



**HERO HONOURED:** Family members of the late Les Munro – Gail (left), Greg and William Munro, Jake Stanton, Christine Ross, Paul Stanton and Maree Munro unveiled a commemorative plaque in honour of their father and grandfather in Te Kuiti on Saturday. PHOTO SUPPLIED

## Final tribute for Les

WAITOMO District Council's finishing touch to Les Munro's timeless tribute was held in Te Kuiti on Saturday.

Following Mr Munro's death on August 4, countless tributes flowed from around the world for Waitomo's long-standing mayor and decorated war hero.

To honour the 96-year-old's contribution to the local community, the council hosted a public memorial service at the Waitomo Cultural and Arts Centre in Te Kuiti on August 14.

A week later, the King St East civic centre was officially renamed the Les Munro Centre.

Mayor Brian Hanna said at the time that it is a fitting tribute to Mr Munro, who despite his service as a Royal Air Force Squadron leader and a Dambuster during World War II, said that establishing the civic centre in 1980, was one of his proudest achievements.

Changing the name on the outside of the centre was completed in December and the final touch, an unveiling of a commemorative plaque, was held inside the same building on Saturday.

More than 50 people attended the memorial event including Mr Hanna and several members of the Munro family who unveiled the plaque which will be placed in the foyer.

It reads: *In recognition of John Leslie Munro CNZM, DSO, QSO, DFC, JP for his outstanding*

*contribution to the Waitomo District Community.*

Waitomo District Council customer service group manager Helen Beever says a number of past and present councillors and local residents attended.

"On Saturday, WDC hosted a lovely afternoon event to unveil a plaque for the Les Munro Centre – in memory of Mr Munro and the contribution he made to the community during his time as mayor," she says.

Mrs Beever says Mr Hanna opened proceedings by acknowledging Mr Munro and his contribution to the Waitomo district.

This was followed by several stories by those attending including former WDC councillor and close friend Bruce Williams, who spoke of his time serving with Mr Munro and on behalf of past councillors, and of the many initiatives undertaken by the council of that time.

After the unveiling, Mr Munro's son Greg spoke on behalf of the family and about their fond memories of "Les".

"The fitting ceremony was followed by an afternoon tea and a good chat about days gone by," says Mrs Beever.

"The family then enjoyed looking around the Les Munro Centre and the various improvements that have been made as part of the ongoing renewal project."



**HONOURED:** Veteran Poppy Day volunteer Nina Mark of Otorohanga pins a poppy on Thelma Rapley of Maihihi on Friday.

## Helping our RSAs

NORTH King Country residents were again very generous in their support of the annual Returned & Services Associations' Poppy Day appeal on Friday.

Otorohanga resident Nina Mark, who has volunteered to collect donations for many years, says "it's a nice way of giving something back to the people who gave so much for their country."

Fellow volunteer Bev Corboy says while the town wasn't busy

earlier in the day, people were very kind and she was hopeful the volunteers would raise a good amount for the Returned & Services Associations' support services to local war veterans and the ex-service community.

Thelma Rapley of Maihihi says she always donates to Poppy Day and wears her poppy with pride because four of her uncles fought in World War II (1939-45).

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## This week's specials!

Specials available from Tuesday 19th April until Sunday 24th April 2016 or while stocks last. 95 Rora Street, Te Kuiti. Phone 878 8530. Open 7am - 8pm, Monday - Friday, 8am - 8pm, Saturday - Sunday

**Waikato Draught/Lion Red**  
24 x 330ml Bottles

\$32<sup>99</sup>

pack

**Fresh Tegel NZ Skinless Chicken**  
Thigh Cutlets

\$8<sup>99</sup>

kg

**Californian Navel Oranges**

\$2<sup>99</sup>

kg

**Bluebird Burger Rings/Twisties/**  
Cheezels/Rashuns 110-120g

99<sup>c</sup>

each

**L&P Soft Drink**  
1.5L

\$1<sup>00</sup>

each

supervalue Te Kuiti