

Porirua locals acknowledged in New Year Honours list



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Three Porirua residents have received New Year's honours for 2009.

Professor Ralph Ngatata Love, Plimmerton, has received the highest honour issued this year, the Principal Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit, for services to Maori.

Professor Love, Te Atiawa, was

the first Maori to gain a PhD in New Zealand.

At 70, he is Mana Whenua Professor for Te Whare Wananga o Awanuiarangi's Wellington campus and Professor of Business at Victoria University.

He chairs the Wellington Tenth Trust and was key to settling the \$200 million Port Nicholson treaty claim.

Dr Margaret Southwick, Elsdon, has received the Queen's Service Medal for services to the Pacific Island community.

Dr Southwick is the Dean of Faculty and Director, Pacific Health Research Centre, Whitireia Community Polytechnic.

She holds a PhD in nursing and has been a member of the Nursing Council of New Zealand since 2002.

Among her achievements at Whitireia was the development and implementation of the Bachelor of Nursing (Pacific) programme, the first of its kind for New Zealand.

Dr Bill Robertson, Papakowhai, has been named as an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit for his services to surveying.

Dr Robertson, the chair of Wellington's Terralink International Ltd, is a registered surveyor with a long career of surveying and mapping, which

includes having an Antarctic mountain named after him in recognition of his efforts in Antarctic mapping.

After spending nine years as Surveyor-General of New Zealand and director-general of the former Department of Survey and Land Information, Dr Robertson has since become an international surveying consultant with the World Bank and United Nations Food and Agricultural Organisation, and most recently with his work with the United Nations on disputed international boundaries.

YOUR SAY

What's on the New Year's Resolution list for some of us in 2009, and are we still keeping them two weeks in? Citylife's **Andrew Bonallack** heads under the canopies to ask.

Melina Kinereta, Waitangirua

Does saving count? I'm saving for a trip to my home islands, Tokelau. I've managed to save a bit. I've got my extended family over there. I'm hoping I can do it. Things that make it hard are the weekends. I like to socialise.



Kevin Smith and Venita Williamson, Timaru

Venita: We're up here to see family, but I used to live here. I haven't even thought about New Year's resolutions. The last time I wanted to do something like that was giving up smoking. I did that four years ago. **Kevin:** I don't make New Year resolutions. I just don't believe in them. If you don't make them you can't break them.

Willie Keene, Whitby

My goal is to be debt free. I'm debt-free as of today, and I'm going to keep it that way. This year I'm going to just keep working hard and saving.

(From left) Scott Giles, Tamati Thornton and Olivia Giles, Porirua East



Olivia: Scott's is to try and give up smoking by the end of the month. Mine is to get fit, to go out more and have more fun and not stress. It's going well so far. **Scott:** Tamati's goal is to annoy his parents. **Tamati:** Less. Annoy my parents less.

Tony Graumans, Cannons Creek

I'm a volunteer fireman. My goal is to do more fire education, and hopefully avoid fires like the last one we have had [in Manakau City]. It's basic education, when it comes to things like that. I have a great employer, who lets me attend fires when my pager goes.



LOCAL NEWS

Mural on a shed

Visitors and regulars traveling north into Porirua City might have noticed that the green shed just by the Mungavin Bridge onramp has had a makeover.

Following the permission of the building's owners, Telstra Clear, in December, Keep Porirua Beautiful commissioned Rotorua artist Marc Spijkerbosch to create a landscape of Porirua that continues on all four sides.

Spijkerbosch is a specialist in 'trompe l'oeil' (trick of the eye) artworks, where paintings convince the viewer that they are looking at a real scene.

He says he wanted a local landscape because it would be non-controversial and not distracting, and would guarantee ownership by the community.

Spijkerbosch has received awards from Keep New Zealand Beautiful for his work in Rotorua, and last year attended Porirua's Festival of the Elements to work with teenagers on a trompe l'oeil piece.



Photo by: Andrew Bonallack / PW Mural 03 060109

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What's Happening This Month...

January

Thursday	15th	Midweekers Activities, Euchre, Darts
Friday	16th	DJ Ray, Membership Draw, Handle Club, Cribbage
Saturday	17th	Soul Minerz
Sunday	18th	Texas Hold'em Poker - Away
Monday	19th	Snooker, Poker
Tuesday	20th	Texas Hold'em Poker, Billiards, Pool
Wednesday	21st	Membership Draw, Joker Draw, Raffles
Thursday	22nd	Midweekers Activities, Euchre, Darts
Friday	23rd	DJ Ray, Membership Draw, Handle, Cribbage
Saturday	24th	Studio 22
Sunday	25th	Texas Hold'em Poker
Monday	26th	Snooker, Poker
Tuesday	27th	Texas Hold'em Poker, Billiards, Pool
Wednesday	28th	Membership Draw, Joker Draw, Raffles
Thursday	29th	Midweekers Activities, Euchre, Darts
Friday	30th	Ariki, Membership Draw, Handle, Cribbage
Saturday	31st	Nova

All members, their guests and affiliated club members welcome

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