

28 Aug 2020

Clevedon local turns NZ's food waste into watts

After securing the contract to deal with Auckland City's kerbside food waste scraps last year, Clevedon resident Andrew Fisher made headlines again this month when his company Ecogas began construction of New Zealand's first large-scale food waste to bioenergy plant in Reporoa.

Andrew says the new Reporoa facility will handle 75,000 tonnes of organic waste per year, approximately 10 truck and trailer loads per day, sourced from throughout the North Island.

Ecogas is a 100% owned New Zealand partnership between Andrew's business, EcoStock, and Pioneer Energy. Pioneer Energy is owned by the Central Lakes Trust, based in Central Otago, and operates large scale energy solutions on 26 sites across New Zealand including Auckland Hospital.

Andrew says the Ecogas Reporoa site was first identified over five years ago as suitable due to its close proximity to aggregate suppliers, an operational commercial scale glasshouse, neighbouring large scale 'cut and carry' silage and cropping, and existing commercial partners. Ecogas has developed a long term commercial relationship with national horticulture operator, T&G Fresh (previously called Turners and Growers), to supply a number of energy solutions including heat and electricity to five hectares of existing glasshouses at the site.

The T&G Fresh site was blessed by Ngāti Tahu-Ngati Whaoa early this month, and now construction of the plant has begun.

From 2022 the Reporoa plant will convert the food waste to fuel which will provide power for the local community and T&G Fresh's tomato-growing glasshouses. Andrew says the new facility will also create jobs and growth for the region. Bio-fertiliser - another by-product of the process - will be used to improve agricultural productivity on around 2000 hectares of local farmland.



Clevedon resident Andrew Fisher is pioneering a new way for the country to deal with the problem of food waste - by turning food scraps into energy. Andrew is pictured above with a scale model of his new bioenergy plant, which has just begun construction in Reporoa.

A second site has been secured in Auckland, allowing Ecogas to support greater recovery of organics from waste streams.

Andrew says: "Whilst commercial scale anaerobic digestion is new to New Zealand, there are already over 140 similar facilities operating in the UK, and over 2000 throughout Europe. These anaerobic digestion facilities represent a step change in resource recovery and transfer of science and technology, to harvest valuable commercial products such as biogas and biofertiliser."

In Europe biogas is 'injected' into their natural gas grid, reducing dependency on natural gas. Biogas also runs generators creating electricity which is also sent to the power network for distribution, removing dependency on coal and gas generators. CO2 is removed from the biogas to create food-grade CO2, used by many European based multi-national companies, to replace CO2 currently sourced from petroleum and gas refineries.

Ecogas Reporoa is an opportunity for New Zealand to engage at scale in this area of bio-technology and green chemistry. The sustainable, renewable clean energy from the plant will create enough power to supply around 2,500 households in the region.

"Getting to this point has involved a huge amount of hard work and perseverance. It's great to be at this point, knowing we're helping to deliver upon New Zealand's vision of sustainability and innovation," says Andrew.

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The PC Times 20 years ago:

25 August 2000: Councillors discuss vision for Beachlands ferry service.



Weekly Tide Chart

28 Fri		2:34am ▲ 3.0m	8:44am ▼ 0.7m	
29 Sat		3:35am ▲ 2.9m	9:48am ▼ 0.8m	
30 Sun		4:38am ▲ 2.9m	10:51am ▼ 0.8m	
31 Mon		5:37am ▲ 2.9m	11:47am ▼ 0.7m	
1 Tue		12:12am ▼ 0.8m	6:32am ▲ 3.0m	
2 Wed		1:00am ▼ 0.7m	7:22am ▲ 3.0m	
3 Thu		1:44am ▼ 0.7m	8:06am ▲ 3.1m	

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Guest editorial

by Hunua Ararimu and Paparimu Valley Residents Association chair Tim Biggs

Being paid not to work

As you read this issue of the *PC Times*, if I have read my calendar correctly, we here in the Auckland region will have gone past the initial date of 27 August set to bring us out of Level 3 lockdown and are now back to at least Level 2. Hopefully we have also gone past the most recent increased Covid-19 threat. Not a return to what we used to call "normal". Not yet, anyway.

Of course "normal" is a very subjective term. It does seem to be undergoing a redefinition with each passing week. We are about to enter an election cycle and there are all manner of things we would take for granted in such a period. But I doubt this will be a "normal" election campaign for most. Town Hall meeting, anyone?

Other life routines have also been massively changed for thousands of us. For many it's the simple routine of going to work in what used to be a regular way. Now, working from home has become such an expected outcome that home offices have grown where once kitchen tables ruled.

