

John Oliver



Born and raised in Central Hawke's Bay, John has devoted countless hours to a number of community organisations. He joined the Ōtāne Volunteer Fire Brigade at age 20, serving for 49-years, and holding the role of Chief Fire Officer for the last 31 years. In that time he set national records for attendance and service to call-outs. He was awarded the coveted gold star for 25 years of service, Honorary Membership and a FENZ Long Service Good Conduct Medal. John has also overseen all the maintenance of the Ōtāne Arts and Crafts Centre, and his leadership has played such a vital role in the running of the Centre, earning him an honorary Life Membership. In 2021 he was awarded a Life Membership to the Waipawa RSA, his contribution over the years means he is an integral part of the Ōtāne Anzac celebrations. John's passion for the Ōtāne community saw him lead charge to develop the Ōtāne Domain netball and tennis complex. A highly respected and valued community member with incredible energy, passion, and vision for Central Hawke's Bay, John is often the first point of contact for solutions to local problems. All of this has been achieved, while remaining a dedicated family man to his wife, children and grandchildren.