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**FAMILY NOTICES**

BLACK, Gordon James  
 MALTON, Kayleen Pearl  
 RUTENE, Cecilia Hiria  
 (Gypsy)

Full Family Notices on P19

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Two members of Wairarapa Search and Rescue on a recent search in the central Tararua Range. PHOTO/SUPPLIED

# Beacons of generosity

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Locating a locator beacon just got easier, with Wairarapa Rescue Trust doubling its beacon supply, thanks to the support of local businesses.

The Trust recently purchased three personal locator beacons [PLB] to add to three it already owned. They can be hired for a subsidised rate.

In other regions, PBLs can be hired for up to \$15 per day, but the Trust's PLBs are available for only \$5 per day or \$30 per week.

Wairarapa Rescue Trust trustee Sam Milligan said the subsidised fee is to ensure cost is not a hindrance to people's personal safety when venturing into the great outdoors.

"We purchased the personal locator beacons with the view to enabling more people in our community to stay safe when they are walking, tramping,

hunting or out fishing," Milligan said.

"By encouraging people to take a simple device like a PLB out with them, it ensures they can be found in the event of an emergency."

Since letting businesses know about the initiative, the Trust has received multiple offers of support.

Masterton businesses Forest Enterprises, Quality Builders, and Valley Plumbing have each funded a new PLB and Masterton Trust Lands Trust has offered to be the collection and drop-off point for the PLBs.

"We've been contacted by local businesses, many who have hunters, walkers, and fishermen on their staff and who've got behind this initiative and offered to help out further, which is terrific," Milligan said.

"It shows how an idea about keeping our community safe, can blossom."

When activated, a PLB alerts

search and rescue services to a person's location on both land or sea.

It works by broadcasting a signal to a satellite, which alerts the New Zealand Rescue Coordination Centre, in the Hutt Valley, that someone is in distress.

Because satellites offer global coverage, it means the PLB can summon help wherever someone is, no matter how remote.

"Once activated, these devices can locate someone to within 62 meters of their location so are vital in an emergency – they can save lives," Milligan said.

- People interested in hiring a PLBs can call 06 370 0155 to arrange a pick-up time.
- The PLBs can be collected from the Masterton Trust Lands Trust building at 189 Queen St, Masterton, between 8:00am and 4:30pm, weekdays, and at other times by arrangement.

## Three fundraisers planned

Continued from page 1

to establish what maintenance was required, which would cost a further \$10,000, and seismic assessment, particularly of the boy's dormitory.

"Just to get started, we're looking at around \$35,000 plus GST.

"We're looking to run three major fundraising events in the next wee while."

The group's current Givealittle page has so far raised \$3000,

from 17 donors.

Higginbottom said it was up to the group to remove the financial risk of the hostel from the board's books.

The board declined to comment on discussions but is expected to resolve outstanding issues before the Save Poto House group's meeting with parents.



Mike Higginbottom. PHOTO/FILE

It has previously expressed support for the group's aims, as long as the final proposal is financially viable.

The hostel is forecast to make a loss of just over \$91,000 this year.

The land on which the hostel stands is owned by the Ministry of Education, and the buildings by the board.

There appears to be nothing to stop the trust operating on ministry land – "There are precedents around the country," Higginbottom said.

## Librarian a catalyst for range of issues

Continued from page 1

the South Wairarapa District Council".

"She is a caring, generous person and expresses our community values.

"We could name people who have been incapacitated and Shirley has delivered books to them in her own time, but more than this, she has always gone the extra mile to help in any way she can."

They say Nightingale is an prolific book purchaser and set up the Friends of the Library group and the library book club.

They got permission from people living in Kitchener St to put the signs on their fences.

Another seven signs are being made, a picket at the council is planned for next week, and there's talk of a fundraising event.

Petitions have been put in The Village Cafe, Medici, Kitcheners cafe, and the BP service station.

Hansen says she's having no contact with Nightingale, who lives in Greytown, while the campaign is running and Nightingale can't talk publicly because she is involved in a mediation process.

South Wairarapa District Council is not commenting on the issues involved.

"We are going through an employment process and it's not appropriate for us to discuss the details in the media," chief executive Harry Wilson said in a statement.

A person from the Nightingale camp who didn't want to be named said 22 allegations had been made against the librarian, but they were "petty issues" that could be explained.

Hansen said Nightingale was the life and the soul of the library and a bit of a character.

Library displays have featured items from her shoe collection.

Hansen said there was a lot of dissatisfaction with the council in Martinborough, some of which was to do with the Waihinga Centre, which needed addressing.

"I actually think Shirley is a good catalyst for issues with the council because she is a good and popular person," Hansen says.



The Wairarapa Awards

2019 celebrating business excellence

## Nominate your business

This year there are five categories: Innovation, Vibrant, Emerging, Team, and Service.

Download a Nomination Form from [www.wairarapachamber.co.nz](http://www.wairarapachamber.co.nz) or email Vanessa at [info@wairarapachamber.co.nz](mailto:info@wairarapachamber.co.nz)

**Closing date 5pm Friday 19 July 2019**