Some of us, myself included, benefit from the wage subsidy designed with the view to not only get individuals through

these unprecedented (man, I am growing to hate that word!) times but also to ensure the viability of small and medium businesses so that we may grow a "new normal" in the future. Essentially, being paid not to work.

But this made me think of the other thousands of people who have regularly given of their time, their output, their otherwise work-relatable resources and not been paid for it. Essentially, working and not being paid.

I'm not referring to those who dedicate themselves to organisations such as Medecine sans Frontieres, the Red Cross and the like. This is after all a community-based publication. I refer to those closer to home – your local boating club, community hall, all the various youth groups, conservation and environmental protection interest collectives, PTAs, and, sadly, food banks. The individuals running, coordinating and organising these associations have been "normally" working from home for no pay and no subsidy and often for years. They too are carrying on through Covid-19 doing their best to create a sense of normalcy while improving and enhancing our communities, just as the rest of us are. They still need your input and attention though

many have sunk below our sight lines as we focus on our new routines. Note the "Community Calendar" normally published in this newspaper has been absent on recent occasion. They are all still there, still organising, still planning, still active and still in need of your care.

Two quick examples:

Friends of Te Wairoa continue to make native plants available for your re-planting projects through their nursery in Clevedon. Pest control bait and trap supplies can also be organised through this group. Check out their Facebook page for more details.

The Hunua, Ararimu, Paparimu Valleys Residents Association has plans for its Christmas Market well underway. Scheduled for Saturday 21 November, Hunua Community Hall, this charming and eclectic market will be well ready to adapt to whatever Covid-related lockdown situation we may then be experiencing.

HAPVRA is also investigating a local e-waste event as a 2020-21 summer undertaking. Watch this space and don't toss that keyboard into a landfill!

I guess, in the end, we are not doing this for nothing. "Normal", newly defined, will return. We're planning on it.

Get your entries in! PC Times Ag Day photo comp



Above left: Sophie Harwood, year 4 at Clevedon School, with her calf, Lilah. Above: Charli Harwood, year 1 at Clevedon School with her lamb, Snowflake.

There are great prizes to be won in our Ag Day photo competition, so get your entries in! Email your photo to info@pctimes.co.nz. Include your name and your pet's name, school year, school, and parent's contact details.

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Hunua Gorge road down to one lane while pipework connected

Traffic through a section of Hunua Gorge will go down to one lane from Sunday 16 August for four months as Watercare works to bring Papakura's Water Treatment Plant back into service.

The area affected will start at Dominion Road, Papakura and finish just beyond 241 Hūnua Road.

Last month, Watercare began demolition of old buildings at the former Papakura Water Treatment Plant, in preparation for cabins containing new water treatment processing equipment. Now, new pipe-work is about to be installed through the Hūnua Gorge, which will connect the plant to the Papakura water main.

Traffic management will be in place and motorists are warned to expect 20-minute delays. Controllers will be on hand to help guide cyclists through the construction zone, but it is recommended that cyclists avoid the area until work is completed in December.

The work is in response to Auckland's drought and once the treatment plant is operating again, Hays Creek Dam will provide an additional six million litres of water per day. This will increase next year and is part of a range of initiatives that Watercare is instigating to increase the city's water supply.

Hays Creek Dam was built in 1967. It is the smallest of the Hūnua dams and was originally designed solely to supply water to Papakura. It has a lake area of 18.2 hect-



ares and can hold 1.1 gigalitres of water.

Auckland's dam levels are currently 60 per cent - more than 25 per cent down on

historic averages.

Long range weather forecasts indicate a dry spring and summer ahead.

Hunua's Hayes Creek Dam (pictured above) will provide Auckland with 6 million litres of water per day once it is connected to a refurbished treatment plant in Papakura.

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Reckless drivers damage Te Puru's sports fields, again

A number of times this year the sports fields at Te Puru have been damaged by vehicles driving on the field at night, and locals have had enough.

The latest incident took place the weekend of 15-16 August.

Beachlands Maraetai Rugby Club president Rob Fisher says: "It's completely disrespectful, and now the fields need to be repaired, at a cost to ratepayers. The potential for player injury is also a massive concern, as sudden dips in the ground can cause serious ankle and leg injuries. Something needs to be urgently installed preventing these morons from gaining access to the fields with their vehicles. I'd like to see some CCTV installed, so we can identify these complete idiots."

Local police constable Hamish Bruce says police are aware that the Te Puru fields are being damaged by vehicles driving on the field, and that they would love to apprehend the offenders and hold them to account for the damage caused - as well as confiscate their car.

