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Whangamatā

ISSUE 61 - 4 FEBRUARY, 2022

NEWS

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Photo by Mark James

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Welcome to the first February 2022 edition of Whangamatā NEWS

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Scott Simpson MP for Coromandel

Contact me anytime

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Authorised by Scott Simpson,
614 Pollen St, Thames.



Police report



SIGH OF RELIEF

There were many waiting nervously for the New Years period and what it may have brought. I am very happy to report as most of you know that there was no repeat of last years behaviour at Williamson Park. Police worked closely with partner agencies and took the time to ensure that we had the right people, in the right place at the right time. This in addition to not having a repeat of a large number of people transported into town with no plans or direction significantly reduced the risk and eventual outcome. Thank you to those who took the time to approach Police staff with their positive comments, it is really encouraging.

BIKES UP FOR GRABS

No I don't have any, but there are plenty of people that do. What I mean by this is we have received a large number of reports of push-bikes stolen from properties over the summer period. These are mostly bikes that have been left out loose on properties overnight, seemingly tempting for those who decide they need one. Please don't leave your gear unsecured.

PAUANUI BOAT TRAGEDY

Firstly, our thoughts go out to the family who suffered loss from this incident. Secondly, I would like to extend a huge thank you to the services that were involved, St John, Fire, Surf Lifesaving, Helicopter crew, members of the public and others. This was a fast paced and dynamic environment that none of us

ever want to be faced with. Please take care out there in the water, your safety is most important and wear your life jacket at all times. I would like to extend a thank you to Phil, AJ and their team at the Whangamata Ocean Sports club for their contribution also.

SENIOR CONSTABLE GREG RESINK

Last week saw the departure of Senior Constable Greg Resink or Gregga as we all know him. He hasn't gone far though, he has taken up the opportunity to be a Detective within the Waikato East CIB (Criminal Investigation Branch). Gregga has contributed many years to the Whangamata area and until his departure was the longest serving at our station. There is not many people that don't know him and I would say there is a sigh of relief from some criminals out there who he affectionately nicknamed 'Critters'. Gregga, thank you for your commitment to our station and community, we wish you all the best.

WELCOME TO SENIOR CONSTABLE JOHN HILL

To replace Gregga, Senior Constable John Hill joins our team. John was previously serving in the Police over the hill before he took the opportunity to explore other organisations. Missing Police work he finds himself now back in the blue uniform here in Whangamata. John has extensive experience Policing and has hit the ground running. John along with Jack makes two English accents in our station, luckily they look much different from each other. If you see John out there don't be scared to say hello. If you do, tell him to stop leaving his tea bags in the sink while you're at!

- Sergeant Will Hamilton, Officer in Charge, Whangamata Police



Dog owners beware

Dog owners and women alone beware. I was walking my small dog on the beach. Off lead, but always comes when he's called. At the beach access, by Island View Park, Sirius was walking by me and went to say hello to a man and his two kids within two metres of me.

This man started yelling and swearing and kicking my dog. I went to pick him up, and he was terrified by then, so was barking at the man as he kicked him. When I tried to pick him up, the man was extremely abusive and threatening to me, so I walked away.



Next, his wife, who was under a yellow sun shade on the beach, came out yelling and screaming and also kicking my small dog. I later went back with someone and took photos (above). I will also give a copy to the police, as he was quite violent.

A Smith
WHANGAMATA



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Update on real estate market

MURRAY CLELAND, WHANGAMATA REAL ESTATE:

In December 2021, the median number of days to sell a property across New Zealand was 29 days which was an increase of two days compared to December 2020.

The total number of properties for sale nationally increased 29.7% annually from 12,932 in December 2020 to 16,773 in December 2021.

The increase of inventory in the market is welcome news for buyers, who will benefit from greater choice. Following long-term supply shortages, properties

are selling quickly.

Auctions remain popular – percentage of properties sold by auction increases. Nationwide 31.4% of properties were sold by auction in December 2021.

The Whangamata property market has followed a similar trend to the overall property market in New Zealand.

During the summer holiday period there were record numbers of people renting holiday homes which was due the fact that overseas travel was very limited.

GORDON TURNER, FIRST NATIONAL PACIFIC COAST:

According to oneroof's last market update on the 25th January over 28 property's had come to the market in the last 30 days (in Whangamata) and just four had been marked sold by oneroof.co.nz.

This is consistent with our experience at the coal face, with a doubling in the amount of listings coming to market and a halving of qualified buyers to buy them.

We are no longer seeing the marching increase of sale prices as buyers find it harder to secure finance due to the tightening of lending criteria. In some cases buyers are saying that their bank has advised them to offer less in the

first instance to secure a better deal.

We are all well aware that RV's are wildly inaccurate as a potential tool from which to calculate a property value and as much as algorithms can be clever they too are not here on the ground in front of the market as it unfolds. As for marketing methods soon we will see the decline of auctions and more listings for "sale by negotiation" leading to fixed pricing at the end of the cycle. Never before have we ever seen such a dramatic change in such a short time as unnatural govt policy forces to totally "over cool" the property market. Albeit that at the end of the day its all about supply and demand.



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TERRY WALKER

SOUTH EASTERN WARD COUNCILLOR



GARY GOTLIEB

SOUTH EASTERN WARD COUNCILLOR

With support from the Tairua-Pauanui and Whangamata Community Boards

We do not support the way the Three Waters mandate has been handled and we're fighting for your interests.

We've expressed our absolute concern with the Government's decision to mandate Three Waters reform and we're going to fight hard for our communities at an upcoming Select Committee hearing.

The mandate is a total betrayal of the principles of local government, and we will be expressing our communities' strong opposition at every available forum.

The reforms had initially been progressed through a voluntary, partnership-based approach, and in 2020 we agreed to opt into the early stages of the reform package. This did not commit us to further reform or to transfer of assets.

We have since been listening closely to our communities and the very clear message we're getting is that we must hold the line on our water infrastructure staying in our public ownership.

We haven't been provided with enough information by the government to make any formal decisions. We relayed our communities' key positions through a formal feedback process in October. Shortly afterward, government announced the reforms would be forced through.

There's been no attempt to either consult properly, nor to listen to the input received so far. It's been an abysmal process.

We don't intend to back down. Our role now is to advocate strongly on your behalf, and to ensure your positions are on the record and we retain whatever local powers are possible.

Through the next stage of the reform programme, we intend to fight for:

- Water and water-related infrastructure assets to remain in public ownership.
- Local voices to have a place in planning and service delivery.
- Assessments about our district to be made on rateable household property numbers, rather than usually resident population.
- Local determination of the entity boundary that is most appropriate for our district, based on community feedback.

Pending NZ Women's Record

Brooke Shanley, on the boat Shambills, captained by Greg Shanley, landed this amazing fish on the weekend.

This is certainly a fish of a life time. They literally do not get any bigger. Calling manager Phil at about 8.45pm at night to request a weigh, Phil was only to happy to wait around for the crew to tow it home due to the fact they couldn't get it in the boat.

At around 10pm we had it on the

weigh station. Decky Andy had to hop in the water for a late night swim to get the tail rope around this beast.

After getting it up and the scales not being large enough we had another go with the large set. The fish tipped the scales at 370.5kgs - a pending New Zealand's Women's Record.

