

**Civic awards citation for Professor  
Emeritus Nancy (Nan) Joan Kinross CBE  
Convention and Function Centre  
Tuesday 30 October**

RGON, Dip N.S., B.A. (Canterbury), M.S.  
(Berkley), PhD (Massey)

The “R” word simply doesn’t feature in the vocabulary of Professor Nan Kinross. Turning 92 today (October 30) “Retirement” is not a concept she embraces.

When Nan “retired” as founding Professor of Nursing Studies at Massey University in 1991, she continued a life of public and community service, providing advocacy and support for those with no voice of their own.

In 1973 Nan came to Palmerston North to set up the first school of Nursing at Massey University with Norma Chick.

Nan's stellar work in the primary health sector was recognised in the New Year's Honours list in 1993 when she was made a Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire (CBE) for services to nursing and nursing education.

She chaired the Ethics Committee of the Health Research Council and worked to develop national policies for women's health.

In June 2005 Nan received the inaugural Lifetime Achievement Award at MidCentral Health's first primary health awards, recognising 53 years of service in the health system.

However, it is for her decades of community service that we are recognising Nan today.

She served on the Board of the Brightwater Centre since 1981, as well as serving two terms on the Palmerston North Hospital Board and the Area Health Board.

In 1989 the Manawatu Accommodation and Sheltered Housing Trust, better known as MASH evolved from the former Railway Hostel Trust, with Nan as its first chairperson.

She became its Patron in 2005 after retiring as Chair and continues to support the organisation, hosting a MASH barbecue for 250-odd people at her heritage cottage and garden every first Friday in December.

Nan also opens her home to barbecues, house and garden days, and garage sale fundraisers for Soroptimist International of Palmerston North, which she joined in October 1981.

A former president, she has helped the organisation raise funds for MASH, Women's Refuge, Camellia House, St. John's Ambulance, Women's Health Collective, the Whakatipuria Teen Parent Centre at Freyberg High School, and refugee resettlement.

In 1989 Nan proposed a tertiary student scholarship with a "community service" component.

Since 1990, 57 Soroptimist International of Palmerston North Scholarships have gone to Massey University and UCOL students, and are still presented by Nan.

Networking through her memberships of the Manawatū County Club (MCC), SeniorNet and U3A, she has helped expand the collaboration and scope of those organisations.

She is also justly proud of 'Nan's Place', the 1873 cottage she bought in 1978 for \$12,000, and has maintained ever since as part of the city's heritage, and where she continues to host meetings, social and fundraising events.