Philippine embassy to put out information about its universal diplomacy programmes.

She also gives her time to help overseas Filipino workers navigate the processes to get what they need to be employed to work in New Zealand, and links local groups to support activities such as tree planting in Napier and coastal clean-ups at Haumoana.



INDIVIDUAL
AWARD

**Health
& Welfare**

**Sayeed
Ahmed**



Sayeed Ahmed

After moving to Hastings in 1990, Sayeed was one of the founding members of the Bangladesh Association of New Zealand in 1991, and then became the prime advocate for Bangladeshis in Hawke's Bay to the national organisation.

After being made vice president of the Hawke's Bay Muslim Association, he started fundraising to build a local mosque and was one of the founding members of



the Hawke's Bay Baitul Mulkaram Masjid and Islamic Centre Trust.

It took six years to fundraise enough to build the Masjid for all muslims in Hawke's Bay.

Sayeed has also volunteered for the New Zealand China Friendship Society, and when it was incorporated into the Multicultural Association Hawke's Bay he continued as an active member and volunteer.

A portrait of Kane Koko, a man with dark hair and a beard, smiling. He is wearing a blue and white checkered shirt. The background is a blurred green landscape. The image is framed by a magenta diagonal shape on the left and top right.

INDIVIDUAL
AWARD

**Health
& Welfare**

Kane Koko



Kane Koko

The Pakipaki community has a true champion in Kane who dedicates his life to representing it through his roles at Taraia Marae, Houngarea Marae, Pakipaki Hapū Trust, and the Whenuakura Urupā among many more.

For at least 10 years he has supported and advocated for the Pakipaki community across cultural, social, economic and environmental issues.

Already a leader, COVID-19 has cemented this status as he navigated the community through the pandemic, something that has been much appreciated.

Alongside maintaining a full-time job, Kane manages his second full-time voluntary

community leadership role without compromising his own integrity or that of his whānau and community.

Above all he has unified the many hapū, marae and whānau of Pakipaki to come together, to discuss communal issues and find communal solutions – his dedication and leadership has been transformational.

INDIVIDUAL
AWARD

**Health
& Welfare**

**Owen 'Jerry'
Hapuku**



Owen 'Jerry' Hapuku

Jerry has spent 45 years in voluntary roles throughout Kahungunu, Hawke's Bay and Heretaunga districts. Throughout that time he has generously shared his knowledge of kaupapa Māori and Te Ao Māori with schools, local government, marae and hapū, and in the fields of justice and health.

Whether it be giving expert evidence at environmental hearings or Treaty of Waitangi claims, supporting wāhi tapu/wāhi

taonga research and presenting, officiating at tamihanga or providing other kaumātua support when needed, he is widely sought after for his advice and deep knowledge.

Among many other roles he is kaumātua for the Turi Pai Whenua Kōhanga Reo that he started together with his late wife Pare in 1992 and also supports local marae in his kaumātua role.

Jerry received the Insignia of a Member of the NZ Order of Merit for his services to Māoridom in 2008, an honour he humbly attributed to his marae, his hapū, and his own people, especially his hapū at Te Hauke.

He is also the official kaumātua for Hastings District Council where he turns up to all functions in rain, hail, snow or shine, morning, evening and daytime.



INDIVIDUAL
AWARD

**Education
& Youth**

**Vivien
(Viv) Brown**





Vivien (Viv) Brown

Across the community Viv gives back in many ways to many people. Involved with the Hastings Lions for many years, including being chair for a time, she has regularly helped raised funds for local projects.

She was instrumental in creating, and continues to be the main organiser of, the annual Young Achievers event that recognises Hastings Year 13 students who have achieved results in academia, sports,



arts and community service. This has been running for 11 years now.

She also regularly repurposes blankets and sleeping bags, sewing them into revitalised items for distribution by the Re-Source charity in Hastings, and every year she knits hundreds of finger puppets for about 150 Christmas Cheer packs for kids that also include chocolates, lollies, pads and pencils – all paid for by herself.

On top of that Viv actively helps those in her immediate neighbourhood, from mowing lawns and collecting groceries, to helping with meals and washing.

INDIVIDUAL
AWARD

**Health
& Welfare**

**Traci
Tuimaseve**



Traci Tuimaseve

Traci is a highly respected member of the Flaxmere community who volunteers his time on boards, committees, groups and anywhere else he can support community and whānau wellbeing.

