



**MOURNING THE MINERS:** Carlton School pupils show they care yesterday.

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# Wanganui pays its respects

**A wide cross-section of the community honours the memory of miners killed near Greymouth in collective solemn silence**

Banking, crimebusting, news gathering, school lessons, court cases, the prison service, even drinking, went on hold in Wanganui for two minutes yesterday as the city paid its respects to the 29 miners lost in the Pike River tragedy.

At 2pm Radio Network's Classic Hits went silent but for 29 bell tolls. It was same for the network's other stations nationwide.

Bank trading halted, prison guards and inmates at Kaitoke

stood in silence as did *Chronicle* and Wanganui District Council staff, judges and district court employees, while patrons at clubs and pubs were also invited to mark the event. The front door to the St John's Club in Glasgow St was decorated with 29 candles in tribute to the dead miners.

At Carlton School, all 290 pupils took two minutes from their studies to display a roadside banner that read "We honour the

Pike River 29." The head boy then read a poem. The city's largest school, High School, was to mark the occasion before start of class today.

Young softballers at a national tournament honoured the dead before the start of their games, while staff at Mars Petcare stood silently, then read a poem.

The Davis Library and the *Wanganui Chronicle* have opened remembrance books.