A huge thanks to Coxy at the weigh station for his help. Well done to Brooke, Greg, Andy and Coxy for a huge team Shambills effort.



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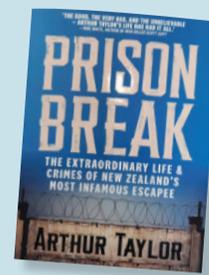
Books

PRISON BREAK

ARTHUR TAYLOR

Arthur Taylor is New Zealand's best known, most influential and colourful career criminal. A household name, he was paroled from prison after more than 38 years behind bars.

His life story is nothing short of remarkable. He has had more than 150 convictions ranging from bank robberies to fraud, theft, escaping, and having weapons and explosives.



He has served in New Zealand's notorious high security prison, Auckland Prison at Paremoremo, including nine months in solitary confinement.

He has spent time with some of the country's most feared killers and his stories of life are entertaining, gripping and sometimes horrifying.

But Arthur is not what most people might expect.

LOST AND FOUND

TONI STREET

For the first time, much loved television journalist Toni Street tells the whole story of her family's repeated heartbreak and how it shaped her.

By the time Toni turned 18, her parents had lost three of their five children, making their family's story one of almost unbelievable tragedy.

When Toni herself became gravely ill after giving birth to her second child, history looked poised to



repeat itself.

Eventually diagnosed with a rare autoimmune disorder, Toni had all her gall bladder removed, and now lives with the chronic health condition.

Lost and Found will strike a chord with anyone who has gone through difficult

times, alongside unfathomable grief and challenges. It is also a story of the value of family, joy and ultimately hope.

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The Loop a 'platinum experience'

Whangamatā News had a great catch-up with local Harley rider, Captain Sparkles, on his inaugural ride of The Loop at the Kickdown Festival held on 21 January, 2022.

The event was the newest Motorcycle Festival in New Zealand – catering for American, British, European motorcycles – and the largest in the North Island.

The main attraction was to 'ride The Loop' around famous Coromandel Peninsula coastal roads finishing with an epic concert held at Joe's Farm (just 10 minutes away from Whangamatā in Opoutere).

Why did Captain Sparkles get involved? He told us that he had been 'looking forward to something like this to happen around here, because nothing happens around here like this'. "So for something to finally come along, it filled up a void which has been waiting to be filled".

Sparkles said "everything was organised 100 percent perfectly, everything was super easy, they made everything just flow, there were no hassles, no waiting, it was just perfectly organised".

He explained the road planned for



The Loop did have its technical challenges, a lot of 25 km corners, one lane bridges, a lot of areas with distractions, when you are trying not to look at the stunning views.

But one thing I really liked was, the guys doing the traffic control, they were stopping the traffic to give right of way to all the riders. So it was a seamless ride up because they had catered for it. All the traffic was stopped, enjoying the

bikes passing and waving.

Even when coming down the hill into Coromandel Town, and as soon as you turned right, they had point duty teams directing where you had to go, they had actually organised a big open field by the fire station making parking up a breeze.

Sparkles said he felt sure there were 600 riders on The Loop, but it was broken down into groups of 100 and then also refined by rider experience, so that everyone would go in the same bunch, he found all the riders super patient and super tolerant. He never got cut off once and importantly not one accident.

"Everyone just got on with it, to have a good time together with the consideration and encouragement and it broke down any walls of old, young and experience levels.

Sparkles agreed with me that Coro Events have once again nailed it, would he do it again? Hell yes !

He knows the organisers will up the game every time, it was phenomenal, if that was their first effort, it was platinum !

- Jennie Black, Whangamatā News



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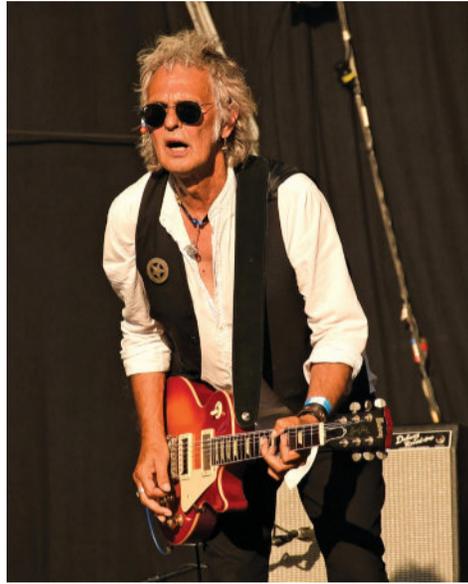
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The inaugural event, held 20 to 23 January, 2022, was something else! 600 bikes for the ride, the trophies awarded to first-time winners and \$10,000 awarded made this an event that will just set the goal even higher next year.

The concert with legendary Jordan Luck band, Devilskin and Blindspott could only be described as Epic!

Charlie Bayley from Auckland won the "People's Choice Award" with his Gold Custom Chopper with the BIG wheel, said "I usually build my own but this year I had Taranaki bike Builder Bruce Fulley create the winner. Valued at \$80k and only four-months-old, Charlie rode The Loop, 2 - up and said very well "It's got potential, this gig".

Indeed it has, and I have to say the burnouts up on stage was a thrill like no other, with the crowd shouting "more, more" and "you guys are legends!".

That summed it up, well done Coro Events management team, yet again a show stopper catering to a well behaved, loud and passionate crowd of bikers.

-Jennie Black, Whangamatā News



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Warriors defuse Detonators



The scene was set nicely for an epic game of cricket at the Whangamata Sports Ground last Sunday. The day was hot and sunny, Thames arrived with an unbeaten record for the season and had a team stacked with talent and confidence.

The Thames Detonators won the toss and decided to bat first. Enter the Whangamata Warriors, with a 2 win 2 loss record so far. You would have to say they were the underdogs for this game, but as the old saying goes it's the fight in the dog that matters and Whanga found plenty of mongrel when needed.

With a good start at the top of the order and the first wicket not falling until half way through the 8th over, Thames were no doubt tails in the air. Bring on strike bowler Eddie Blaze who took two quick wickets with his deceptive slow balls to put a brake on

the batting momentum. The Detonators never really regained any dominance after that with a steady flow of wickets falling and ending up all out for 178 with 4 overs left.

Enter Whangamatā openers Nathan Johnson and Captain Michael Norrie. They faced a barrage of good quality fast bowling and while the run rate after 10 overs was about three, importantly no wickets fell. Nathan picked up the pace and reached 45 retired in 20 overs in a man of the match effort (combined with a great catch close in when fielding)

The drama escalated late in Whanga's chase, losing three quick wickets. Dean Amess and Johno Waters stepped up and saw the team home with 4 wickets in hand to record a great win in an extremely entertaining match.

- Mark James



SWING ALONG

WITH

Basin City Big Band



Swinging back into town are the Basin City Big Band, who will again be performing at the Memorial Hall in Whangamata on Saturday, 19 February, at 7pm.

Another night of favourites from the swing era accompanied by some fabulous songs representing the great American songbook; including Nat King Cole, Frank Sinatra and Carly Simon.

Under present restrictions tickets are limited, but are available right now at Whanga Books.

Tickets \$15 - now available at Whanga Books. Don't miss out!