Currently the chair of the Korongata Marae in Bridge Pa, he has been a leader of the Flaxmere Planning Committee for seven years, on behalf of which he writes and presents submissions to Hastings District Council's Annual and Long Term Plans, as well as representing Flaxmere for many other groups and organisations.

He is a member of the Hawke's Bay DHB Pasifika Advisory Committee, a member



of the Church of the Latter Day Saints – connecting their Helping Hands Group to support and deliver community projects such as street clean-ups - and as a member of Tihei Mauri Ora he supported whānau through the COVID pandemic distributing food parcels, RAT tests, and other goods.

Traci was also responsible for the measles fundraising event in Flaxmere for Samoa where more than \$10,000 was raised for whānau.



A gracious and humble person with real vision, Traci is dedicated to community and goes above and beyond with his voluntary work. His leadership of the Flaxmere Planning Committee has brought mana, credible direction and guidance to the committee and its members.

A portrait of an elderly woman with short, wavy white hair and glasses, smiling warmly. She is wearing a dark turtleneck under a maroon quilted jacket. The background is a soft-focus outdoor scene with green foliage. The image is framed by a magenta diagonal graphic element on the left.

INDIVIDUAL
AWARD

**Education
& Youth**

**Ruiha Tiakina
Erueti Woodward**



Ruiha Tiakina Erueti Woodward

Ruiha, known as Nanny Nana, is a long-standing advocate of the kōhanga reo movement, and has dedicated a large part of her life to the revitalisation of te reo Māori since the establishment of the Te Kōhanga Reo o Poukawa ki Kahurānaki in 1983.

She has uplifted and encouraged her wider whānau to learn about Te Ao Māori, being a part of the Kiingitanga, Kōhanga Reo, tangihanga, and many wānanga.

Living in the Camberley community for more than 25 years she's been a huge

inspiration - helping and housing young people and others who need a sense of belonging and somewhere to stay.

Her mahi includes helping out with kaupapa Māori at Mangaroa Prison, and being active within the Church of Latter Day Saints.

Nanny Nana spends a large amount of time manning the pae karanga on Kahurānaki Marae, and also supported the development of Camberley's Community Plan and is a strong supporter of Camberley Primary School.

All 84 years of her life have been dedicated to her whānau, sharing her love and kindness with everyone who crosses her path.

A portrait of Christina McBeth, a woman with blonde hair, smiling. She is wearing a dark turtleneck sweater. The background is a blurred outdoor scene with green foliage. The image is framed by a magenta border on the left and bottom.

INDIVIDUAL
AWARD

**Health
& Welfare**

**Christina
McBeth**



Christina McBeth

Christina is one of the co-founders of the Hawke's Bay Food Rescue project Nourished for Nil.

Over the first years of its operation, Christina put in long hours, and has continued to do so with the help of a management team and body of volunteers to ensure the organisation's ongoing success.



Nourished for Nil has now expanded and also operates from Flaxmere and Camberley Community Centres, one day a week each, with these locations meaning easier access for those who need it.

In 2021, 1173 tonnes (or three McLean's Parks) of food was rescued and 523 food parcels were distributed to the various social service agencies Nourished for Nil supports. These parcels are purpose-made according to the size of the family and are available on a referral basis.

Christina and her management team also became an essential service in 2020 when COVID impacted New Zealand, which meant food could still be redistributed through the lockdowns.

Christina's vision and philosophy, along with that of co-founder Louise Saurin, has prevented much food waste from going to landfill and filled many tummies at the same time.

INDIVIDUAL
AWARD

**Health
& Welfare**

**Lara
Ventura**





Lara Ventura

A dynamic chair of the Philippine Community of Hawke's Bay, Lara has untiringly supported Filipinos in activities ranging from sports competitions to women's development, health forums, and networking with other Hawke's Bay organisations.

This has included spearheading a sporting event involving other Filipino organisations in Napier and Central Hawke's Bay, and she has designed a cultural showcase Christmas



event, including a Christmas Lantern competition that many attended.

She dedicates every weekend and her free time from work to bring Filipinos together by providing good information, cultural awareness and practice.

