



Māpua & Districts

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

MDCA working for the good of the community – Join us and make your view count!

The December meeting was a celebration of the community work David Mitchell has undertaken as a MDCA member over many years. David was presented with a Life Membership Certificate in recognition for his generosity to our community. David's daughter Kate spoke fondly regarding her father's community commitment. Both David's wife Judy and Kate received flowers to thank them for all the background support they have given David.

Mayor Tim King spoke in support of David's lifetime of community support, including lobbying for the Mapua to *Māpua* name change and many environment related projects.

Tim also noted the 20 Year Community Service Awards recently presented to Eileen and Grant Thawley (2nd time) and Marion Satherley.

Janet Taylor and Neil Bruce-Miller gave an update presentation from the Ruby Coast Initiative Trust (RCIT) regarding the progress of the third gateway sculpture project.

RCIT was officially established in 2003 and was a collaborative initiative between MDCA, MDBA (Mapua & District Business Assn) and TACA (Tasman Area Community Assn) for the primary purpose to identify the area that became divided by the construction of the Ruby Bay by-pass. The first win was to official name the area east of the by-pass between the Mapua estuary at the entrance to Mapua Drive and the Tasman estuary at the entrance to Aporo Road as the 'Ruby Coast'.

Four historical interpretative panels have been installed as well as two of the three planned gateway sculptures.

The progress on the third sculpture to be located near the underpass at the top of Seaton Valley is progressing well. A Resource Consent has been granted, a contractor has been engaged and all the materials have been paid for. Monies are now required to pay for the construction phase.

RCIT are now appealing to the residents of the Ruby Coast and beyond to help raise the remaining funds. For more information please view www.rcit.co.nz

Next Meeting:

Monday February 14th – Venue to be confirmed