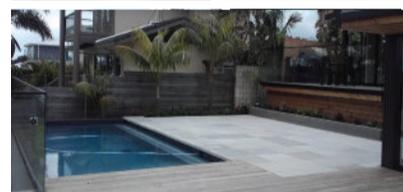
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First-timer joins Millar & Morse on the podium

Entering your first national event can be daunting but it appeared to be no drama for 11-year-old Mount Maunganui surfer Sol Fritchley who stormed to victory in the Under 14 Boys Division of the Billabong Grom Series presented by Oceanbridge on 30 January.

Fritchley was joined by Leia Millar (Piha) who stormed back to form in the Under 16 Girls Division and another 11-year-old surfer in Alani Morse (Rag) who won the Under 14 Girls Division.

The final day of the split-event followed on from the Under 18 Divisions and Under 16 Boys Division which were completed on Saturday.

Today's conditions mirrored that of day one with small but contestable waves well below the 1.0m mark. Afternoon sea breezes and midday low tides gave participants just as many challenges as their opponents in the water.

Leia Millar surfed to a 9.74 point heat total in the Under 16 Girls Division final edging past Pia Rogers (WGM) after Rogers took an early lead. Millar finished with a 5.17 point ride to extend her lead toward the end of the final and seal the win.

"It was pretty hard out there, super soft but some fun ones made better with a win" said Millar.



Sol Fritchley. Image courtesy of Guy Rencher / Coastal Surf Images.

"I am really stoked to get a good result after not having a good National Champs, so yeah, I am super happy. Hopefully Whanga and Piha have some better waves for the next two events" she added.

Rogers finished runner up in the final backing up her national title two weeks ago. Muriwai surfer Jess Sinton surfed to third place in the final, her first finals appearance in the Under 16 Girls Division while Skylar McFetridge (Tara) finished the final in fourth place.

The Under 14 Boys Division threw up big results with three first-time finalists at a national event. It was 11-year-old local surfer Sol Fritchley that claimed the win with an 11.83 point total in the final. This year's Billabong Grom Series event marks the first time the young surfer has competed nationally.

"This is my first national comp, I'm stoked to be here and surf and hang out with all my friends and stuff" said Fritchley. "We surf along this coast all the time with my friends, conditions weren't the best today, but I made it happen in the final" he said.

Alani Morse (Rag) kicked off the Under 14 Girls Division final with a 5.77-point-ride for an early lead that she never relinquished.

Finding a clean left-hander, the young natural footer linked together several turns for the score before backing it up with a 4.4 point ride midway through the heat to extend her lead.

Pauanui surfer Lola Groube battled Morse for the win and kept in touch all final only needing a 5.68 for the win but the tricky conditions left her short. Lani Frazerhurst (Rag) finished third in the final competing in her first national event while Piha's Sacha Sanders placed fourth in her first ever final.

- Surfing New Zealand

Local Competitors were:

- U16 girls: Pia Rogers
- U14 girls: Lola Groube (Pauanui); India Kennings; Ruby Milne; and Ella-Rose Luke
- U14 boys: Beau Rogers



Leia Millar. Image courtesy of Coastal Surf Images.



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Nadia spreads her wings

Whangamatā News had the great pleasure to recognise another great young achiever and her plans to leave our village that raised a child.

Nadia Dillon has spent all her life in Whangamatā and home schooled, at 18 she is ready to fly the nest and venture out to WINTEC in Hamilton.

With full support from Cindi and Donna from Sorensons Hair Salon, Whangamatā, Cindi told us it's 'time she spread her wings' after two years training under the guideful eye and master trainer, Donna, she is on her way.

When Nadia was asked about her challenges and successes, she had an easy response filled with delight and joy, and told us her journey to the hairdressing dream.

Chrissy - Mobile Hairdresser instilled a dream for Nadia, and then became known to Terri and Cindi Sorenson who gave her the chance to train in the salon as a 'salon assistant'.

By the time this is printed Nadia will be already enrolled in Hair Design Year one, but with two years training under her belt, we are sure she will move up quickly.

The course is only a year long and then she is headed for a 2 year course as an apprentice. Cindi said "I know she will be discovered and watch this space."



From left: Donna, Nadia and Cindi.

Nadia describes Terri Sorenson as the loveliest person I've ever met. He pushed her along in the right direction.

Nadia also has another passion, designing clothes, and after five years learning to sew with Rosalee Bell, she has creations abundant.

"If Nadia gives it a really good go, she will go places - I feel it. She doesn't have a big head in this business, she works alone quietly and does it, perfect", Cindi said.

"I couldn't have picked a girl more worthy", Donna said.

High praise Nadia and well deserved! Good luck on your journey!

Spread your wings, Nadia.

- Jennie Black, Whangamatā News

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See the difference

Obituary

Josie Mataroria



Whangamata Grey Power Association would like to acknowledge the recent passing of Josie Mataroria, a long-time member of Grey Power and a Past President and Secretary.

Josie was elected onto the Grey Power committee at the 2001 AGM and the following month accepted the role of Minute Secretary. This later became a full Secretarial role (2002) and in 2004 Josie was nominated President, combining the two roles until 2006 when Jo Schneebeli was elected Secretary. Josie continued as President until 2011 after which she stayed on the committee until 2014.

When reading through the Minutes, Josie's personality shines through. She had a delightful turn of phrase. Josie always called a spade a spade and at the meetings and in her reports, Josie was never afraid to speak her mind.

Josie was very community-minded, making quite an impression, and it has been lovely to see all the tributes to Josie from the many groups and people she was involved with over the years. Our condolences to Josie's family.

RIP Josie.

- Cushla Jarvis, Whangamata Grey Power Association Inc.

Minato Sushi sells on

Brian and Kaori Daniels, owners of Minato Sushi will be leaving for new adventures from 7 February.

"When we came here there was no other Sushi shop so it was a bit of a gamble, but with trial and error and hard work and a big thanks to all the locals we survived 14 years in business" says Brian.

"Our next adventure, having myself reached the age of 73, is retiring to Lyttleton, in the South Island, to be near family.

"So once again, a big thank you to all our customers for all their support, it's been great fun.

"We wish the new owners all the best for the future."

- Kaori & Brian



Lilian Evans Remembrance Service



Sunday, 13 February, 2pm at Whangamata RSA.

Come and celebrate Lilian's life with a drink or two. Please wear something pink, purple or red.

It will be a casual gathering. The RSA will run a collection for the Cancer Lodge in Hamilton in Lilian's name.

Vaccine pass under Covid rules apply.



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Arts Collective events proceed this weekend

No one thought it would be easy living in a Covid world, but the Arts Collective Committee has certainly had to 'juggle many balls' since the first onset in 2020, cancelling and postponing events, changing dates, venues and format and following the necessary restrictions to effectively run events within the traffic light system. Nevertheless, we have had some hugely successful events that continue to showcase the amazing art in our community.

But our latest casualty is the hugely popular Wine and Cheese Prize Giving that usually leads into the Harcourts Challenge and Big Arts Day Out event at Waitangi weekend. Due to red traffic light restrictions, in light of the current Omicron situation, the formal event has been cancelled and replaced with a private prize giving for the Challenge artists.

The good news is that the Big Arts Day Out and Challenge exhibitions will go ahead on Saturday and

Sunday, 5 and 6 February, 10am to 4pm, but current restrictions will apply: a limit of 100 visitors at a time; entry by Vaccine Pass, contact tracing and mask wearing.