In emergencies, she uses her collaborative leadership skills to connect people in need to the Multicultural Association of Hawke's Bay.

INDIVIDUAL
AWARD

**Sport &
Recreation**

Ross Webb





Ross Webb

The sport of rowing, both local and national, has benefitted hugely from the countless voluntary hours Ross has given to coaching and supporting both younger and adult, male and female, rowers.

Since 2008 he's been a coach and stalwart of the Hawke's Bay Rowing Club, and he's a key organiser of the Hawke's Bay Regatta.

As well as coaching his own crews, he supports young rowers from local schools, and these efforts have produced national and international champions.

He also started coaching para-rowing in 2014 and attended the World Rowing Championships in 2019 as a coach for the New Zealand para-rowing team.

He developed a pilot introduction to rowing programme for students with special needs in 2021/22.

Hawke's Bay is well-served thanks to Ross' efforts, which he also extends to the East Coast Rowing Association and as a volunteer at rowing events around the country.

In addition to coaching and assisting with maintenance at the rowing club, he is a Hawke's Bay Regional Council honorary enforcement officer helping keep users safe in the local rivers and waterways.

A portrait of Julie Hart, a woman with short, curly brown hair and black-rimmed glasses, smiling. She is wearing a dark blue denim jacket over a black top with a white patterned collar. The background is a blurred green outdoor setting. The image is framed by a magenta diagonal shape on the left and top right.

INDIVIDUAL
AWARD

**Health
& Welfare**

Julie Hart



Julie Hart

Julie has volunteered locally and nationally for Women's Refuge since she first started volunteering for Hastings Women's Refuge in 1994.

Her commitment of time, leadership, passion and professionalism has contributed significantly to the support, healing and empowerment of women and children who

have been affected by family violence in Hawke's Bay.

Although she has now become a paid member of staff, she still helps cover the 24-hour crisis line and contributes in many other ways outside of her paid work.

Julie received a Zonta Hawke's Bay Woman of Achievement Award in 2019.

INDIVIDUAL
AWARD

**Health
& Welfare**

Edward 'Joe' Simmons





Edward 'Joe' Simmons

Joe has dedicated more than 50 years to the Maraekākaho Volunteer Fire Brigade, and been a rural controller responsible for heading up the brigade for a number of years.

Joe's commitment and leadership came to the fore in 2005 when he "re-ignited" the brigade after volunteer numbers dwindled to just a few. Through his efforts he built up a new crew of keen volunteers.

He was also instrumental in the fundraising, organisation and the community's

construction of a new fire station in 2007 to help house a new four-wheel-drive rural fire appliance.

His knowledge of the local area, including its people, access routes, water sources and potential risks has been invaluable over the years, especially since the brigade covers a large area from Maraekākaho to southern SH50, Ruakawa, and inland to Kereru and beyond.

Under Joe's leadership the brigade has developed beyond the traditional rural role of fighting vegetation fires to other callouts including motor vehicle accidents, structure fires and natural disasters.

Joe's extraordinary length of service and ongoing commitment to supporting the community through the work with the brigade is exemplary and much appreciated.

INDIVIDUAL
AWARD

**Health
& Welfare**

**Barbara
Walker**





Barbara Walker

As lead chaplain at Hawke's Bay Hospital from 2009 to 2021, Barbara's work involved much more than the paid component of this role.

Her advocacy for staff and patients was 24/7 - ranging from fundraising to ensuring the chaplaincy has a capacity to have someone there at all hours of the day and night, every day of the year.

Her provision of spiritual comfort to the dying and ill as well as support to families has been of the highest order.

She has also been at the forefront of new events and services, such as initiating and holding ANZAC Day services at the hospital, spearheading the Memorial Garden, and starting the making of teddy

bears by the community to be sent to people suffering from a disaster – such as the Christchurch earthquake. These teddies have gone all over the world.

Her work as chaplain comes following a lifetime of service to others – Barbara had nursed in many war zones and refugee camps around the world.

She was awarded a QSO for her overseas work and service to the community of Hokianga, and her autobiography "Purple Hand" details an extraordinary dedication and faithfulness to her calling.

INDIVIDUAL
AWARD

**Education
& Youth**

Ave Faka'osi





Ave Faka'osi

After spending years volunteering to support Pasifika learner drivers gain their licence, Ave has now shaped and delivers a targeted drivers licence initiative for Pasifika people.

