



This Scroll commemorates the induction as a

***Laureate of the
Kapiti Horowhenua
Hall of Fame***

of

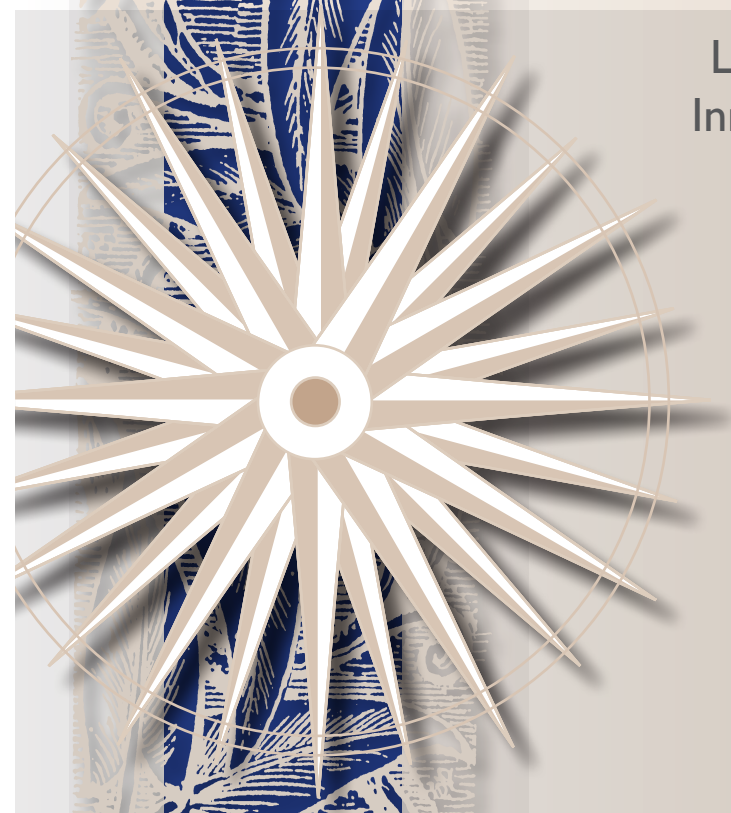
John Barrett

Inducted by
Business Kapiti Horowhenua Inc
in September 2022

In recognition of John's long
standing contribution to:
Business excellence
Leadership and standing in business
Innovation and Entrepreneurship, and
Service to the community

Chair
BKH

Mayor
Kapiti Coast District



-Business Kāpiti Horowhenua Incorporated-

-Kāpiti Hall of Fame Laureate-

John Barrett

30th of September 2022

A Kauri in the forest reflects stature and prominence, strength and durability, and an ability to survive and grow against the adversity of nature's challenges... what an appropriate way to describe John Barrett.

He is Ngati Raukawa, Te Ati Awa and Ngati Toarangatira and resides in Ōtaki . His great grandfather Wi Parata te Kahakura left the farm on Kāpiti Island to his grandmother, who held a kaitiaki role, as there was no money in farming it. John first visited the island in 1955 as a young boy. He left school at 16 and secured a job in Wellington as an office junior with Thomas Cook Travel.

In 1970 he travelled on his OE and returned a year later to marry Susan and started building a batch on the island. His wider Whanau took interest and without a real conscious effort, they began the development of the island business. John continued his career in travel working in Levin. In the early 1990's he operated a modest commercial fishing operation, while at the same time developing a youth development programme to support a 20-week life skills programme on the island, all sleeping in one room with a kerosene fridge, a coal range, and a long drop toilet.

Parents of the kids wanted to visit, then friends of the parents wanted to visit, and the seed was sewn! In 1999 John and his sister Amo founded and is the Managing Director of Kāpiti Island Nature Tours and Nature Lodge, a family-operated multi-award-winning tourism business located on one of New Zealand's premier nature reserves... Kāpiti Island.

Three children, along with cousins, nieces and nephews, wider whanau along with skills bought in from the community, make up a team of 40 staff operating the business today.

Not only has he developed an iconic tourism business John has fully immersed himself in the promotion of nature-based tourism. He promotes Indigenous higher education and conservation practices.

To emphasise John's utter commitment to his people, community and country, his roles include:

Founding Trustee Kapiti Skills Centre, founding member of Kapiti Marine Reserve Management Committee, founding member of the Leadership Council of WINTA -World Indigenous Tourism Alliance.

Past Chair of, Te Ara a Maui-Wellington Regional Māori Tourism Alliance, and the NZ Māori Tourism Council, recently retired Director of Tourism NZ, past Director of the Wellington Conservation Board, and the Aviation/Tourism Training organisation, a past member of Te Mana Whakahaere (Board of Directors) Te Waanganga o Raukawa.

Currently, John Chairs the Maoriland Charitable Trust-Maoriland Film Festival, he Chairs Raukawa Whanau Ora Ltd, and is a Director of Te Waananga o Raukawa Foundation. This is not an exhaustive record of John's involvement, but it surely portrays his energy and dedication to making a difference in his community.

John has poured his life's energy into building an iconic tourism attraction, he has weathered considerable objections to his vision, but has stayed the course and today showcases a predator-free nature reserve showcasing bird life and pristine New Zealand bush land and beach. A man of your prominence and as humble as you are shines a light on what can be achieved.

Your selfless roles across our community are to be admired, respected, and celebrated. This whakatauki is said of a great chief or leader... "He kotoku rerenga tahi - A white herons flight is seen but once".

John Barrett, you are a deserving laureate to the BKH hall of fame.