

Whangamata NEWS

ISSUE 5 – MAY, 2019

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DETAILS – PAGE 2

GETTING ARTISTIC – PAGES PAGES 7, 10 & 11

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Welcome to the May edition of *Whangamata* NEWS

– a monthly magazine By Locals, For Locals, About Locals



Whangamata News

www.whangamatanews.nz

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Beautiful in silk and felt,
by fibre artist Gretha Whyte

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Emergency numbers

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We welcome your letters, articles, photos, news tips and advertising enquiries.

- Letters must be no more than 200 words.
- We ask that articles be no more than 250 words although exceptions can be made.
- Photos should be at least 300dpi and in focus.
- Notices of upcoming events, sports results and club notices must be as brief as possible.

For editorial or photographic matters, phone Lesley on 021 664 784 or email wordy1@gmail.com

For advertising & advertorial information, phone Jennie on 021 0232 1661 or email jennieablack@gmail.com

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National

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We ARE one – don’t knock it!

I respond to the letter by BM LeProu whose letter (Whangamata NEWS, April) ranted about the lack of a te reo Maori version of the National Anthem that marked the end of our recent, spontaneous Vigil on Friday 22 March in Williamson Park for the victims and families of the Christchurch atrocity.

The considerate brainchild of Denise Wallace who, assisted by the tireless Kristin Lopez, threw the event together in a 24 hour mammoth feat, the attendance was a glowing reflection of the unity in our small town as folk joined to show that yes, We Are One – Ko tatou, tatou! All, that is, bar BM LeProu who, with her daughter was ‘embarrassed and ashamed by this reflection on our community’.

As MC on the night, I repeatedly called for contributions; where were YOU BM LeProu? Why didn’t you lead us in the te reo Maori version of the National Anthem? Instead you stood apart and retired to ‘knock’ and to criticise.

Shame on you!

My thanks to everyone involved that night when we truly showed We Are One. Let’s stay that way. Kia Kaha! (Abridged)

Anne Hunter
WHANGAMATA

The real meaning of OMNI

Congratulations on your first-class newspaper, exclusively for this great town of Whangamata.

An excellent article about the OMNI group (which my wife Sue enjoys very much) – but I have to take issue re the etymology of the word ‘omni’, which in fact simply means ‘all’, from the Latin omni-.

Many forms of ‘omni’ are used, meaning ‘all, every, the whole, and of every kind’.

So I would have thought that the OMNI group called themselves that so that all (ladies, of course) were welcome.

One of the founding ladies may correct me, though!

The most common use is ‘omnibus’ – for all, which then became a common term for a ‘bus on which everyone could travel’.

Mike Ellis
WHANGAMATA

Love Whanga NEWS!

Wow! What a great paper for our dear little town!

I was so impressed with the first issue – no ink on my fingers, the stapled middle keeps the paper together when reading and I love the feel of the paper itself.

And on top of that, the content is fantastic.

I’m so grateful the Editor has been saving me a copy of each issue so when I come back to Whangamata I can catch up on all that’s been happening.

My neighbour in Gisborne, where I now live, has a classic car and a tiny retro caravan and has been up to many a Beach Hop.

He was thrilled to get to read my copies, especially the one

featuring Beach Hop as he had left Whangamata by the time that edition came out.

So Whangamata NEWS is going global – maybe!

Well done – I look forward to the next issue.

May I also take this opportunity to say ‘Hi’ and ‘Love to all my friends in Whanga’ who I miss seeing when back in town.

Jan Smith
GISBORNE
(formerly Whangamata Karaoke)

Letters

Whangamata NEWS welcomes your letters.

Your letters must be no longer than **250 words** and must be signed (no nom des plumes please).

Whangamata NEWS reserves the right to edit, or to not print, submitted letters.

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We remember those who served

An outstanding turnout of about 2000 people attending Whangamata's Dawn Parade were treated to an awe-inspiring sight as the sun rose over Clark Island on Anzac Day.

A golden sun rose as boats from Whangamata Coastguard and Surf Life Saving Club came to shore with the New Zealand and Australian flags which were then passed to horse rider Vanessa Bartley.

A lone piper - Lyall Forsyth - heralded their arrival after which guest speaker, RNZN Commander Paul Gray, spoke, followed by Mayor Sandra Goudie.

RSA Padre Terri Sorenson performed the service of remembrance for all those who served - and died or were injured - their country in various theatres of war.

This year's theme which marked the return home of those who served in World War 1, featured members of the Royal New Zealand Navy, Army, Air Force and Merchant Navy; home guard, nurses and farmers.

The Memorial Hall was full to overflowing for the Civic Ceremony with Cdr Gray again the guest speaker, with Whangamata Area School Head Girl Ashleigh Crofskey-Howse and Head Boy Callum Fulton speaking.

Following the service, wreaths were laid at the Wall of Remembrance after which the crown were invited to mix and mingle at the Whangamata RSA.

President Geoff March said he was 'very happy' with the turnout at both services.



PAGE 4: 1. The sun rises over Whangamata Beach. 2. Wreaths laid at the RSA Wall of Remembrance. 3. WWII Veterans Fred Amess, 95, and Roy Brookes, 94, at the Civic Service. Both are recipients of the French Legion d'Honneur, the highest French order of merit for military and civil merits, established in 1802 by Napoleon Bonaparte. 4. RSA members representing all fields of the theatres of WW1 gathered on the beach to await the arrival of the New Zealand and Australian flags.

PAGE 5: 1. Guest speaker RNZN Cdr Paul Gray. 2. Piper Lyall Forsyth pipes in the dawn. 3. Vanessa Bartley received the Australian and New Zealand flags after they were brought ashore. 4. Volunteers Debbie Vesala (St John Ambulance), Danielle Watson-Smith and Suzanne Barker (Fire Brigade). 5. RSA Padre Terri Sorenson leads the parade accompanied by Fred Amess, centre, and 101-year-old Crete veteran Brant Robinson with his son John and great-granddaughter Zara. 6. Padre Terri Sorenson and Thames-Coromandel Mayor Sandra Goudie. 7. A young drummer from the Bay of Plenty Pipes and Band. 8. RSA Raffle sellers Janet Randell, Ann Khan and Karen Jones. 9. A time for reminiscing - Bill Watson, CathCath Stolte and Irwin Bain. 10. Sunrise as the flags are brought to shore. 11. Part of the large crowd. 12. Police from Paeroa and Whangamata attended the Dawn Ceremony.

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Well done SLSC Squad!



Callum Fulton, Phoebe Havill and Andrew Earl-Peacock accept the accolades at Parliament early this month. Absent – Andrew Hodgson.

The Whangamata SLSC Emergency Call Out Squad has been recognised at the NZSAR Awards held in Parliament on May 1.

On November 20 last year, a kayak rental company staff member reported three kayakers overdue, which raised the alarm for the Whangamata Surf Life Saving Club Emergency Callout Squad.

The squad comprised Phoebe Havill, Callum Fulton, both teenagers, and experienced IRB drivers Andrew Earl-Peacock and Andrew Hodgson.

Havill alongside Fulton, Andrew Earl-Peacock and Andrew Hodgson launched IRBs towards Whenuakura Island, which is accessed through a narrow archway where water charges through in large swells.

National Lifesaving Manager Allan Mundy said it was too dangerous to approach using the IRBs.

‘When there is a swell running, the

waves break right into that island,’ he said.

‘There is really nowhere to hide.’

Both teenagers swam towards a side exit wearing helmets and fins. They weaved around submerged rocks and fought strong currents to reach the stranded trio.

‘When a wave comes through it is highly aerated water so you don’t have much buoyancy,’ Mundy said. ‘You have to really fight to keep your head above water.’

It was a “ballsy rescue” not only because of the challenging conditions but because they had to coax the patient back out the same way. But the conditions quickly deteriorated and the side exit option was no longer an option, Undeterred Havill and Fulton decided an attempt would have to be made through the main channel.

The lifeguards secured the kayakers in rescue tubes and towed them through the surges out to the waiting IRBs.

The trio were returned to shore, assessed and left the beach requiring no further treatment.

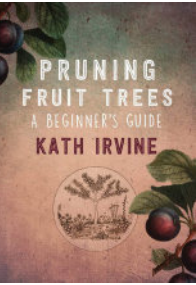
If they three had stayed longer they would have lost their footing, Mundy said.

- Supplied by Whangamata Surf Life Saving Club

Cuddle up with a book

Now the weather is turning to hibernating and book-reading time, come along and see all the new books at our library.

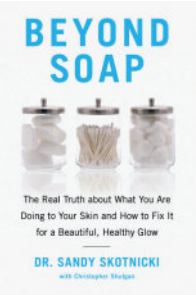
Pruning Fruit Trees. Kath Irvine.