Be assured, you will experience a true festival of the Arts, with music and art, which will be for sale, both in the Harcourts Challenge where artists have depicted the themes, "Looking Forward; Looking Back" and "Thinking Outside the Square" (Youth Challenge); and in the individual artist stations of the Big Arts Day Out.

This year, the Challenge art will be 'captured' for longer, with the exhibition being presented on the Arts Collective website. Talented photographic artist, Rodger Jack (pictured right), who acts as the Collective 'resident photographer', will be instrumental in creating the online exhibition. We are excited about this new venture that will keep the art alive. Rodger is also entering the Challenge with a photographic artwork, entitled



Contemplation, and will join the Big Arts Day Out artists with a display stand."

- Lynne Robinson, Media Coordinator, Arts Collective



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Arts Collective
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Premise of new store opening benefits all

Whangamatā News was delighted to meet up with Blake Cropp of Highline, the new mountain bike store, just opened mid December, in the mall off Port Road and across from Chilli Cove.

Blake tells us the reason they opened the new store was to "support the mountain bike community", both Cropp (President of the Whangamata Mountain Bike Park) and Justin Leach (Secretary) are heavily involved with the mountain bike park, just out of town, which offers 23km of trails.

The main reason the shop has opened is to support the activity which is happening up at the park, both men are 100% focussed on mountain biking and supporting the community.

Essentially, Highline is the hub of the mountain bike community.

Currently they are developing all of the trail network, rejuvenating or of the trails, with professional trail builders, tidying them up to meet a national and international standard.

"The feedback on this work improving the trails has been phenomenal from visitors, locals and the kids - you can see the significant number of bikes on the back of cars coming in - more so than surfboards," said Blake.



From left: Max, Blake and Trey.

"This is a fantastic community asset, and from a regional perspective and a real positive for our town."

The store stocks three brands of bikes - Transition, their flagship brand, (from Washington State USA), Forbidden is their super premium brand for a niche of only 2 products from Vancouver Island, Canada and Marin from California. The ethos is 'quality not quantity'. Blake tells us he wants customers to come in and have a good experience and leave with a quality and safe bike.

They also have a professional mechanic coming in store twice

weekly - to do the vast majority of servicing for anyone in town who has a quality bike and needs a pro



to look after it, just come into the shop and see Max and Tray.

Both young guys ride for the shop, they are good examples of employing young guys, making sure they have the opportunity to learn and develop their skill set, perhaps carving a career in mountain biking.

On a sign off note, Highline offers \$250 credit on any mountain bike 'full size purchase' and then the store donates \$250 back to Whangamata Mountain Bike Park.

That's what I call community support, passion and an ethos many should follow - focus on our community!

Well done guys!

- Jennie Black, Whangamatā News



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Lifelong friendship cemented by travel

Whangamatā News met up with Juliet Martyn and her daughters Heather Cameron and Jeanette Winslade.

Juliet Martyn, now nearly 93, born in April 1929, has lived in Whangamatā permanently since marrying Wrey Martyn in 1950.

Living in the Wentworth Valley, Juliet's parents, Sybil and Geoffrey Palmer, cleared their land and built their first home right up at the end of the road, by the campground.

Juliet tells me that her parents would ride by horse over the hill to Hikutaia to get supplies, as it was the only place to shop. Back then, when Juliet was born, the road to Waihi wasn't really a road. Originally, a boat would arrive in the Whangamatā Harbour with supplies once a month and then, of course, the Hikutaia store was the only other option.

Fascinatingly, when Sybil Palmer was to deliver Juliet, she went by horse right to the top of the Wentworth Valley Hill, over to Hikutaia, to catch a train to Hamilton where she was born. A week or two later, she came back with baby Juliet by train to Hikutaia, to meet her husband Geoffrey, who brought another horse for Sybil and the baby to return to Wentworth Valley. Incredible, when I think about how robust these women were.

As time progressed, Juliet married Wrey and went on to have four children, Heather, Jeanette, Ralph and Paul. Even when all four children were under five, Juliet would take all four to the cowshed in the late afternoon to milk, with the two younger boys playing in a box and the girls playing in the cream room, close to Mum.

Later, Wrey and Juliet went on to sheep farming up the Wentworth Valley, as dairy farming was doing it tough.

Heather recalls when the river flooded: "They couldn't go to



Juliet Martyn with her daughters, Heather and Jeanette.



Juliet and Wrey Martyn.

school, and the front paddock became a huge swimming pool." Eventually they moved to the other side of the road, so school wasn't missed.

Juliet also bred Appaloosa horses,

starting in the 1970's, which was a passion for many years.

Juliet joined various Women's Institute community groups, one in particular, when the local Whangamatā women had an Arts and Crafts shop. Juliet created paintings, gingham hats and cane furniture, but most importantly creating gemstone jewellery, another passion.

This is where the story changes to a lifelong friendship Juliet made with her dearest friend, Pam Watchorn.

Pam (whose husband Alf was the manager at the quarry), asks Juliet: "Do you know anything about rockhounding? I've read a



The original Palmer home up Wentworth Valley Road.



Juliet and her friend Pam Watchorn.

lot about it, I think we should try it. Let's go and see if we can find anything".

The pair started with finding Jasper up the Wentworth Valley, then using fittings for all things jewellery with their polished stones.

The great friends then took to a passion for tramping and rock hounding, they even went to Nepal (in their 50's) on a guided tour from Whangamatā - for Juliet, Pam and Enid Campbell, it was the trip of a lifetime.

This led to walking the Great Wall of China, with Pam, and Shetland Islands (for a family history search). While their husbands stayed behind, the intrepid women had adventures of their own.

In essence, the women bonded a lifelong friendship despite all the challenges and opportunities of living in early Whangamatā.

I felt privileged to have had a glimpse into the early life of Juliet Martyn, a "lady who has had a truly wonderful life".

- Jennie Black, Whangamatā News

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ABOUT ANNIE

Annie started playing the accordion from the age of five and virtually grew up on stage with a BA in performing arts from Tianjin Conservatory of Music. In her early years, Annie toured extensively as a soloist throughout China with

some of China's most prestigious symphony orchestras. At one point, Annie's parents decided that she should travel to the west to gain a broader perspective and knowledge of western music and culture.

www.annieaccordian.com

Whangamatā resident Ron McQuarters has a treat for locals, bringing international music star Annie Gong to our Memorial Hall on February 18 and 19, with four shows.

Annie, originally from China, now based in Auckland, for the past 15 years and performing worldwide with extensive repertoire from the Classics to Rock and Pop.

Annie has performed and thrilled audiences from Beijing to New York and has appeared on Beijing television as well as PBS television in New York as a solo artist with her incredible virtual Symphony orchestra.

She astounds both Cruise Ship and Land Based audiences with her beautiful repertoire of music from Classical fusion to movie themes and Broadway to some of the biggest rock and pop music on the planet.

When live on stage, Annie has a

delightful cheeky sense of humour which comes through with her natural personality and banter winning audiences and fans all over the world. *Accordion Stars Magazine New York* voted Annie Entertainer-Musician Of the Year.

