

Civic and community awards honour Ōtaki volunteers

Two Ōtaki residents and our local surf lifesaving club were honoured with civic and community awards recently.

At the awards night held at Paraparaumu Golf Club, Mayor Ross Church talked about the enormous contribution the award recipients make to the district each year.

“These are people who volunteer their time for the good of our community and it’s wonderful for them to be acknowledged here tonight,” he said.

The Otaki Surf Lifesaving Club won a Wellington Airport Regional Community Award in the Education and Child Youth Development category.

The club has served the community and visitors to Ōtaki for 59 years, performing over 486 rescues in the surf at Ōtaki Beach and hundreds of first aid treatments. During its lifetime, 400 lifeguards have been trained at the club with 43 of those currently patrolling the local beach. The club has also educated thousands of people of all ages in surf awareness and lifesaving techniques.

Other Ōtaki locals to be honoured at the event were Barbara Franks and Don Edhouse who were presented with Civic Awards.

Barbara makes a huge difference to her community as a volunteer for Waitohu Home



Community Award winner Paul Carlyon of Otaki Surf Lifesaving Club with Wellington Airport's Geoff Eban and Wellington Community Trust's Norrey Simmons.

& School Committee, Otaki Athletics Club, Waitohu Board of Trustees, Otaki Village Promotions Group and Otaki Cub Scout Pack. She brings a mix of common sense, astute business acumen, a readiness to laugh, openness to new ideas and a phenomenal work ethic.

Don has been dedicated to retail in Ōtaki for the last 64 years. His father founded Edhouse Store in 1923 and in 1950, Don took over the reins. He has continued the business up to the present day, employing many locals over the years. Don has also been involved with Rotary Otaki for a long time.



Max Lutz

Ōtaki farmer privileged to work on Kāpiti 20-year plan

Ōtaki dairy farmer Max Lutz says he felt privileged to be asked to be a rural representative on a reference group set up to actively involve the community in the development of a 20-year plan for Kāpiti (officially known as the Long Term Plan or LTP).

Chaired by former Privacy Commissioner Marie Shroff, the group comprises 21 members from a cross-section of community groups, including business, youth, elderly, sporting, rural, disability, environmental and arts/cultural representatives.

The aim is to ensure public perspectives are taken into account in the planning process of the LTP which sets out how Council plans to invest in projects and programmes for the next 20 years.

“It’s great to be part of the group and be able to highlight important issues for rural people, such as rates, the effect of changing land use on rural productivity and the need for improved public transport,” Mr Lutz says.

“It’s important for rural residents and ratepayers to make sure those concerns are reflected in the plan. It shows Council is serious about consulting with the community, with everyone having a fair chance to have their say. I hope we have the opportunity for further involvement as Council works through the planning process.”

A report summarising feedback on a range of issues from four meetings held with the reference group was recently presented to Council.

The report identified issues it believed Council should take into account in its planning. These included the economy, employment, supporting families and catering for the needs of all ages and abilities. Positive themes that the group felt could be built on included fostering the arts, extending rail transport, supporting business and farming, and retaining a focus on sustainability.

Councils are required to review their LTPs every three years and consult the community on updated content.

Water invoices

Ōtaki residents will be sent their first water invoice in early September. After this, you will receive your invoices every three months.

For a detailed meter reading schedule, go to www.kapiticoast.govt.nz/water-charging

Remember, water charges are now invoiced separately from general rates, so ratepayers will receive two invoices every quarter – one for general rates and one for water rates – at different times.

Payment options

There are a variety of ways you can pay your water invoices, including:

- **automatic payment**
- **internet & telephone banking** (Council’s account number is 03-0732-0306101-00)
- **credit card** online via Council’s website
- **cheque**
- **direct debit** (if you have a direct debit set up for your general rates, you will need a new one for water rates if you want to pay this way - contact Council for a form to set up this facility from December)
- **in person** at a Council service centre.

Please include your **water account number** in any payment details.

To request you receive your **invoices by email** from December, please email water.meters@kapiticoast.govt.nz with your property address, water account number and ratepayer name.



Civic Award winner Barbara Franks with Mayor Ross Church.