Forget You-tube, this is all you need – a small book. Kath’s splendidly simple book demonstrates a calm method to pruning – you calm, the tree

calm. Thank goodness. In my garden, it’s a war between the vegetation and me. However, like the formidable destruction man I am a fan of chop and drop; this tactic leaves valuable habitation for insects and wild life. Sure, you can encourage the not so good insects but then nature has ways of correcting the balance. I recommend taking this book, a big cup of tea, mallow puffs and then pop into your garden for a bit of therapy with a tree.

Beyond Soap. Dr Sandy Skotnicki with Christopher Shulgan.



I first heard this book mentioned on the radio. I totally agree with Sandy ‘Why are more and more people, especially children affected by irritating

and potentially dangerous skin infections?’ This is not a preaching book, the facts are there - if you shower everyday, using chemical cleaning potions your skin is at risk of infection. I was surprised to find that organic and natural body stuff may not be best either. Believe me, there are very few products out there that are safe for your skin. Get this book from our top library and get a healthy family and a healthy home.

Running the Country: A look inside NZ government. Maira Gill.

This book is a top pick for a family activity. Create a mini government in your household, if there wasn’t one already. Who wants to be PM?



I wouldn’t want to be The Whip – they organize everyone in their party to get things done. I imagine they must be like a despotic wedding planner trying to herd wild cattle. I would like to be the Speaker; they run the house and all meetings. No one can speak until called on by the speaker. It is also their job to make sure everyone follows the debating rules and standing orders. Apparently though, heckling is allowed. What? I will have this stopped. I may lobby a private bill to have this rule thrown out. This educational and fun book is fact packed, easy understanding and well designed with cartoon characterisation, colour photos and fascinating profiles of New Zealand leaders over the years.

Cicadas of New Zealand. Olly Hills.



This top quality book was put together by a young boy who knows just what we need to learn about these spectacularly colourful noisy little fellows? Cicadas,

weren’t they magnificently loud this year or is my hearing still good – apparent as you get older you stop hearing some of the noise - song - frequencies they create. Olly’s book is the best approachable resource for any developing naturalist to find out about New Zealand native cicadas – facts; diagrams; identity photos – fabulous photos, locations of the different kinds, how to call cicadas and how to catch one for study and release with care. This book is a top present for the home - take it in the car, in your daypack out walking, in your handbag, be ready for the next cicada outbreak.

- Charlotte Murray



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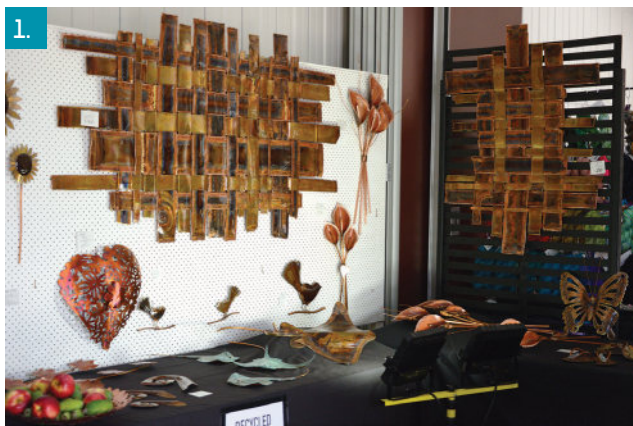
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Lions market



1. Copper creations; 2. Aubrey Gilder, from Auckland, enjoyed listening to young busker Baxter Ward; 3. Busker Baxter Ward, 12, from Morrinsville whose singing and guitar playing were exceptional; 4. Produce stalls were much in evidence; 5. Lion Rosalie Bell at the book stall; 6. Colourful wares brightened the hall; 7. Josh Morgan mans the stand selling his wife Holly's pottery while she exhibited at the Arts Collective's Open Studios day.





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Lucy

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 **DREAM CRUISES**



Whangamata Area School Kea crossing with students Ben Hariss and Hunter Ussher with teacher JJ Hazelton.

Kea Crossing

The recently installed Kea crossing on Port Road outside the Whangamata Area school is now operational.

This major safety improvement will be operational before and after school.

These busy traffic times are hazardous with peak vehicle flow and many pedestrians.

This Kea crossing will be the only place to cross Port Road.

The on-duty teaching staff and students have been rigorously trained in the operation of this crossing.

Students who have been trained are Ben, Bella, Hunter, Ella-Rose, Krishna, Pia, Izzy, Ethan, Danielle, Lucy, Aleisha, Zoran, Enzo, Imogen, Arden, Aja, Makayla, Ayala, Pippa and Fiona.

Here are excerpts from NZ Transport Agency on Kea crossings:

Kea crossings provide children with a safe place to cross the road. They're installed around schools so school patrols can control traffic and safely guide children across the street.

A Kea crossing only operates when a school patrol and two fluorescent orange crossing point

flag signs (one on each side of the road) are present.

The school patrol may be operating before and after school and possibly at lunch time.

When the school patrol displays their STOP signs, traffic must stop.

This helps keep children safe when they're going to and from school.

When there's no school patrol and no crossing signs, the crossing point is just like any other section of road.

What to do when approaching a Kea crossing:

Stop if you see these signs. They warn you children are using the Kea crossing. Under no circumstances must you pass another vehicle that has slowed or stopped at the crossing.

If you don't stop when required at a kea crossing, you risk hitting a child and you could be fined or charged with dangerous driving.

- Don Mackay



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Opoutere

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Architectural Masterpiece in Stunning Coromandel Location.

A peaceful hideaway less than 2 hours from Auckland on the beautiful Coromandel Peninsula, this property epitomises thoughtful, modern design. The property sits high above the Opoutere Estuary and was designed by award winning architect Michael Fisher as a bastion for modern living. With many unique design features, it is the perfect blend of form and function. The property comprises of 1.94 hectares divided into 3 paddocks varying in terrain from flat, to rolling to steeper incline. Pecan and walnut trees stand in the sheltered, private valley among pockets of native bush.

Both the main house and the bunkhouse boast gorgeous views and are separated by a large sunny courtyard.

Construction is from a strict palette of materials, thick concrete walls, cement render, aluminium louvres, glass and tasmanian blackwood timber, milled from the property. The high courtyard high walls and the main structures create a sense of permanence through seasons and time, and provide the perfect canvas for the ever-changing play of light and shadow.

The main house has an open plan concept with the bare minimum of walls to interrupt the flow and airiness. Huge floor to ceiling windows are oriented to take advantage of the sun's path and to frame the breath-taking views of the harbour and out to sea. Huge sliders disappear into the building, opening up to nature or closing to lock down on departure or for inclement weather.

This property has been long admired, don't miss this rare opportunity to make it your own.



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Up-close and personal with artists

The Easter weekend Open Studios tour was hugely successful, with more than double the numbers of visitors over last year's event.

Members of the Arts Collective Whangamata, with support from Harcourts Whangamata, opened their studios for one or two days, displaying their wares on their own or in 'hubs' of several artists.

Music, nibbles and refreshment were provided at most hubs, with a ukelele group, boosted by a guitar, entertaining at Studio 423.

Fibre art, pottery, clay sculpture, paintings (of all genres), kauri sculpture, weaving (fibre and flax), portraits, quilling, mixed media and stone sculpture were all on show and for sale.

Most artists were delighted with public response to their art and pleased with the number of sales of work.

Viewers were encouraged to cycle the trail - and those who got the most hub and trail checks went in to a draw to win an art piece.





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ARTIST *of the month*

SARAH ALVES

Perfection from paper

Many hours of work go into Sarah Alves' fine paper artwork. She has been known to spend 60 hours-plus on works she has completed.

'At the end of the weekend I had seven commissions - and that is quite amazing,' says Sarah, who has been practising the artform for just three years.

One of Sarah's larger pieces, Leo the Lion which took more than 60 hours to make, was selected as selected People's Choice in the Collective's annual exhibition at Auckland Anniversary Weekend, giving Sarah the impetus to do more.

She sources her paper strips mostly from the United States but has cut her own strips to get the colour she wanted.

The Tairua resident got into quilling almost by accident, after seeing a Russian-made piece on the internet.

While most pieces take many

hours to make, Sarah says she doesn't find it a chore and a bore... 'in fact, it's quite relaxing and exciting making new pieces'.

Few New Zealanders are known to be practising quilling and Sarah encourages people to give it a go.

She will be exhibiting with other artists at the Harcourts and Arts Collective's Big Arts Day Out at Queen's Birthday weekend in June.

Quilling is described by Wikipedia as 'one of the few things ladies could do in the 18th Century that was thought not too taxing for their minds or gentle dispositions'.

During the Renaissance, French and Italian nuns and monks used quilling to decorate book covers and religious items.

The paper most commonly used was strips of paper trimmed from the gilded edges of books.