In 2019, Annie had the honour of being voted Musician of The Year, by the Federation Of American Musicians Singers And Performing Artists (FAMSPA).

When at home in Auckland, Annie is always busy arranging and recording her unique symphony orchestral repertoire of classical music, movie scores, rock classics and Chinese fusion music. Annie has been playing since she was five years old and completed a BA in music and studied Jazz at the Auckland University School of Music. Her passion is to bring the accordion into the twentieth century as she believes it is a very underrated and powerful instrument.

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Back to school

Opoutere School

Another sweltering summer holiday has passed with sun, surf and family time. Opoutere School is set to extend a warm welcome to all our tamariki and whānau on Tuesday February 8th. We wish to especially acknowledge our youngest 5 year old enrolments and their whānau. Starting school for the first time is always a special moment and we look forward to you being part of our school community. On top of this, we have other enrolments across the kura and we look forward to supporting you all with your transition.

At Opoutere School, we like to make the most of the warm weather and "dive" straight into our Adventure Learning curriculum frame for Term One, Te Moana. Students across the school will be involved in Education Outside the Classroom (EOTC) taking full advantage of our natural surroundings. Our Juniors will be learning the skills of Waka Ama culminating in harbour paddles and our seniors, a variety of skills involving surfing, fishing, kayaking



and paddleboarding. Our other four frames of learning focus on Proficiency (Reading, Writing and Math), Conceptual (Inquiry Learning), Experiential and Kotahitanga (Unity and wellbeing for all). All these frames combine to provide our unique and student-

centred school curriculum.

2022 Professional Learning for our Staff will focus on Numeracy, Culturally Responsive and Relational Pedagogy (ongoing) and the Better Start Literacy Approach (BSLA) across the

Looking forward to making further progress in this area in 2022. The school continues to enjoy a significant period of property improvements. Students returning to school will see that work is well underway on the replacement of our junior playground, and this year work will commence on the rebuilding of our year 7 and 8 classroom block.

Our teachers make the biggest impact on student learning and in 2022 we have welcomed several newcomers to our staff. Mrs

- Jethro Dyer
Principal



Whangamata Area School

It promises to be another exciting year at Whangamata Area School, and looking back in 2021, our students can be exceptionally proud of their academic achievements. Whilst COVID threw yet another challenging year our way, over 90% of year 12 students achieved NCEA Level 2 and 78% of year 13's secured Level 3. These results are some of the best in the school's history and are over 10% above the national average pass rate in both cases. Perhaps most pleasing was the significant increase in the number of students

achieving merit and excellence results in individual subjects. These results require success in examinations and the level of success in these almost doubled on last year. Congratulations to all our seniors on these great results, and we look forward to driving further improvement in 2022.

In the primary years, we have implemented a structured literacy programme across the school and the results from year 1 of this programme are hugely encouraging. Again we are

looking forward to making further progress in this area in 2022.

The school continues to enjoy a significant period of property improvements. Students returning to school will see that work is well underway on the replacement of our junior playground, and this year work will commence on the rebuilding of our year 7 and 8 classroom block.

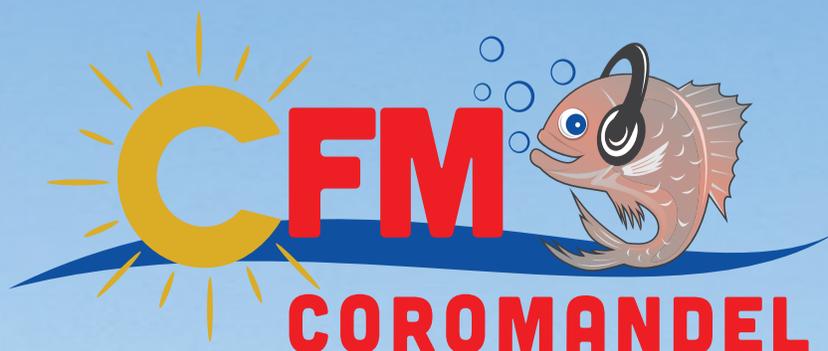
Our teachers make the biggest impact on student learning and in 2022 we have welcomed several newcomers to our staff. Mrs

Brookes, our long serving Deputy Principal, retired at the end of 2021 and age is replaced by Mrs Renee Stewart. Mr Tim Middleton takes up a new role as Associate Principal with responsibility for Year 11-13. Also joining our teaching team for term one are Mrs Rachel Fulton, and we welcome Mr Matt Kerr back for term one also.

Whatever challenges lie ahead, we are looking forward to the learning opportunities 2022 will bring.

- Alistair Luke
Principal

PROUD TO BE LOCAL



95.1 FM



A grand age celebrated

Brant Robinson celebrated his 104th birthday on 21 January, at Moana House with a barbecue lunch and carrot birthday cake

He enjoyed lots of presents of his favourite things – chocolate and lollies!

His son John and daughter-in-law Lynne Robinson enjoyed the time outdoors with him – and the always happy Moana House staff.



Volunteer of the Month

Know them. Appreciate them. Love them.

Every month, *Whangamatā News* celebrates one of our wonderful volunteers. And every month there's a \$20 Chill Café voucher to go with it. Send a nomination to whangamatanews@gmail.com

JANUARY: Ray Collett

I am nominating Ray Collett as one of Whangamatā's most valuable volunteers.

Ray has not only driven the shuttles for the last ten years,

to medical appointments at hospitals, but he looks after every aspect of the vehicles. He washes them down every week and keeps up-to-date with WOF, etc.

He is invaluable to St John and

has been a member of our area committee for many years.

– Pam Gurnell, Whangamatā

Know someone who volunteers? Nominate them at Chill Café or First National.

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Auction 1pm, 19 February 2022 at 328 Ocean Road (will not be sold prior)

View by appointment



Colin Thompson
021 723 723
colin@whangamatarealestate.co.nz

View Listing: whanga.co/8046



906 Port Road

- Here's a sizable property located in a prime position
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- Downstairs; large rumpus room, bathroom, laundry, kitchenette, bedroom, lounge area and double garage with internal access.
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Colin Thompson
021 723 723
colin@whangamatarealestate.co.nz

View Listing: whanga.co/8039



104 Patiki Place

- Plenty in the way of accommodation with three bedrooms with semi-ensuite, family bathroom upstairs plus an extra room with ensuite downstairs
- Very nice decked and covered outdoor area on one side of the property and another deck with harbour and reserve outlook on the other
- Double garage
- Easy care 600sqm site
- Harbour and reserve are accessible at the end of the street

Auction 1pm, 19 February 2022 at 328 Ocean Road (will not be sold prior)

View by appointment



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

View Listing: whanga.co/8041



12A Fishermans Bend, Whiritoa

- This fabulous property is located in an excellent elevated position bordering the beach reserve
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- Downstairs has 2 bedrooms, living room, kitchenette dining and bathroom

Auction 1pm, 19 February 2022 at 328 Ocean Road (will not be sold prior)

View by appointment



Dave Anderson 021 790 488
Renee Jacobsen 021 250 8541
dave@whangamatarealestate.co.nz