Trained as a teacher in Samoa before coming to New Zealand, Ave uses these skills to deliver training centred on Pasifika values, teaching in the Samoan and Tongan languages, to support people successfully gain their driver's licence.

She translates the road code from English, and this has helped both the local community and RSE workers who come to her when they are struggling with language differences.

As well as teaching, Ave accompanies learners when they are sitting their theory tests and their driving tests, translating when required.

Although theory tests had been available in Samoan and Tongan they were a literal translation and did not make sense to users.



Ave was able to get them translated by working with the NZTA.

After 12 years of helping people, often after work and in the evenings, her driving school now sits within Kainga Pasifika Services Trust, offering qualified Pasifika driving instructors for the first time in Hawke's Bay.

Ave's dedication to her role has resulted in incredible pass rates of 98 to 99 per cent, and even attracts students from beyond Hawke's Bay.

INDIVIDUAL
AWARD

**Health
& Welfare**

**Ron
Wilkins**





Ron Wilkins

The contributions Ron has made to his community are many and varied through his long service with the Grey Power organisation.

He is known as the “go-to” person within Grey Power, and his career in the Police force and knowledge of the law made him the perfect choice for the role of vice-



president of Hastings Grey Power, which he was elected to when he moved to the region in 2014.

Now president of the Hastings branch, he has always gone out of his way to achieve the best outcome for the people he represents. He has built relationships within local government, health, social welfare, police and Age Concern that have helped his advocacy.



From organising petitions to central government, to helping older people out with handiwork he spends a large amount of his time on community issues.

He’s always available on the phone or in person if people need help, giving his time willingly, which has made him a good friend to many people over the years.

INDIVIDUAL
AWARD

**Health
& Welfare**

Tofilau Talalelei Taufale





Tofilau Talalelei Taufale

Since 2015, Tofilau has been a respected volunteer trustee of the HB Youth Futures Trust, through which he has supported getting young Hawke's Bay people into work, education or training, utilising innovative community approaches.

He is also the lead for USO in Hawke's Bay. USO is about improving quality of life,

educating Polynesian people and improving health outcomes, and Tofilau's role has been a voluntary one.

A visionary who is passionate about the community, in 2019 he worked in partnership with Hastings District Council to deliver a community concert to fundraise for Samoa during the measles epidemic, and also a community concert in 2020 celebrating all things Pasifika.

In 2020, during COVID lockdowns he stepped in and provided leadership to coordinate council and central government



responses to the needs of vulnerable Pacific families across the Ngāti Kahungunu rohe.

His strong advocacy also enabled support to be extended to thousands of RSE workers who were stranded across Aotearoa.

Tofilau's passion, leadership and tireless work for Pasifika whānau across Hawke's Bay has contributed immeasurably to community wellbeing and promoting inclusive and welcoming communities.

INDIVIDUAL
AWARD

**Health
& Welfare**

**Kevin
Hodges**





Kevin Hodges

For 23 years Kevin has contributed to the community through fighting rural fires, and also raising record-breaking amounts of money for cancer support, and conducting search and rescue operations.



In 1999, he was in the newly formed Wattie's factory volunteer rescue team that assisted the Hawke's Bay Rescue Squad, and in 2011 he used his skills to help with the earthquake rescues in Christchurch. He joined the Heretaunga Rural Fire brigade in 2009.

He spent six weeks helping with the fires in Canada in 2019, and a couple of years later helped extinguish the fires in the Nelson area.



Over the last seven years he has completed the Firefighter Sky Tower Challenge, raising money for leukaemia and blood cancer, and has been the highest individual and highest station fundraiser twice and also the second highest individual fundraiser twice.

He spends most weekends standing outside Countdown Hastings and New World Havelock North running raffles, a sign of his ongoing commitment and passion for his community.



Ngā Tohu Hōnore ā-Hapori 2022

Civic Honours Awards 2022

Photos

Photos from tonight's ceremony and the award recipients' portraits can be viewed, shared on social media, and purchased as digital files or prints at www.duncanbrown.co.nz. Alternatively, you can contact Duncan on (06) 878 2383 or duncan@duncanbrownphotography.co.nz.

Photographs of the evening will also be available from www.hastingsdc.govt.nz/civicawards