Sarah Alves at work during the Whangamata Arts Collective's Open Studios weekend.



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UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY

May 17-19: Wild Women's Weekend – music, tennis, golf, walking, yoga, cuisine, sexologist. www.wildwomensweekend.co.nz

JUNE

June 1 & 2: Big Arts Day Out, brought to you by Arts Collective and Harcourts Whangamata, 10am-4pm each day.

SEPTEMBER

September 7: GJ Gardner Run Walk Festival – start training now!

• If you have an event coming up that you'd like us to list or cover please let us know. Email details of the event, the date, the venue and the time to: wordy1@gmail.com



BEACHES

Whiritoa – 12km south of Whangamata. Swim or walk, collect shells.

Whangamata Harbour, Ocean Beach and Otahu Estuary – check these areas for yourself. The various spots are ideal for SUP, kayaking, surfing, swimming, diving, spearfishing, snorkelling, jetskiing and skiing.

Onemana – swimming is OK along the beach. The south end is safest for children. A good beach for surfcasting. Mussels and kina in the area around the rocks.

Oputere – All the above activities. Access through the pine forest. Bird watching is an added attraction here.

Note: At all beaches, watch for rips and do not swim out beyond your comfort zone.



CYCLING

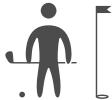
Just about anywhere is safe to ride in Whangamata as long as you respect the rights of other road users. The path from the Marina and along Moana Anu Anu estuary is ideal for walkers, runners and cyclists. Again, have respect for other users.



MOUNTAIN BIKING

Whangamata Ridges Park, five minutes north of Whangamata on SH 25 has numerous tracks from Grade 1 to Grade 6, offering exciting rides and spectacular views. The tracks are in a forestry area so please check accessibility before riding.

Facebook: Whangamata Ridges Mountainbike Park. Information also available from Pedal and Paddle shop, cnr Port Rd and Winifred Ave.



GOLF

Whangamata has two golf courses administered by the Whangamata Golf Club – the Titoki 18-hole course just south of town and the nine-hole Williamson course on Achilles Ave.

Whangamatagolf.net.nz
Email: whangamata@golf.nz



SURFING

Whangamata is renowned for its surf beaches – take your pick! There are several surf schools close to the beach. Check with the info-Plus Visitor Information Centre for further details.



WALKS

Whangamata and surrounds have numerous walks. In town one of the favourites goes from the Marina along the Moana Anu Anu estuary and river, with a fitness trail along the edge.

There are many kilometres of beach to explore – and if you get too hot, take time for a dip.

Pokohino Beach and Te Ananui are on forestry roads off Whitipirorua (Onemana) Rd, with fairly steep tracks down to each.

Walking tracks at the end of Peninsula Rd offer spectacular ocean views and over Whangamata.

Wentworth Valley – a popular area with walkers and campers. Not accessible if fords are flooded. About 1.5km heading south of town, turn right onto Wentworth Valley. Many attractions on the valley walks, including waterfalls and swimming holes. Grab a brochure from info-Plus Visitor Centre in Port Rd.

Numerous adjuncts and clubs, from athletics to yoga, meet regularly in Whangamata so check with info-Plus if there's anything specific you're interested in.

P. 07 865 8340
W. whangamatanz.com
E. enquiry@whangamatainfo.co.nz

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Looking out from the living area across the pool surrounded by palm trees you could be forgiven for thinking you were holidaying in the tropics. The easy care bach has been recently renovated. Most of the property is fenced giving private outdoor living. The beach is only a short stroll away. www.whangamatarealestate.co.nz ref# W538



Dave Anderson & Renee Jacobsen
021 790 488
dave@whangamatarealestate.co.nz



POSSIBILITIES IN PAPANUI

Located at the beach end of Papanui Road, secure the land and enjoy now as a holiday home. 741sqm full site, freehold title with great possibilities. Two bedrooms, one on ground floor with a second on a mezzanine level. Open plan kitchen and living area flows to a morning deck and lawn to the east and a covered social area to the north west. Extra space and storage provided within separate garage. www.whangamatarealestate.co.nz ref# 7677



Sharon Laurenson
027 662 3164
sharon@whangamatarealestate.co.nz



HIT THE SURF & BLACKIES

Life is just better at the beach. Wander across Williamson Park to the sand and surf then breakfast at Blackies Cafe on the way home. Located in the heart of the Surf Club zone with views of the Park and water from sun drenched decks. Three bedrooms plus attached serviced garage / bunkroom. Master bedroom on upper level with private deck and sanctuary. Open plan kitchen and dining with excellent flow to a large entertainer's deck with built in seating. Step down lounge, again with great access to ground level deck and lawn. Facilities include two bathrooms plus an outdoor hot / cold shower. Fully fenced and gated, it's secure and provides easy off-street parking. Vendor conditions apply, ask agent for more details. www.whangamatarealestate.co.nz ref# 7680



Sharon Laurenson
027 662 3164
sharon@whangamatarealestate.co.nz



DOUBLE OPPORTUNITY

Buying smart for two families, even friends, or maybe Home & Income. The lower level features four double bedrooms, main with ensuite, centrally located bathroom, double garage with services, open plan spacious lounge/dining/kitchen. The floor plan repeats itself on the upper level minus the garage of course but does have the addition of lovely reserve and rural views. Double entry onto the property provides the ability of separate entry into the house, so you see, we see its 'SMART BUYING' for joint ownership. www.whangamatarealestate.co.nz ref# 7675



Julian West
027 2224364
julian@whangamatarealestate.co.nz

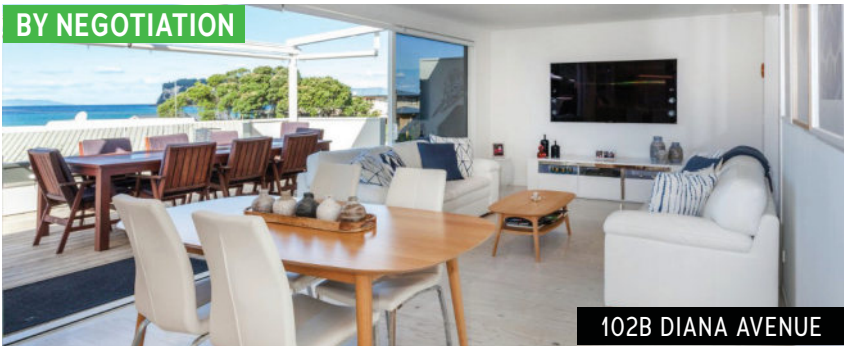


SIXTIES STYLE ON SYLVIA

Let's start with the basics - Full Site / Old Bach / Sylvia Road / Surf Club Zone. For most it's about the location and land area, but before you book the bulldozer and builder - check out the lines on this sassy old darling! Maybe this sixties original bach has life in it yet? Single level home sits proudly on this slightly elevated level 814sqm (more or less) freehold site. Facilities include open plan kitchen, living area, three bedrooms, separate shower room, toilet and laundry. There is a carport, garden shed and a big back yard. Call for an appointment to view. www.whangamatarealestate.co.nz ref# 7676



Sharon Laurenson
027 662 3164
sharon@whangamatarealestate.co.nz



PREMIUM LOCATION & VIEWS

So central but so quiet. Nicely elevated on Diana Avenue with stunning views of the beach. Watch the surfers on the bar or enjoy the sunset from your western deck. Beautifully re-built, this fantastic 4 bedroom has your own master suite upstairs (with views) and 3 bedrooms, lounge and bathroom down. Single garage, great parking and a very short route to beach or town. Two generous sized decks to enjoy the outstanding outlook - one complete with electric awning. Very smart new kitchen with induction cooking, great storage and yes, a view also. The main living is spacious - extra spacious when combined with he covered outdoor living. At the front of the house under the deck is also a very handy covered area. No grass to mow on this property - just enjoy the finished house and the quality of position. www.whangamatarealestate.co.nz ref# 7678



Pete Sheppard
027 609 4955
Chris Speedy
021 747 901
pete.chris@whangamatarealestate.co.nz

Whanga MenzShed is flourishing

MenzShed is an Australian phenomenon rapidly expanding around the world, with groups springing up almost daily.

Ironically, although it is called MenzShed, the Whangamata group's tagline is: Not Just for Men.

And among its 65-plus members (not all who turn up at the same time) are several women.

Spokesman and founding member Mark 'Chappy' Chapman said the Whangamata MenzShed is now a thriving 2-year-old entity, with a focus on socialising, health and well-being.

'Getting together as a group means people - men in particular who don't usually talk about themselves - get to talk to each other and often find they share the same interests or problems and it's nice to know you're not on your own.'

Most members are retired and all have talents they share or put to use one way or another.

'We have a diverse group including former bank managers, civil engineers, mechanics and high-flying industry individuals.

