Julian Hermon Chick
16 June 1932 – 8 July 2013

The Taumarunui community turned out in force recently to honour a dedicated doctor, councillor, arborist and sailor, Dr Julian Hermon Chick, who passed away aged 71.

Dr Chick came directly to Ohura from Africa, where he worked for the Colonial Service after qualifying as a GP in the English city of Newark.

He met and married Viera in Africa and moved to Ohura with his growing family. He was immensely practical and while in Ohura built a swimming pool for his children, had a go at polo cross and killed the possums who ate his beloved trees with anything he could find, including dunking them in a barrel of ether.

Several years later the family moved into Taumarunui where he continued work as a local GP. During his time in Taumarunui he spent six years on the borough council when he strongly supported the formation of the settling ponds in Hikimutu.

Dr Chick loved his trees, and was well ahead of his time in advocating their planting in mass. He filled the hillside overlooking Taumarunui with pine and nut trees and successfully motivated the council to plant chestnuts and oaks at Cherry Grove and the dump.

Dr Chick was always looking for a challenge and pushing the boundaries. He was a passionate sailor and turned his hand to joinery and furniture making, and later a sailing boat. His family describe him as a very patient and tolerant father and grandfather, who loved life, adventure and challenge.

Obituary originally appeared in The Ruapehu Press. Thank you to Fairfax NZ Ltd for supplying it.