



Tēnā koutou

As valued stakeholders and representatives of local iwi, this pānui is to let you know of some important developments for the Light Nelson Trust. There is good news balanced by some not so good news.

The not so good news first - with the government ban on all gatherings and events and the uncertainty of how long the issues with COVID-19 will last, the trust has decided to postpone this year's event until 2021. While the decision to postpone was a necessity, it was still a difficult one to make knowing that it will be a huge disappointment to everyone involved. However, it is clear in these uncertain times that we now need to focus our energy on looking after each other, our families and our community.

The good news which we were hoping to announce as an exciting lead-in to the 2020 event is that the trust has adopted a new name and a new creative direction.

The trustees believed that a te reo Māori name where the meaning and interpretation had a strong connection to the core purpose and philosophy of the trust would be appropriate. After discussion with the Kaihautū Māori Partnership Manager at Nelson City Council as well as seeking guidance from accredited translator Te Ahu Rei (Ngāti Tama) and Tasman District Council Kaumātua Jane de Feu (Ngāti Tama and Te Ātiawa), the name "**Te Ramaroa**" was selected.

Te Ramaroa carries the concept of a beacon and has connotations of long term occupation that is time honoured, reflecting the past as well as holding a light to a bright, positive future.

Te Ramaroa was formally adopted by the trustees as our event and trust name at our annual general meeting on 26 February 2020 and will be made public this week.

Since its inception in 2013, the event has seen phenomenal growth in attendance and participation, with the first event attracting 16,000 people and increasing to more than 40,000 people attending in 2018. Managing these large crowds has become increasingly challenging, and one of the planning priorities since 2018 has been to address how the event can be reshaped for the future, to ensure it remains enjoyable for everyone and sustainable to deliver.

In 2021 the event will expand over a wider footprint with a trail of carefully selected installations placed around NMIT, the Nelson CBD, Cathedral Hill and various laneways, as well as at least one major work in the Queens Gardens.

Te Ramaroa would not be possible without the generous support of our core funders, sponsors and Luminaries, and we are incredibly grateful for the ongoing commitment to help us stage this much-loved community event.

We hope that you will share in our excitement in launching our new name and brand. Planning for **Te Ramaroa 2021** is well underway with a wonderful array of installations by local and national artists. All of us at the Te Ramaroa Trust are looking forward to showcasing another spectacular event for the Nelson Tasman community in 2021.

Nāku noa, nā

Bronwyn

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bronwyn Monopoli". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'B'.

Bronwyn Monopoli
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