They have made all sorts of items

as part of community projects, from repairing the underside of the Scouts trailer, making chopping boards, stoat traps, props for the Theatre Society, seats and even the *Whangamata NEWS* paper stands that are scattered around town (thanks Tai for your hard work!).

'There's nothing we can't repair or refurbish,' Chappy says.

'And while we try not to tread on any business toes in our community, we don't charge a lot. We like to cover our costs enough to keep the organisation running smoothly.'

They operate from three containers on Whangamata Area School premises near the tech block (which they are given the use of) and meet three times a week: Mondays and Thursdays from 3.15pm and Saturdays from 9am.

There's no proper finish time: 'Last one out turns the lights off,' Chappy says.

Anyone keen to join up should contact Chappy: chappy60.mc@gmail.com or phone 022 623 2881. The annual fee is just \$10.



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WHANGAMATA TIDES 2019

May ☾ New Moon: 7th ☀ Full Moon: 21st

Date	High tide	Height (m)	High tide	Low tide	Height (m)	Low tide	Sun rise	Sun set
	AM		PM	AM		PM		
8 Wed	9:37	1.9	22:04	3:22	0.4	15:43	07:02	17:21
9 Thu	10:23	1.9	22:52	4:10	0.4	16:29	07:03	17:20
10 Fri	11:12	1.9	23:43	4:59	0.4	17:18	07:04	17:20
11 Sat		1.9	12:04	5:52	0.4	18:10	07:04	17:19
12 Sun	0:37	1.9	13:01	6:47	0.4	19:06	07:05	17:18
13 Mon	1:34	1.9	14:01	7:45	0.4	20:05	07:06	17:17
14 Tue	2:33	1.9	15:04	8:44	0.4	21:07	07:07	17:16
15 Wed	3:33	1.9	16:06	9:44	0.3	22:08	07:08	17:15
16 Thu	4:31	1.9	17:07	10:43	0.3	23:08	07:09	17:14
17 Fri	5:28	1.9	18:04	11:40	0.3	23:55	07:10	17:13
18 Sat	6:22	2.0	18:57		0.3	12:34	07:10	17:13
19 Sun	7:14	2.0	19:48	0:58	0.3	13:24	07:11	17:12
20 Mon	8:04	1.9	20:37	1:49	0.3	14:13	07:12	17:11
21 Tue	8:52	1.9	21:23	2:39	0.3	14:59	07:13	17:11
22 Wed	9:38	1.9	22:09	3:27	0.3	15:45	07:14	17:10
23 Thu	10:24	1.8	22:55	4:14	0.4	16:29	07:14	17:09
24 Fri	11:09	1.8	23:40	5:01	0.4	17:13	07:15	17:09
25 Sat	11:55	1.7		5:47	0.5	17:58	07:16	17:08
26 Sun	0:27	1.8	12:41	6:34	0.5	18:44	07:17	17:08
27 Mon	1:13	1.8	13:30	7:21	0.6	19:32	07:17	17:07
28 Tue	2:01	1.7	14:21	8:10	0.6	20:23	07:18	17:07
29 Wed	2:49	1.7	15:13	8:59	0.6	21:15	07:19	17:06
30 Thu	3:38	1.7	16:06	9:48	0.5	22:07	07:20	17:06
31 Fri	4:26	1.7	16:57	10:37	0.5	22:58	07:20	17:05

June ☾ New Moon: 7th ☀ Full Moon: 21st

Date	High tide	Height (m)	High tide	Low tide	Height (m)	Low tide	Sun rise	Sun set
	AM		PM	AM		PM		
1 Sat	5:14	1.7	17:47	11:25	0.5	23:47	07:21	17:05
2 Sun	6:02	1.8	18:35		0.5	12:13	07:22	17:05
3 Mon	6:50	1.8	19:23	0:36	0.5	12:59	07:22	17:04
4 Tue	7:37	1.9	20:10	1:24	0.4	13:46	07:23	17:04
5 Wed	8:26	1.9	20:57	2:13	0.4	14:33	07:24	17:04
6 Thu	9:15	1.9	21:46	3:02	0.4	15:21	07:24	17:04
7 Fri	10:06	1.9	22:37	3:52	0.3	16:10	07:25	17:03
8 Sat	10:58	1.9	23:29	4:44	0.3	17:01	07:25	17:03
9 Sun	11:52	1.9		5:38	0.3	17:54	07:26	17:03
10 Mon	0:23	2.0	12:49	6:33	0.3	18:50	07:26	17:03
11 Tue	1:19	1.9	13:49	7:29	0.3	19:49	07:27	17:03

Light at the end of the line

Help is at hand for local businesses suffering loss of trade when the town's sole 33,000 volt line gets outed during storms, tree-felling or equipment failure.

However, most households in the area will still need to keep candles, barbecues or gas stoves at the ready.

Electricity distributor Powerco has unveiled plans for a multi-million dollar trial of cutting edge electricity technology, to support the town.

Powerco Chief Executive Nigel Barbour said it would be installing a grid scale battery back-up system, paired with a large scale generator and bespoke network switching system, all designed to support supply of electricity to the Whangamata CBD in the event of a power cut on the 33,000 volt line supplying the town.

'This is an exciting trial for Powerco and our expectation is that, once commissioned, Whangamata Central will significantly reduce the level of disruption to Whangamata CBD properties of any unplanned powercuts on the 33,000 volt line from Waihi and provide opportunities for further network innovation.'

Whangamata Community Board Chairman Ken Coulam said he was delighted to see the new initiative come to Whangamata.

'It will ensure our local businesses

are supported,' Mr Coulam said.

Powerco General Manager Asset Management and Network Transformation, Ryno Verster, said the system being trialled has a range of possible applications but the primary benefit to customers in the area would be as a fast acting back-up power supply.

'Whangamata is supplied by a single 33,000 volt line running through some rugged terrain from Waihi and when damage occurs to that line all power is cut to more than 5700 properties,' Mr Verster said.

'Our expectation is that once successfully commissioned Whangamata Central will be able to rapidly restore electricity supply to around 1000 properties in the Whangamata CBD and continue to supply them while our field staff locate and repair the damage to the network.'

Mr Verster said the battery was capable of supplying the CBD area during peak business hours for a period of 1-2 hours and, when paired with the generator, could maintain that supply indefinitely as long as the diesel tank was kept fuelled.

Powerco has consulted extensively with the business community in the area over recent years, meeting with a range of stakeholders and attending meetings with Enterprise Whangamata.

'We are acutely aware of the impact power cuts have on Whangamata and particularly the economic impact to businesses during the holiday season and this project is expected to make a significant difference,' Mr Verster said.

'The line between Waihi and Whangamata has recently undergone an extensive refurbishment. However, due to the rugged terrain and the exposure to severe weather the line is subject to a high level of risk and having a system like this in place is a first for Powerco.'

'At Powerco we understand that many of the businesses in Whangamata generate 80 to 90 per cent of their income over the holiday season and so if we can minimise the risk and duration of power cuts, we minimise any adverse economic impact to the area.'

Powerco will not be revealing the exact cost of the project due to commercial sensitivity but Mr Verster confirmed it was several million dollars.

Details of which properties in the CBD would be supplied by the back-up system can be found on Powerco's website here: www.powerco.co.nz/Whangamata

The project is expected to be complete before Christmas.

Estimated Construction Timeline

- **PHASE ONE:**
April to June - Earthworks and electrical enabling works.
- **PHASE TWO:**
July to September - Generator and fuel tank installation, Portacom and switchgear installation, transformer, battery and inverter installation, related cable works.
- **PHASE THREE:**
October to November - Commissioning and testing.

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Perfect town created



Every town needs a McDonald's!

A lot of busy work at the Whangamata Community Library in the school holidays and some great ideas created the perfect town out of cardboard boxes and rolls.

As well as local landmarks like Sunny's and the super-market, there were a couple of imaginative additions.

A large stadium for all those rugby games, a water park and an education tower starting with primary school at the bottom level, going up to university and

a job centre at the very top, joined MacDonalds and the Art Hub (including the library, of course).

Green roofs, water towers and a purification tower pumping sea water for town use made sure this was an ecologically sound construction.

Even McDonald's had its own garden and a water tank.

Great work from some very creative children (and some adults).

Climate change given priority

Climate change is one of the biggest environmental challenge of our time and something our Council is taking extremely seriously.

That's why we are prioritising what action we can take, in response to climate change, for our communities in Thames-Coromandel.

One major step forward for us in this space is appointing international consultancy Royal HaskoningDHV (RHDHV), to support our \$1.9million project for the development of Shoreline Management Plans (SMPs). SMPS will provide large-scale hazard assessment on our flooding and erosion issues and identify subsequent risk to people and the environment for our long coastline over the next century.