View Listing: whanga.co/8045





Whangamata Real Estate

LICENSED REAA 2008

07 865 8499

328 Ocean Road, Whangamata

whangamatarealestate.co.nz



**PRICE BY
NEGOTIATION
+ GST (if any)**

208 Wentworth Valley Road

- Located only a few minutes drive from Whangamata in the beautiful Wentworth Valley is this 26.939 hectare property
- The house site has absolutely spectacular views
- A small stream flows out of the bush over the land with native trees including Kauri near by.
- This is a very rare opportunity to purchase a property of this size in this location

[View by appointment](#)



Dave Anderson 021 790 488
Renee Jacobsen 021 250 8541
dave@whangamatarealestate.co.nz

View Listing: whanga.co/8044



**ENQUIRIES
OVER
\$950,000**

211A The Square

- Perfect entry level opportunity
- 405sqm flat section
- Quirky 1 bedroom bach
- Open plan arrangement flows to a large covered area
- The Square is a favourable location

[View by appointment](#)



Nancy Millett
021 517 708
nancy@whangamatarealestate.co.nz

View Listing: whanga.co/8047



**ENQUIRIES
OVER
\$875,000**

203C Rangī Avenue

- The beach location is excellent, and the living really is easy at this beautifully presented 2 bedroom property
- Just a block back from the beach and very handy to the Otahu Estuary
- A new kitchen, new flooring and upgraded bathroom
- The home has 2 double bedrooms and open plan living with heat pump.
- Compact but well laid out and extremely low maintenance

[View by appointment](#)



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

View Listing: whanga.co/8048



**ENQUIRIES
OVER
\$960,000**

107 Moa Street

- Well-presented 2 double bedroom beach pad
- Featuring open plan lounge and dining, semi separate kitchen, separate bathroom and toilet, separate laundry
- Spacious single garage, bbq area at rear of garage
- Flat freehold section

[View by appointment](#)



Julian West
027 222 4364
julian@whangamatarealestate.co.nz

View Listing: whanga.co/8037



Whangamata Real Estate

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07 865 8499 328 Ocean Road, Whangamata whangamatarealestate.co.nz

215B Given Avenue

- Handily located very close to the beach via Island View Reserve – or head straight to the Otahu estuary for a swim
- Fully fenced and gated, the site is very easy care
- The house offers a cosy lounge, bathroom and laundry downstairs – plus a garage partitioned to 2x sleeping areas
- Upstairs you have Kitchen/diner, nice sunny deck and a double bedroom + toilet
- Tidy and in a popular beach location

View by appointment



Pete Sheppard 027 609 4955
Chris Speedy 021 747 901
Pete.chris@whangamatarealestate.co.nz
View Listing: whanga.co/8049



ENQUIRIES OVER \$1,295,000

117 Bruce Wallace Place

- Immaculately presented 4 double bedroom home with harbour and sea views from most rooms
- Open plan living area and a nicely appointed kitchen
- Large master with walk-in wardrobe and ensuite
- A wood pallet fire plus a heat pump
- Triple internal access garaging

View by appointment



Wendy Jeffs
027 4219 482
wendy@whangamatarealestate.co.nz
View Listing: whanga.co/8011



ENQUIRIES OVER \$1,569,000

122 Hetherington Road

- Four bedroom home with four ensuites PLUS a very nicely appointed & fully serviced 2 bedroom cottage
- The property is fully fenced and gated for privacy and enjoys access off 2 streets
- Internal access double garage
- The cottage is separate with two double bedrooms and full bathroom, tidy kitchen and its own deck and courtyard

View by appointment



Pete Sheppard 027 609 4955
Chris Speedy 021 747 901
Pete.chris@whangamatarealestate.co.nz
View Listing: whanga.co/8013



PRICE BY NEGOTIATION

709 Tairua Road

- Enjoy absolutely stunning views down the harbour, out to the ocean, islands and beyond from this remodeled home.
- Set in an elevated position with 2639m² of land surrounded by a farm giving you excellent privacy
- The home has 4 bedrooms, 3 bathrooms, triple garaging and excellent indoor/outdoor living.
- Downstairs can be used as separate family accommodation

View by appointment



Dave Anderson 021 790 488
Renee Jacobsen 021 250 8541
dave@whangamatarealestate.co.nz
View Listing: whanga.co/8005



PRICE BY NEGOTIATION



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501a Port Road, Whangamata

Licensed Real Estate Agents (REA 2008)



AUCTION

Whangamata

**Auction In Our Offices at
501a Port Rd, Whangamata
Sat 1pm, 12th February 2022
(unless sold prior)**



Web# FNPC1110

Premium Position

From this Sylvia Rd address it's only an 5 minute walk to the surf or a little further to Otahu Estuary (16 mins approx), you choose. If you are looking for low maintenance Brick & Tile, that can provide versatile Beach living you've found it here. Check out this open plan 3 bedroom home with a great Kitchen for entertaining. Enjoy stepping out from the lounge to the private courtyard to dine al fresco. Wander out the back & sit in the private patio area & watch the veges grow. The bedrooms are all double so you can have bunks &/or double beds to accommodate the whole family. There is a sep bathroom & toilet plus an extra toilet in the internal garage so there will be no queuing.

\$ AUCTION

Gordon Turner

021 385 385

Carol Hatton

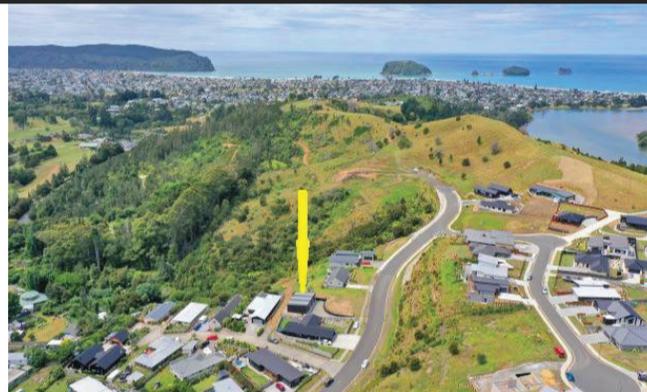
027 574 3758



AUCTION

Whangamata

**Auction In Our Offices at
501a Port Rd, Whangamata
Sat 1.30pm, 12th February 2022
(unless sold prior)**



Web# FNPC1109

The Ultimate Starter Pack

Buy now, build later. A monster 140sqm, 3 Bay, coloursteel shed, is set to rear of the site allowing for a 100-110sqm home to be built in the front. The shed has just been completed in 2021 with a CCC presently being sought. Built by Waikato Shed Company, it has a 4.6m stud in front & 3.8m stud at the rear & sits on a 730sqm elevated site. The potential house site can enjoy nice northerly rural views & sunshine. There is a 3.5m wide driveway to the sheds, wide enough for any boat or motorhome. Power is connected. Te Tutu St enjoys broadband, water reticulation & sewerage, being a newer subdivision of dwellings at a high standard, & just a minute to golf or a bit further to the local dairy.

\$ AUCTION

Gordon Turner

021 385 385

gordon@

firstnational.nz



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Tairua



Web# FNPC1090



Tairua



Web# FNPC1083

Top Of The World

It's true, nothing beats a sensational view of Slipper & Shoe Islands, & beyond. This property radiates design & quality. O/plan living w mod kitchen, pellet fire, wrap around deck to enjoy the vistas. 3 bedrms, 2 bathrms, 1257 sqm.

