

Writing competition results

On Wednesday 26 March, Linda presented Jayath Jaiganesh, Year 9 student of Scots College, Wellington with his prizes (including a tree) for winning a writing competition to help launch *Hidden Stories of Heroism for a peaceful planet*.

Year 7-10 students were invited to write about Planting Trees for Peace in under 500 words, echoing a story in her book. Linda noted that Jayath's *Diary of a Peace Tree* was a clear winner among more than 100 entries from all over the country.

Aiden Lau, Year 10 Takapuna Grammar School, Auckland won 2nd place with his powerful poem. Iola Koukourakis, Year 9 Springbank School, Kerikeri won 3rd place with her well-reasoned argument.



Linda Hansen with winner Jayath Jaiganesh of Scots College, Wellington

Book Launch Peace Dinner

for *Hidden Stories of Heroism for a peaceful planet* by L P Hansen

Author Linda Hansen met recently with 35 supporters in Paekakariki to share copies of her new book, *Hidden Stories of Heroism for a peaceful planet* over a meal, followed by Thomas Nash and David Grant, two local peace workers answering questions about their life and work. Thomas led the successful international campaign to ban cluster bombs and was a leading strategist for the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons initiative that won the 2017 Nobel Peace Prize for achieving a treaty banning nuclear weapons. Of the sixteen books that historian David Grant has written, four of them cover aspects of anti-militarism in both the first and second world wars.



Left to right: Thomas Nash, author Linda Hansen, David Grant with their speakers' gifts.