Our Council is the first in New Zealand to develop SMPs across the entire district with the active involvement of all key stakeholders. RHDHV, which is an independent engineering and project management consultancy, will be developing the plans over the next three years – and have established an office in Thames to run the project.

Recently our Council also made the decision not to sign a Local Government Leaders' Climate Change declaration - a document drafted by Local Government New Zealand (LGNZ) that commits

councils to ambitious plans, (without knowing explicitly what those plans are) - to reduce greenhouse gases, increase resource efficiency, promote public and low-carbon transport and support the use of renewable energy.

The declaration has the potential to be a legally binding document, and Council and individual elected members could be at risk if we did not uphold all the initiatives. This declaration doesn't indemnify us from action or inaction.

Not signing the declaration does not mean Council isn't taking action on climate change – because we are. Also not signing the declaration doesn't mean I'm a climate change denier – which is patently incorrect and misrepresents the facts.

The fact is our Council will continue to take action, following robust decision-making processes, in response to climate change, and not just pay lip-service with words.

- Mayor Sandra Goudie



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Nimble fingers create fibre wonders

Whangamata Spinners & Weavers are a busy group of about 30 women who meet fortnightly – and have done so for more than 45 years!

They create items from all types of fibre and yarns through knitting, crocheting, felting, spinning, weaving, quilting, embroidery and so on.

The group also run workshops, with tutors from within the group as well as outside.

This year so far they have learned about needle felting, Made wash away scarves, and paper raffia weaving.

Members also attend creative fibre courses and retreats outside the area.

Whangamata Spinners & Weavers are one of 15 Creative Fibre groups in New Zealand.

Some of the group's members knit and quilt for newborn babies in the

Whangamata community and these items are given to the local midwife to distribute.

Coming up is a weekend-long weaving workshop with a renowned weaver, knitting and crocheting skills, and a colouring day.

At the end of July a weekend retreat will be held with members from other creative fibre groups joining in. If anyone in the community is interested in joining the group for this event, please contact the group (details below).

Whangamata Spinners & Weavers welcome prospective new members to come and check them out.

They meet at Cornerstone House, (by Anglican Op Shop), Ocean Beach Rd on the second and fourth Monday of each month from 10am-2pm, as well as first and third Monday of the month from 5.30pm-7.30pm.



For more info Google Whangamata Spinners & Weavers.

Please contact Marie-Louise (coordinator) 027 687 6289 or Gaelene (Secretary) 021 189 4661 for more information.



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Market backs community

Whangamata's popular Sunday market is a valuable asset to the community, handing out thousands of dollars to local groups for various causes.

Organised by Suzanne Clegg and Anna Fryer, who set the cost of a stall at \$5 each per time, those fees have added up over the years with \$7000 distributed so far and another \$1000 ready to go to a worthy cause.

The markets will be hunkering down over the winter months and from this month, will set up on the second and fourth Sundays, PLUS Queen's Birthday weekend and school holiday weekends.

The market will run 9am-1pm at the carpark area beside the TCDC Area Office in Port Rd unless absolutely bucketing down.

'We do have a little sheltered area which is good as long as it's not windy!' Suzanne said.

As always, goods to be sold need to be home-made, home-grown or second hand.

'We are particularly looking for people wanting to sell home-grown surplus fruit and veg

as this always attracts people to the market. 'You don't need any fancy gear - a blanket on the ground is fine! If you want to sell out of the back of your car, we reserve a few spaces down the back for this - neither we nor the TCDC want vehicles up the front,' Suzanne said.

Buskers are always welcome - just turn up. 'We have power if needed - you will just need an extension cord if you want to use it.

'As always we are very grateful to the TCDC for allowing us to use the area for the market.'

Currently in the pipe-line is a plan to invite non-profit community and sports groups to hold food stalls as fund-raisers.

'We would allocate one per month and would donate our stall fees from the day to that group,' Suzanne said.

Please contact Suzanne for more info on 022 651 2250 or check out the Facebook page whangasundaymarket.



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Entry forms at the Club or facebook.com/TheWhangaClub

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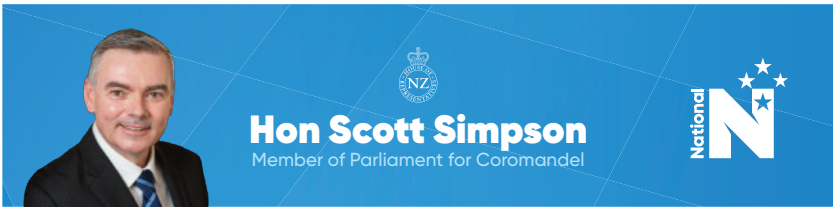
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P. 07 865 8705



In regions like ours, we depend on the goodwill and dedicated service of emergency first responders more than people living in big cities.

Coastguard, Search and Rescue, St John and volunteer firefighters are top of mind in any conversation about such things. They all do a terrific job, no matter the hour, or the day of the week, the weather conditions or the disruption to their own personal and working lives.

So the marking of International Firefighters Day this month is of special relevance. All around the large Coromandel electorate we are served by volunteer firefighters and here in Whangamata the local brigade is a stand out contributor to the wider network.

These days of course their work is not limited to just fires. Increasingly road crashes make up a significant part of their job. Being a volunteer firefighter takes a lot of dedication, courage and commitment and also a lot of time, much of it spent away from loved ones.

For all that they do, I commend them but also their families and employers who give them the opportunity to serve our wider community.

Recently there has been focus on the appallingly high number or road fatalities this year. Collectively we are quick to blame 'the roads' but frequently there is little acknowledgement that none of us drive as carefully or as safely as we could and should.

We all like to think we are the perfect driver and that it's the other drivers on the road that are the cause of the mayhem. Well, sometimes it is but more often than not the cause is ordinary folk just like us not taking care, being distracted by mobile phones or other devices in the car or by simply not paying attention to weather and road conditions.

As winter sets in I hope we all take a little more care on local roads and make sure that we don't end up as a road fatality statistic that local volunteer fire brigade officers have to clean up after.

Thanks you to all our volunteer first responders. Your work is appreciated and never taken for granted.

Authorised by Scott Simpson MP, 614 Pollen St, Thames



Killing our pets with kindness

Just as in human medicine, veterinary understanding of animal health continues to expand. Advances in pet nutrition and the far-reaching effects on our pets' health has made us more aware of the dangers of pet obesity.

Many of our four-legged friends would likely convince us that being part of the family only brings perks. Unfortunately, from a veterinary perspective, excessive treats, food and table scraps often set our pets up for more long-term health risks than benefits.

While we love to see them being doted on, we believe that responsible pet ownership involves moderation when it comes to food.

As we see an increasing shift towards pets being family members, we are also seeing an obvious increase in obesity rates.

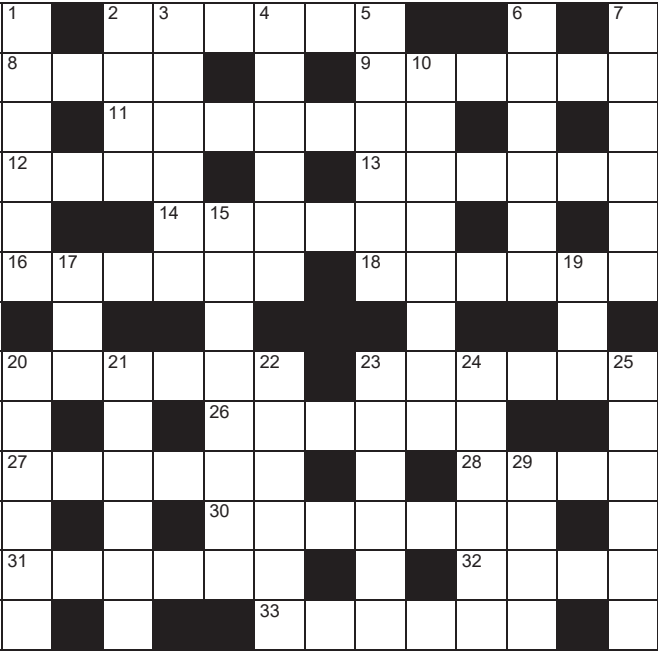
Talk to your vet for more information about these diseases or if you are concerned about your pet's weight. Sometimes getting our pets to lose weight is easier said than done. We're here to help!

