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New staff award well received at Wairarapa DHB

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Wairarapa District Health Board, with the support of community sponsor, Lee Malneek Contractors and More FM, has launched a staff recognition award to celebrate excellence.

The award winner is being drawn at random from the successful nominations and announced every month on air on the Brent Gare Breakfast Show. The contenders are not even aware of their nomination, so it came as a surprise to yesterday's winner, Lisa Manihera, who was thrilled to receive a \$150 voucher to Koi restaurant.

"It was a complete surprise as I had no idea I was being nominated, and I still don't know who put me forward," Lisa said. "I was very confused with all the congratulation messages when I got to work as I had no idea what they were talking about!"

"I was thrilled to hear the news and very thankful. I think the awards are a great idea and it is very generous of the sponsor," Lisa said.

The WrDHB staff recognition awards recognise exceptional behaviour, initiative or service that goes "above and beyond" and models the organisational values.

January's winner, Lisa Manihera, works in the perioperative department managing reception and scheduling. Not only is Lisa undeniably great at her job but it seems she is the heart of morale in the hospital theatres. She is always doing something special for people, and she is always in great humour.

Her nominator summed Lisa up nicely by simply saying: "There is no one else like her, and nor is there likely to be, but she should be cloned. Lisa is excellent at what she does, and how she does it."

The other nominations included Narina Sewell, Kerrie Sutton, Emma Peters, Keren Williams and Salina Lange who will now, along with Lisa, have a second chance to win at the end of the year, in a randomly drawn prize weekend away.

DHB Communications Manager, Anna Cardno, said the awards are a tangible way to recognise some of the exceptional behaviors and service of staff that may otherwise go unnoticed.

"Our staff, in both clinical and support roles, often work under pressure and healthcare can be a demanding landscape to work in. Yet we have many superstars that stand out, continuing to deliver excellent care and service with a smile."

Lee Malneek is a long time supporter and benefactor of the DHB and wanted to provide something for staff on an ongoing basis to 'give them a boost' and show them they are appreciated. The \$150 monthly voucher will be purchased from local businesses, a different voucher each month.

"The Recognition Awards is a special way to thank our high performers, and the people making the secret nominations are as excited about it as the nominees are when they find out. It's our way of saying thanks for being fabulous," Anna said.