"We urge that any members of the public who have information of the vehicle/persons involved to come forward, and if the vehicle is heard at night driving on the Te Puru sports fields to please notify Police on 111.

"We also urge any residents who live close by to be on alert as well, and record on video where possible by cell phones."

Te Puru Community Centre manager



Te Puru's sports fields suffered extensive damage in the latest round of illegal driving activity.

Adele Jarraud says it is disappointing to see the ongoing damage to a community asset. "We are working with Auckland Council to keep them informed regarding

the park. I spoke with council last week and they hope to have this situation rectified soon."

Auckland Council contractors have now

installed new bollards near the netball courts, to prevent vehicle access to the fields.

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Weddings

Honeymoon: luxury lodges or the great Kiwi adventure?

- by Michele Cadman, Travel Designer

During 'usual times' New Zealand is amongst some of the top Honeymoon destinations in the world.



Overseas honeymoons are out of reach for the moment, and couples are having to adjust their wedding and honeymoon plans and keep things closer to home. Fortunately, we are lucky enough to have options galore for honeymoons in our own backyard!

Queenstown, Taupo or the Bay of Islands are often our first thoughts for local honeymoon spots. As well as these popular destinations, there are some incredible options a little further afield, including some hidden gems. From luxury lodges only accessible by boat, spa retreats, food and wine trips, 4WD adventure trips, even

dark sky reserves!

As it's your honeymoon, (including second or 'just because' honeymoons), don't be shy of splurging on luxury experiences, you may be surprised how affordable they can be. Many domestic accommodation and tourism providers are offering some great price and value-add options to build momentum in domestic tourism. This means there are opportunities to stay at luxury properties and have exciting, memorable one-off experiences for less, and without the usual crowds.

Even though you're not leaving the country, it has never been more important to have your own travel advisor. You'll have the excitement of dreaming and planning your honeymoon without the leg work and organising that goes with DIY. A professional travel advisor will take your dreams and make them a reality. They are also your first point of call if plans change suddenly (which we have seen a lot of in 2020).

Whatever you're planning it is essential to ensure flexibility with your travel, paying a little more to ensure things can be cancelled or altered is money well spent for your peace of mind.

Tip: When it comes to discounts, don't forget to compare bonus offers or extra value add-ons, these can be worth more than a straight discount.

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- by Red Shed Palazzo

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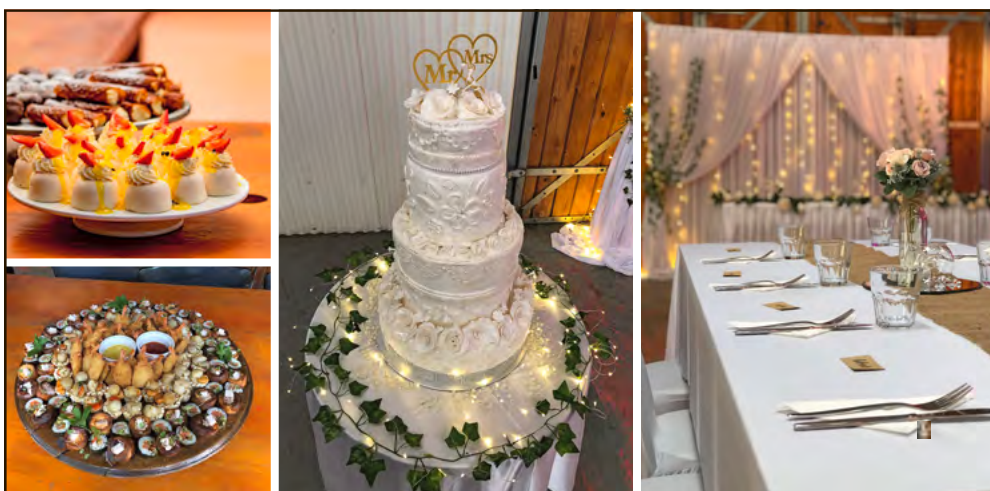
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Some fun facts about cats

- by *Franklin Vets*

- Cats do not have sweat glands
- A cat can jump as much as seven times its height
- Cats have five toes on each front paw, but only four toes on each back paw
- Cats have over one hundred vocal sounds, while dogs only have about ten
- A pack of kittens is called a kindle, while a pack of adult cats is called a clowder
- An adult cat can run about 19kms per

hour and can sprint at nearly 48kms per hour

- A cat's tongue is scratchy because it's lined with papillae—tiny elevated backwards hooks that help to hold prey in place
- The nose pad of each cat has ridges in a unique pattern, not unlike a person's fingerprints
- Cats' bodies are extremely flexible; the cat skeleton contains more than 230 bones (a human has about 206), and the pelvis and shoulders loosely attach to the spine. This adds to their flexibility and allows them to fit through very small spaces
- Cats have better memories than dogs. Tests conducted by the University of Michigan concluded that while a dog's memory lasts no more than 5 minutes, a cat's can last as long as 16 hours—exceeding even that of monkeys and orangutans.