- Brandy Wickham BA BVSc (Dist)

- BRANDY'S LIST:
Top 10 Risks of Pet Obesity
1. Cruciate ligament rupture, often with \$\$\$ surgery required to repair the knee
 2. Diabetes mellitus in cats
 3. Increased pain and worsening osteoarthritis
 4. Worsen respiratory conditions like Brachycephalic Obstructive Airway Syndrome (BOAS) or collapsing trachea
 5. Liver disease
 6. Higher risk for surgeries/anaesthetics
 7. Lowered immune system function
 8. Exercise intolerance
 9. Heat intolerance
 10. Increased risk of nasty tumours

BRAIN BENDERS answers for each puzzle are included on this page

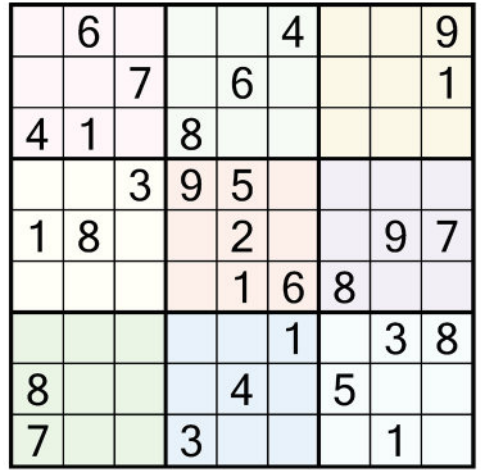
QUICK crossword



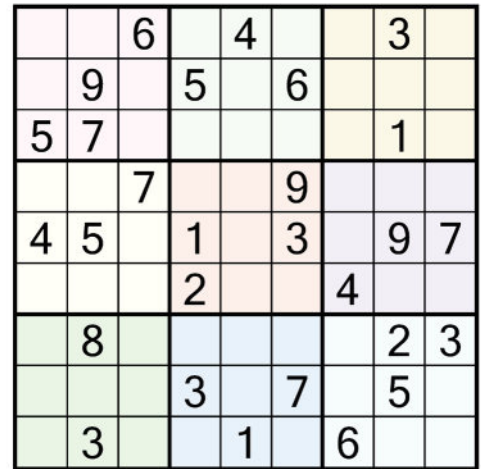
- ACROSS**
2. Critical situation (6)
 8. Unit of land (4)
 9. Casual top (1-5)
 11. Drink aimed at teenagers (7)
 12. The three wise men (4)
 13. Sexual desire (6)
 14. Ghost (6)
 16. Punctuation mark (6)
 18. Downpour (6)
 20. Stern (6)
 23. Revered (6)
 26. Modest (6)
 27. Tumult (6)
 28. Pleasing (4)
 30. Cause of someone's downfall (7)
 31. Erase (6)
 32. Highest male singing voice (4)
 33. Stinging plant (6)

- DOWN**
1. Affection (6)
 2. Rugged rock face (4)
 3. Enjoy (6)
 4. Certainty (4-2)
 5. Unemotional and dependable (6)
 6. One's social environment (6)
 7. Swimming style (6)
 10. Vindictive (8)
 15. Strong liking for something (8)
 17. Thus far (3)
 19. Talk idly (colloq) (3)
 20. Solidly built (6)
 21. Seldom (6)
 22. Soup dish (6)
 23. Missing (6)
 24. Affable (6)
 25. Quiver (6)
 29. Small island (4)

SUDOKU Fill so every row, column and every 3x3 box contains 1-9



W17 EASY



W18 HARDER

WEBWORD

10. Yielded
9. Located
8. Layered
7. Evolved
6. Kindled
5. Emerald
4. Custard
3. Awkward
2. Record
1. Gilled

Outer: GRACE KELLY

CROSSWORD

23. Absent, 24. Genial, 25. Tremor, 29. Isle.
17. Yet, 19. Gas, 20. Sturdy, 21. Rarely, 22. Tureen,
5. Stolid, 6. Millie, 7. Stroke, 10. Spiteful, 15. Penchant,
Down: 1. Warmth, 2. Crag, 3. Relish, 4. Shoo-in,
30. Nemeses, 31. Delete, 32. Alto, 33. Nettle.
20. Strict, 23. August, 26. Humble, 27. Upbeat, 28. Nice,
12. Magi, 13. Libido, 14. Spirit, 16. Hypothen, 18. Deluge,
Across: 2. Crisis, 8. Acre, 9. T-shirt, 11. Alcopop,

SOLUTIONS

SUDOKU

TRIO

WEBWORD

The answers from 1 to 10 are all seven-letter words ending with D in the centre. If your answers are correct, the letters in the outer band moving clockwise from 1 will reveal the name of a 1950s screen star (5,5).

clues:

- 1 Interrogated
- 2 Parachute pull
- 3 Ungainly
- 4 Dessert sauce
- 5 Gemstone
- 6 Ignited
- 7 Developed
- 8 In tiers
- 9 Found
- 10 Gave in

TRIO

Find the 3-letter sequence that completes these four words.

---CER
---OVE
EN---SS
A---UND

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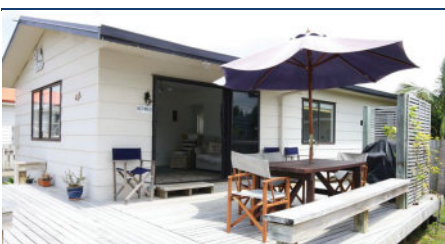


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Beach Cottage - Whiritoa

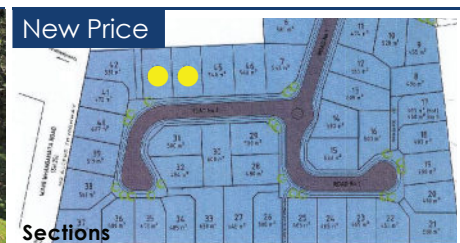
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WHANGAMATA POLICE

As Easter and ANZAC day pass, and our kids head back to school, the days get a bit darker and cooler as winter kicks in. With winter comes seasonal issues, and policing is no different.

DUCK SHOOTING: There have been a couple of dinghy thefts again; maybe a coincidence, but there is a similar trend around NZ this time of the year as opening day in May approaches.

Please take the time to secure your small vessels and restrict the opportunity for thieves who pass through our town. Also, ensure if you head out to your maimai this year, be safe and observe the firearm rules. Putting the guns down before raising the beers is a solid idea.

GAME ON: Hunters please respect land owners' rights. Deer, pigs and ducks can be tricky game that don't always stay where you want them, so please be clear on your legal boundaries.

ALCOHOL: Easter saw a lot of holidaymakers in town with the way the public holidays fell. There were a few drunk drivers caught - one after a crash - and others having no real excuses for driving. There are plenty of options for getting home after a social time out with good courtesy coach services. Please use common sense and plan your exit strategy before you regret your decision to drive over the limit.

The Road Policing bus was in town on Sunday and again, a driver was caught over the limit right outside the Police Station. A lot of us have great ideas while enjoying a beverage or two. I continually share my brilliance with friends, but unfortunately good decision making and intoxication don't usually go hand in hand. So look after your mates, and if you can, help them make good decisions

around driving after drinking.

WINTER DRIVING: It is getting colder, less enjoyable to walk around in your Speedos on the beach in the evenings, but you can adjust to the weather to stay comfortable and safe. Just like dressing appropriately, please drive to the conditions and check your vehicles are winter-ready.

MENTAL HEALTH: If you go to our website, www.police.govt.nz it talks about the drivers of demand. In winter, locally, a significant one is for Police is to attend people suffering mental distress. We encourage people in these tough times to always call 111 if it's life and death, and we will come, but remember we are not trained health care professionals. A great system is where sufferers can call or text 1737 which is a "triage line" and talk with a professional who offer FREE counselling and this service will hopefully help those feeling down, anxious or overwhelmed.

OTHER INCIDENTS: There has been a recent local search based out of Whiritoa for a Katikati 62 year old male who went missing on Tuesday the April 23. A large local response through LandSAR, Coastguard, Surf Lifesaving and others was launched over a four-day period.

On Saturday April 27 a local recreational fisherman and crew came across a deceased male 12 nautical miles offshore as they travelled back from Mayor Island.

The two incidents have now been connected with the formal identification of the missing man and our condolences go out to his family and friends.

The family have passed on their thanks to all those involved in the search and the Police hope that closure to some degree will be reached due to the caring actions

of many locals involved in the search and recovery.

Street Disorder: While dealing with this sudden death, Saturday night also saw a 43-year-old local male arrested on Port Road. If anyone witnessed the very public incident, this male has apologised for his actions if he offended anyone. Thanks to all those who assisted in getting him off the street, especially the staff at Smoky Pallet and Community Patrol.

The male was eventually sprayed and arrested for disorderly behaviour likely to cause violence and will appear in the Waihi District Court.

STATION CHANGES: Some of you will know Sergeant Lara Beisly has recently shifted to take up a Sergeant position in Paeroa. This was due to family circumstances and Lara has been greatly missed since March as our station leader and as an involved asset to the town.

She passes on her regards to those who she has not had time to see before her move.

Our new Sergeant has been appointed, and we look forward to his arrival in May, so watch this space for an introduction article soon.