Enquiries over
\$1,650,000

Neil Kember

021 0840 5991

neil@

firstnational.nz



Award Winning Home

Gold Award Master Builders House of the Year boasting 4 bedrms, 2 lounges, 2 bathrms, powder room & internal access garage. Sit back & enjoy your spectacularly large deck & stunning views to Mt Paku.

\$By Negotiation

Neil Kember

021 0840 5991

neil@

firstnational.nz



Tairua



Web# 11908151423



New Price

Whenuakite



Web# FNPC1108

Affordable Investment

The Most Affordable Investment In Tairua. A Polynesian inspired Villa on a Freehold Title in the heart of town. Includes one car park adjacent to Villa. Easy living or ideal holiday escape. 3 main city centres only 2 hrs away.

\$ PBN

Sandie Faiers

027 622 7717

sandie@

firstnational.nz



Beautiful Mature Bush & Seaviews

Exclusive lifestyle property in a prime location. 10 Ha of rolling land & native forest with a northerly aspect. Ideal family home with 4 bedrms, 3 bathrms & includes access to your own private beach paradise shared neighbours.

\$By Negotiation

Neil Kember

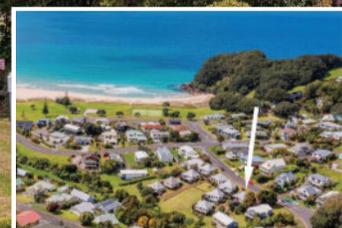
021 0840 5991

neil@

firstnational.nz



Onemana



Web# FNPC1084



New Price

Whangamata



Web# FNPC1102

Live & Work In Paradise

So many lifestyle options with this charmer. 4 bedrms + office, 2 bathrms & just 200m from the beach. O/plan living extends to the large deck. Relax & take in the restful view. Mezzanine area for more possibilities. Kent style fire for winter.

\$1,195,000

Carol Hatton

027 574 3758

carol@

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Waihi Beach



Tairua



Whangamata

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PUBLIC NOTICES



SeniorNet Whangamata Inc. Annual General Meeting

Notice is given that the **Annual General Meeting of SeniorNet Whangamata Incorporated is to be held on 18 February 2022 at 10.30am at Cornerstone House, 101 Ocean Road.**

New members are welcome, morning tea at 10am.

Ian Feasey
Secretary

Whangamata Ratepayers' Association Inc Annual General Meeting

3.00pm, Saturday, 26th February, 2022
Whangamata Memorial Hall

Agenda

Minutes of previous 2021 AGM

Chairperson's Report

Treasurer's Report

Election of Officers • Chairperson
• Secretary
• Treasurer
• Committee

WRA Subscription

General Business

Guest Speakers • Terry Walker TCDC
• Ken Coulam Community Board

Opportunity for discussion and questions

Details of AGM to be posted on Whangamata Ratepayers' Association website and Facebook.

Please note appropriate Covid restrictions and requirements will be in place.

SITUATIONS VACANT

URGENTLY REQUIRED

Part-time caregiver

Part-time caregiver needed in Whangamata to assist with personal care for lovely lady in her 70's.

Good hourly rate offered, training provided.

Phone Margaret on 865 6596.

SITUATIONS VACANT

DISHWASHER NEEDED

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YINGS @ THE RSA. Contact Ying on 07 865 9414 #4 or 021 116 8661.

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- Have proven organisational and time management skills
- Have excellent problem solving and diagnostic abilities
- Must be a NZ resident or have a valid NZ work visa

Preference will be given to someone who has a WOF certification Authority but not essential.

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office@jcdcustoms.co.nz Attn: Matt

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- 5 holes only \$140

Contact seller in Whangamata on 0221 096 376.



Whangamatā Tides 2022

February 2022

☾ New Moon: 1st ● Full Moon: 17th

Date	High tide	Height (m)	High tide	Low tide	Height (m)	Low tide	Sun rise	Sun set
	AM		PM	AM		PM		
4	Fri	10:25	2.0	22:45	3:58	0.2	16:32	20:26
5	Sat	11:13	2.0	23:33	4:47	0.2	17:20	20:25
6	Sun		1.9	12:00	5:35	0.3	18:07	20:24
7	Mon	0:21	1.8	12:46	6:22	0.3	18:54	20:23
8	Tue	1:08	1.8	13:31	7:10	0.4	19:40	20:22
9	Wed	1:57	1.7	14:17	7:59	0.5	20:27	20:21
10	Thu	2:48	1.7	15:04	8:51	0.6	21:16	20:20
11	Fri	3:41	1.6	15:53	9:44	0.6	22:08	20:18
12	Sat	4:36	1.6	16:45	10:39	0.7	23:01	20:17
13	Sun	5:30	1.6	17:39	11:33	0.7		20:16
14	Mon	6:22	1.7	18:32	11:53	0.5	12:25	20:15
15	Tue	7:10	1.7	19:21	0:42	0.5	13:13	20:14
16	Wed	7:55	1.8	20:08	1:27	0.4	13:59	20:13
17	Thu	8:37	1.8	20:53	2:11	0.4	14:42	20:11
18	Fri	9:19	1.9	21:36	2:53	0.4	15:24	20:10
19	Sat	10:00	1.9	22:18	3:35	0.3	16:06	20:09
20	Sun	10:41	1.9	23:01	4:18	0.3	16:49	20:08
21	Mon	11:23	1.9	23:46	5:02	0.3	17:33	20:06
22	Tue		1.9	12:07	5:48	0.3	18:18	20:05
23	Wed	0:34	1.8	12:53	6:37	0.4	19:07	20:04
24	Thu	1:25	1.8	13:44	7:29	0.4	19:59	20:02
25	Fri	2:22	1.8	14:39	8:26	0.4	20:56	20:01
26	Sat	3:25	1.8	15:40	9:28	0.5	21:57	20:00
27	Sun	4:30	1.8	16:45	10:32	0.5	23:01	19:58
28	Mon	5:34	1.8	17:51	11:37	0.5		19:57

March 2022

☾ New Moon: 3rd ● Full Moon: 18th

Date	High tide	Height (m)	High tide	Low tide	Height (m)	Low tide	Sun rise	Sun set
	AM		PM	AM		PM		
1	Tue	6:35	1.9	18:53	0:03	0.3	12:39	19:56
2	Wed	7:31	1.9	19:51	1:02	0.3	13:36	19:54
3	Thu	8:24	2.0	20:45	1:57	0.3	14:30	19:53
4	Fri	9:14	2.0	21:35	2:48	0.2	15:20	19:51

Sport results

TWILIGHT CROQUET

24 Jan: our first night back for the second part of the competition and we were lucky with the weather.

Bits & Pieces (15) v Quizzers (20). Cornerstone (12) v Rumlbers (19).
Bridge Buddies (27) v Dare Devils (14). Probus (24) v Come Backs (20).

