Recognising Work of Volunteer

When the Hawera Memorial Theatre Trust was formed in 2011, founding Trustee, Russ Standing took on the task of "overseeing" the theatre activities.  In 2013, Ivan Willis stepped into the role and remained Theatre Manager up until February 2023.

The Theatre Manager's role has become more complex as the years have gone and technology and health & safety elements have become far more significant. Couple this with the fact that the theatre's use has increased remarkably over the past decade, and this has meant the Theatre Manager could be on call 24/7 at various times of the year. Users of the theatre must be inducted into the theatre, given all health & safety briefings, and generally require assistance with stage settings, lighting and often front of house duties. The Theatre Manager is there to do that.

Phil Waite, Kim Peters, Robynne Harford, Tash Webb and Aaron Midgley (STDC) hosted the occasion which was also attended by Trustees of the Theatre. Phil thanked Ivan for his dedication and time commitment to the local theatre and wished him well in his "retirement".  Aaron Midgley will be taking over the volunteer role of Theatre Manager.