Finally, after all these reported tragedies over recent months around the country, I was a distant spectator to close friends and family involved in the recent Auckland Island helicopter crash, and then learning of their amazing survival.

Take time to appreciate your whanau and mates as life is short, and, although it is tough at times, it can be an amazing journey. Keep it real, celebrate the good, and stay safe. (Abridged. Sorry Glenn!)

- Glenn Matheson, Acting Sergeant, Whangamata Police.

DEFIBRILLATOR LOCATIONS

- Area School gymnasium
- Bunnings, Aickin Rd
- Bowling Club, Rutherford Rd
- Combined Squash and Tennis Sports Club, Barroclough Rd
- Carters, 103 Lindsay Rd
- Coastguard, 619 Beach Rd
- Community Swimming Pool, Achilles Ave
- Fire Station, Port Rd and both fire appliances
- Medical Centre, Lincoln Rd
- Moana House, SH25
- New World Supermarket, Aickin Rd
- Onemana Rural Fire depot - Dial 111
- Onemana Surf Club
- Onemana Boatshed Café, Onemana Dr
- St John Ambulance station, Lincoln Rd
- St John Health Shuttles
- St John Op Shop, Martyn Rd
- Surf Club, Williamson Park
- TCDC Area Office, Port Rd
- The Marina, end of Beach Rd
- Titoki Golf Club, Waihi Rd
- Whangamata Club, Port Rd
- Whangamata RSA, Port Rd
- Whangamata Ocean Sports Club, Port Rd
- Whiritoa Rural Fire Station - Dial 111
- Whiritoa Surf Club, Kontiki Rd
- Williamson Golf Club, Achilles Ave
- Z Gas Station, Port/Ocean Rd corner

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ST JOHN


St John
Here for Life

St John is busy throughout the Whangamata community, providing health shuttles, youth programmes and alert services. In larger centres St John also provides hospital friends, phone friends, pet outreach therapy and more.

The programmes provided by St John help people in many ways. In some cases they're practical, like transport to health appointments; at other times they're about emotional health, like providing regular contact with a caring friend. These services are run primarily by volunteers and are often free of charge.

HEALTH SHUTTLES

The Health Shuttle is a free community service (although donations to cover costs are always appreciated)

that transports people to essential appointments.

CARING CALLER

St John's free Caring Caller service connects people who need a friend with people who have time to listen and chat. Youth programmes

The development programmes run for young people - aged 6 to 18 - have the right balance of education and fun. Penguin programme for 6 to 8 year olds

Our Penguin Programme is headed by Primo the Penguin, a mascot who makes sure everyone's having a good time. Children meet once a week during the school term to learn basic first aid and other practical life skills. The programme encourages common sense, honesty, self-control, courage and a sense of fair-play.

Penguins follow a course of nine badges, each divided into main topics. For each badge that's completed, the child is

awarded a colourful sew-on badge and matching certificate.

CADET PROGRAMME FOR 8-18 YEAR-OLDS

Belonging to the Cadet programme develops leadership and decision-making skills, grows a powerful sense of responsibility, builds self-esteem and encourages a caring attitude to the environment and community. Cadets also receive training in first aid and emergency skills.

Cadets meet once a week during the school term. All cadets participate in the 'Grand Prior's Award Scheme', where they work towards badges in various subjects. There's a wide range of courses to choose from - some are compulsory, others can be selected to reflect personal interests.

For further information, contact Whangamata St John on 865 9011 and speak to Lyn or Don.

WHANGAMATA COASTGUARD

APRIL 2019 CALLOUTS

All assisted vessels and persons on board were returned safely to port.

6 APRIL: Yacht. 12m. 2 POB. A call was received to assist the yacht from its harbour position to the Marina travel-lift.
Total Coastguard involvement 6 hrs.

10 APRIL: Yacht. 10m. 3 POB. Propulsion failure. Near Whangamata Entrance. CRV GJ Gardner Rescue responded, rafted up and assisted the vessel to a Whangamata mooring.
Total Coastguard involvement 6 hrs.

25 APRIL: In response to a report of a missing person CRV GJ Gardner Rescue self- tasked to search the area in the vicinity of Whiritoa Beach.
Total Coastguard involvement 26 hrs.

27 APRIL: In response to a Category 1 request from the NZ Police CRV Gardner Rescue was tasked to respond to a reported sighting of a deceased missing person located ESE of Whangamata. The mission was successful.
Total Coastguard involvement 17 hrs.

WHANGAMATA FIRE BRIGADE



The Brigade has been very quiet with only two calls for the month - one medical assistance and a car electrical which required no action.

With the large amount of driving I do I have noticed incident tape and crushed vegetation where vehicles have left the road on the peninsula. Thankfully these incidents were not high speed accidents but it is only a matter of

time before a serious accident is attended.

Please treat the roads and our public with due respect and drive to the conditions.

Frosts will cause even more risk to travellers once winter sets in.

Following last month's promotion for volunteers we had a great result with two prospects for recruitment.

If you are at all interested please contact or visit the station on a Wednesday evening or contact any of the Brigade members.

Safe Travels.
- CFO Nigel Airey

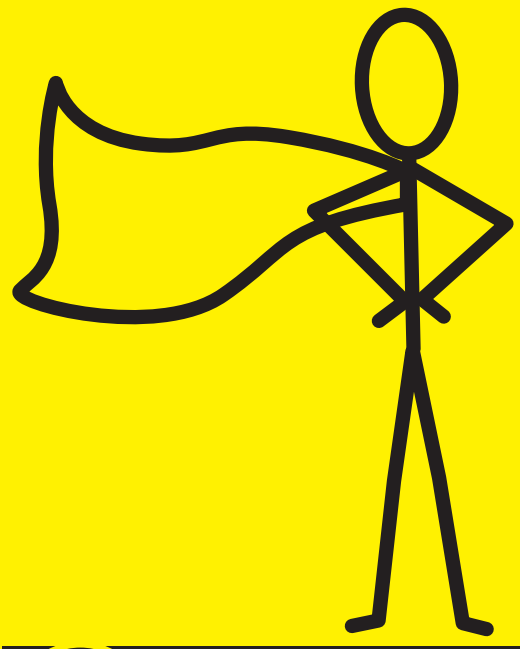
AUCKLAND RESCUE HELICOPTER TRUST



For the Auckland & Coromandel Westpac Rescue Helicopters

1 APRIL 2019 - 30 APRIL 2019

The Auckland and Coromandel Westpac Rescue Helicopter service paid just one call to Whangamata last month. On May 11 the crew responded to a call to a teenage female who suffered a spinal injury after a tackle while playing rugby. She was flown to Middlemore Hospital in a serious condition.



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THAMES



Social walking for seniors

Senior Walkers treat themselves to coffee after one of their hour-long Tuesday morning walks.

If you'd like to join in, meet at the Memorial Hall in Port Road 9am Tuesdays.

WHANGAMATA GREY POWER: SOCIAL MEETING – 22 MARCH 2019

Whangamata retirement community never ceases to amaze. It harbours a multitude of pre-retirement lives and experiences that belies the belief that they had “ordinary lives.”

Another such story emerged at the March Grey Power social meeting when David Collett shared his experience of volunteering in Nepal with the Himalayan Trust in 1998.

Following his conquest of Mt Everest in 1953, Sir Edmund Hillary began a lifetime of dedication to the Sherpa people of Nepal. Dur-

ing a visit there in the late 1950s, he asked one of the Sherpas what he could do that would be most beneficial to them. The response was, “We have eyes, but cannot see.” They needed schools. Sir Edmund founded the Himalayan Trust and by 1961 the first school was opened in Khumjung village followed by 26 more over the next 30 years. Sir Ed soon realised that the serious health issues in the area needed urgent attention as well and between 1966 and 1975 two hospitals were built, in Khunde and Phaplu.

By 1998, both hospitals were hav-

ing serious maintenance issues and David Collett was approached as an electrician to oversee and participate in the project. Not knowing what voltage, wattage or electrical equipment was being used there, David requested photographs of every electrical switch and outlet in the hospitals. From these he was able to come to the conclusion that a mishmash of European, British, Chinese, Australian and New Zealand equipment all needed to be replaced with standardised New Zealand equipment.

All equipment was sourced in New Zealand by the Himalayan Trust through generous NZ suppliers, and Garuda, a sympathetic airline offered special concessions to fly the overweight cargo packed into second- hand suitcases, to Kathmandu. On arrival there, the local Customs Department wanted to charge import duty and Sir Ed was frantically called. He was able to “sort the problem out very quickly.”

Sherpa porters carried most of this equipment to Phaplu, walking for 6 days. Some porters are able to carry their own body weight in cargo after they are helped to stand once they are loaded. They are wonderful, happy people whose wants are basic and simple.