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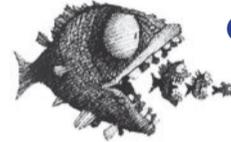
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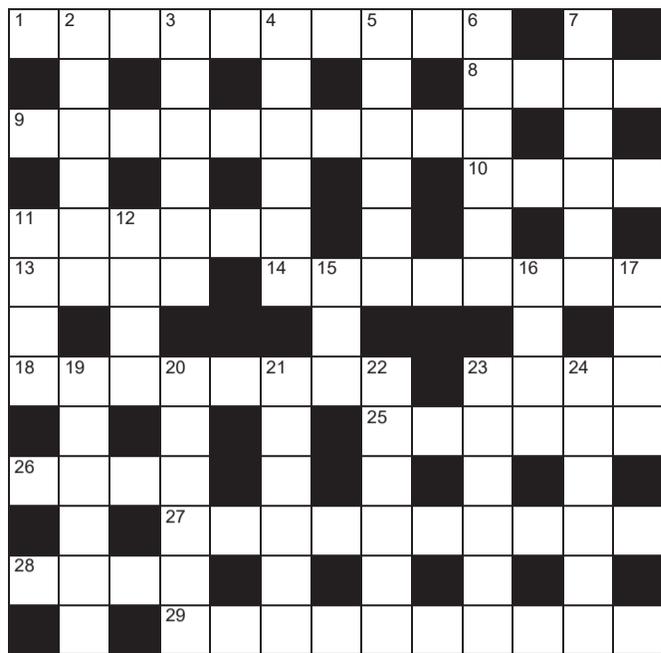
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QUICK CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1. Of education (10)
8. Head covering (4)
9. Celebrity set (10)
10. Behind schedule (4)
11. Swimsuit (6)
13. One (4)
14. Personality (8)
18. Place of business (8)
23. Possess (4)
25. Irrational fear (6)
26. Fool (4)
27. Grief (10)
28. Grain store (4)
29. Heated argument (10)

DOWN

2. Pay brief visit (4,2)
3. Defeat though better thinking (6)
4. Vinegary (6)
5. Emotional shock (6)
6. Hot pepper (6)
7. Derriere (6)
11. Light blow (4)
12. Flying toy (4)
15. Garden implement (3)
16. Surgical pad (4)
17. Domain (4)
19. Person lacking experience (6)
20. System of doing something (6)
21. Stress (6)
22. Speckled (6)
23. Disgust (6)
24. Domineering woman (6)

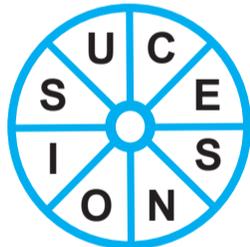
TRIO

The same three-letter sequence will complete each of the four words

___ERIC
MAG___
___B
STER___

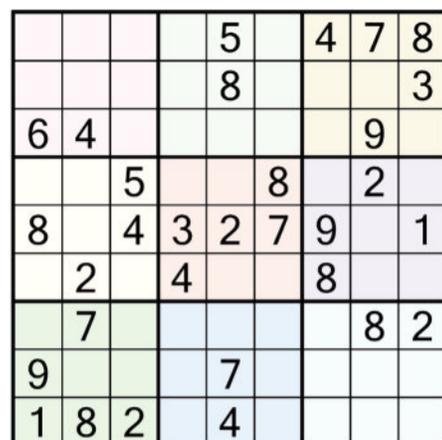
WORDWHEEL

Add one letter to make a nine-letter word reading clockwise or anti clockwise



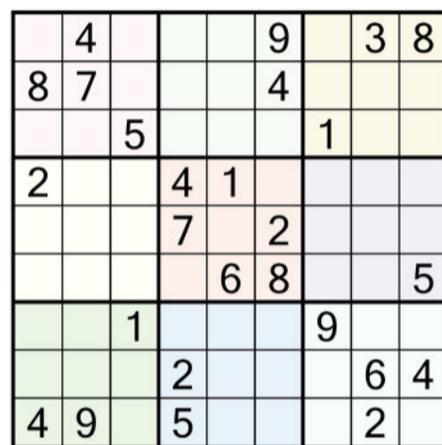
SUDOKU

Fill the grid so every row, column and 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9



W93

EASY



W94

HARDER

SOLUTIONS

CROSSWORD

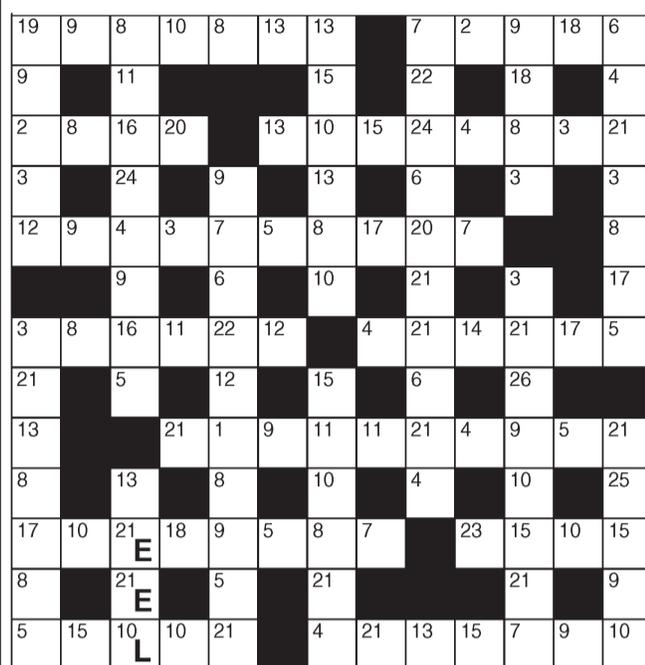
Across: 1. Scholastic, 8. Hood, 9. Glitterati, 10. Late, 11. Bikini, 13. Unit, 14. Charisma, 18. Premises, 23. Have, 25. Phobia, 26. Dolt, 27. Heartbreak, 28. Silo, 29. Donnybrook.
Down: 2. Call in, 3. Outwit, 4. Acetic, 5. Trauma, 6. Chill, 7. Bottom, 11. Bump, 12. Kite, 15. Hoe, 16. Swap, 17. Area, 19. Rookie, 20. Method, 21. Strain, 22. Spotty, 23. Horror, 24. Virago.

DECODER

1	X	2	W	3	D	4	R	5	T	6	P	7	S	8	I	9	A	10	L	11	G	12	Y	13	F	14	J	15	U	16	N	17	C	18	M	19	B	20	K	21	E	22	H	23	Z	24	O	25	Q	26	V
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	---	----	---	----	---	----	---	----	---	----	---	----	---	----	---	----	---	----	---	----	---	----	---	----	---	----	---	----	---	----	---	----	---

DECODER

Each number below represents a different letter. Find the correct letter for each number by working out the word from the letters given. To keep track, cross the letters off on the grid below.



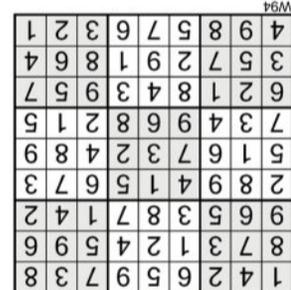
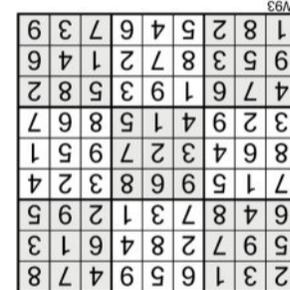
A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
									L			

14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
							E					

WORKING SPACE

SUDOKU



TRIO: WUN

WORDWHEEL: NOISUES

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