It took 5 to 6 days for the volunteer team to replace all the electrics of the hospital. They also replaced rotten timber in the mostly beautifully constructed stone building and

sorted out the septic tank systems. Then at Khunde village where the second hospital is located, they repeated the electrical work, increasing cable sizes, upgrading and standardising everything electrical and remedial work of the timbers in the building.

Through the work of these two hospitals and twelve outlying health clinics that have since been established via the Himalayan Trust, the Nepalese people now face a future with vastly improved health and education values. Goitre problems amongst childbearing women have been eliminated leading to the elimination of cretinism through the simple introduction of an iron injection. TB has been almost eliminated as well.

When the volunteer team had finished their work at the hospitals they were invited to visit the Thangboche Monastery which had been rebuilt by the Himalayan Trust after a devastating fire. On this trek through snow with their Sherpa friends as guides, they experienced a little of the reality of local life and arrived home in New Zealand with an undying respect for the Sherpa people.

Thank you David for a small insight into the daily lives of these widely admired people. Donations can be made for the wonderful ongoing work of the Himalayan Trust through their website.

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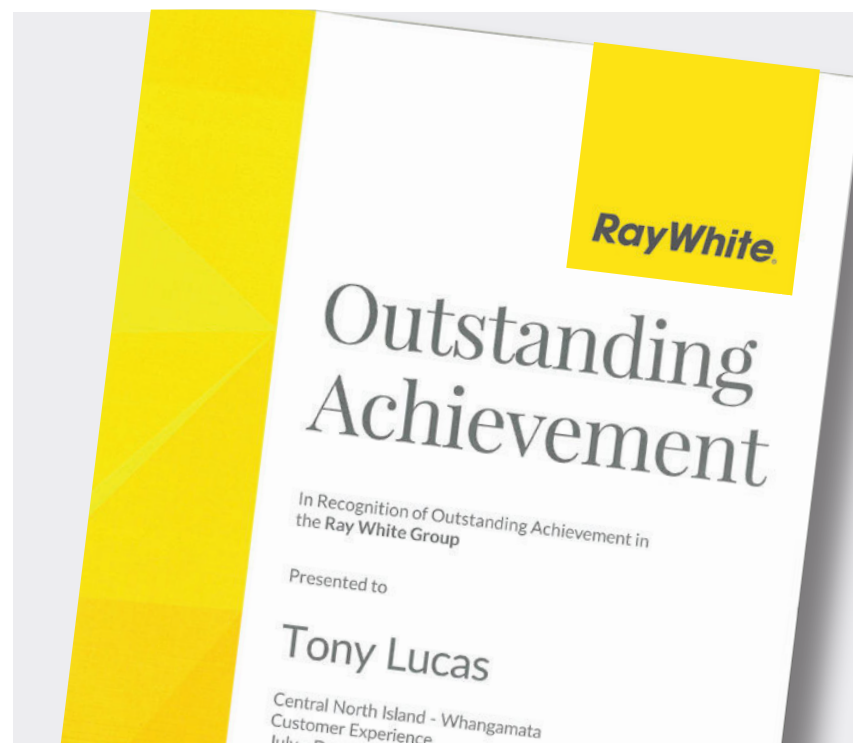
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Game on!

On a beautiful Sunday the Whangamata tennis singles championships was held under the direction of John Carlyon.

This tournament, sponsored by Kylie Ward of The Travel Brokers and LP Support attracted a good number of entries.

Singles tennis is a dynamic sport and requires many skills and fitness.

The woman's champion Lynley Payne was unbeaten in her three games, runner up was Ainsley Leslie.

Frank Hilliar won the men's singles titles, also unbeaten with Erik McLain runner up.

The summer part of the tennis season ends with the doubles and combined doubles championships.

The season included the ever popular Monday night twilight tennis competition and the Junior Hotshots coaching for 5 to 12 years old, while the Monday, Wednesday and Friday morning tennis continues.



- 1. Woman's singles champion Lynley Payne against Kylie Ward.
- 2. Erik McLain playing against Shaun Fay.
- 3. Whangamata singles competitors back row left to right, Frank Hilliar, Lynley Payne, Erik McLain, Kylie Ward, Cassie Troughton, front Ainsley Leslie, Don Mackay and Shaun Fay.
- 4. Whangamata's men's singles champion Frank Hilliar and Whangamata tennis chairman Murray Ward.



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RESULTS

Women's singles:

Lynley Payne beat Ainsley Leslie 9-2, Cassie Troughton 9-2 and Kylie Ward 9-0.

Ainsley Leslie beat Cassie Troughton 9-7 and Kylie Ward 9-2.

Cassie Troughton beat Kylie Ward 9-7.

Men's singles:

Frank Hilliar beat Erik McLain 9-7, Don Mackay 9-0, Shaun Fay 9-4 and Phil O'Connor 9-0.

Erik McLain beat Don Mackay 9-1, Shaun Fay 9-3 and Phil O'Connor 9-2.

Shaun Fay beat Don Mackay 9-7 and Phil O'Connor 9-5.

Phil O'Connor beat Don Mackay 9-1.



Phone: 07 865 6274
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Sponsors' Golf

Fine weather and great course conditions greeted golfers playing in the Whangamata Golf Club's Sponsors' Day Tournament at the Titoki Course in April.

Despite a little bit of drizzle as the day progressed, all teams had heaps of fun and enjoyed a relaxed, social game.

1. The Food Express Team ready to go. From left, Neville Ford, Kim Eng, Don Parlane and Amo Jones. 2. Bright in red are the team from Seeka: Bryan Grafas, Jill Agnew, Raewyn and Bill Marshall. 3. The team from New World are confident before teeing off. Left to right are: Neville Greg, New World owner Neville Singh, Ricky Matara and Haydon Ross. 4. Neville Singh tees off.



SPORTS CLUBS

GOLF CROQUET: Plays Monday, Friday and Saturday. Draw in at 9.15am with play at 9.30am Bond Street. Also Wednesday with draw at 12.45pm and play at 1pm. All enquiries to Judy 865-6966.

MAHJONG: is played at the Whangamata Club. On Mondays it is for learners who wish to play. This starts at 1pm Friday is the club day were players come no later than 1.15pm for a 1.30pm start. PhLorna 027 352 0154

UKELELE GROUP: A Ukulele group meets at the RSA each Thursday at 1.30pm for a fun sing-a-long. Anyone interested to join can come along or alternatively if they wish to learn the ukulele they can phone me (Lorna Judd) on 027 352 0154.

SPORTS RESULTS

GOLF CROQUET

15 April: Winner was Norma Black on 20 points and runners up were Roger Buchanan, Gayel Burrell, and Pat Flinn on 19 points.

29 April: April Winner was Ken Worthington on the maximum 21 points and runners up were Roger Buchanan and Gayel Burrell.

MAHJONG

Whangamata Club

15 March: There were 59 players attend and the winner was Beryl Barr on 42 points with the runner up being Karen Jones on 36 points.

22 March: We had 52 players and the winner was Jenny McLeod on 36 points The runner up was Vina Carroll on 35 points.

5 April: The Winner was Janet Randell on 35 points and the runners up were Carol Archer and Diane Tate on 31 points.

12 April: We had 45 players. The Winner was Erin Wyatt on 49 points and the runner up was Ruth Kowalewicz with 44 points.

26 April: We had 50 players. The Winner was Leeanne Rymill with 41 points and the runner up was Janet Randell with 37 points.

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Sunday 9th
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THE BACH

Looking back



A walk back in time

Walk in the door of this Whangamata bach and you'll immediately be taken back in time to the 1950s.

Owners for the past 30 years, Ross and Carol Needham from Hamilton, have kept the Beverley Tce cottage as original as possible - apart from upgrading the kitchen, replacing the long-drop loo with a toilet and shower block, and putting an old caravan at the back as an extra bedroom.

Ross says the bach was originally owned by the Lusk family.

'The history of the bach is written in a book about the Coromandel's history but I can't think of the title of the book. We bought the bach from Dudley Smith, who lived in Huntly. Back then it was creosoted.'

Ross said it was one of the first weatherboard baches (rather than fibrolite) built in Whangamata.

'It had a kauri benchtop in the kitchen but it was rotting so we had to replace it.'

An interesting feature of the bach - apart from the photos pinned up over the years - is the collection of hats.

'When we first took over the bach we had a party and the proviso was that everyone had to wear a hat,' Ross said. 'Since then, the collection has been added to by friends visiting and from hats we get overseas.'

Outside, the seating area is made up of massive old beams which were piles from Whangamata's original wharf.

There are many tales to tell about their years owning the bach . . . and because of those memories, Ross said the family has no plans to sell.

'It's the family bach and we hope it will stay that way for a long time yet.'





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