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Judith Collins re-introduces herself to the Coast

Greetings from Judith Collins - Hello Everybody!

I am pleased to have been nominated as your National Party candidate for the Electorate of Papakura which now includes all the beautiful Pohutukawa Coast from Beachlands to Orere Point as confirmed in April 2020.

Papakura is an area with special character and strong connections to the land and to farming as well as providing the leisure of its beaches. These are things that we all grew up with and learnt to value at a very young age.

I would like to thank my colleague Andrew Bayly for being your excellent MP for many years and he will be missed. As some of you will know Andrew and I have worked together on Mill Road, the SH 1 motorway extension and extending public transport to Pukekohe in recent years.

I am absolutely determined to serve all of the communities that make up the new Papakura Electorate and its surrounds to the best of my ability. I will make representing your concerns and your plans for the community as part of the Papakura Electorate, a priority in Parliament. Your best interests and welfare as my constituents is my priority.

Getting to know as many of you as I can will be my mission over the next few months.

Many of you will know that I lived in Whitford and Maraetai when I was elected to the Clevedon electorate in 2002. The electorate has changed a number of times since then but now I am back representing all of you which is fantastic.

I am really pleased to be the Leader of the National Party and in this role the National Party team and I will be working to sustain and grow the economy and to focus on looking after the people of New Zealand. This is going to be a big job but National's sensible financial and practical approach and hard work by the team will do it.

Please contact me if you have any queries about the new boundaries or any other matters.

Best wishes,
Judith Collins

Email Judith.collins@national.org.nz
Facebook [judithcollinsmp](https://www.facebook.com/judithcollinsmp)
Twitter [@judithcollinsmp](https://twitter.com/judithcollinsmp)

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National

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Support Local!

Business owners - do you need help Getting it Done?

- by Catherine Manderson,
Getting It Done

Are you a tradie or do you run a small business? Do you find you're really good at doing what you do, but maybe not so good at keeping up with the admin behind-the-scenes? You might prefer to do the fun bits and leave the boring bits to someone else?

I offer admin services to small busi-



ness owners, allowing you to focus on maximising the potential of your business or spending more time enjoying life. Consider, for a moment, what life might look like if you had someone else taking your calls and organising your appointments, sending out quotes or invoices, doing end-of-month reconciliations, GST returns, writing business letters or business plans or any of the other endless admin tasks associated with running a business. You could be using your newly available time to make more money doing what you do best, or spending more time with your

family, playing golf, fishing, walking, or whatever else you dream of doing.

You might need me for a one-off job, or regular weekly or monthly tasks. I charge by the hour or an agreed amount for a job.

I have a background in marketing communications and admin. Before my children were born (they are now nine and seven) I worked in a number of full-time and contract positions in Auckland and Wellington in insurance companies, banks and national retailers. Since then, I've completed a few part-time marketing projects, and, most recently an 18-month

stint as a sales administrator at a building supply company in East Tamaki. Unfortunately, I was made redundant from this position during Lockdown in May. This was the catalyst for starting my own business Getting it Done.

I'm friendly and approachable. If you think I might be able to help you or someone you know, please get in touch on catherinemanderson2020@gmail.com or on 021-243-3104.



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A bright, modern living room with a large white sectional sofa, a wooden coffee table, and large windows overlooking a desert landscape. The room is well-lit with natural light from the windows. The sofa is adorned with light blue and white pillows. A light blue throw blanket is draped over the end of the sofa. The coffee table is made of light-colored wood and holds a small potted plant and some papers. In the background, there is a dining area with a wooden table and chairs, and a kitchen area with a white countertop and a built-in oven. The overall atmosphere is clean, bright, and airy.

A two-story white house with a stone fireplace and a covered patio area. The house has a white exterior and a dark roof. A stone fireplace is visible on the ground floor. A covered patio area with a dark roof is on the left side of the house. The house is surrounded by a green lawn and some trees.

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A wide wooden deck with a railing, overlooking a lush green landscape and a body of water under a clear blue sky. The deck is made of light-colored wood and has a white railing. The view from the deck shows a green lawn, trees, and a body of water in the distance. The sky is a clear, bright blue.

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Foodie Guide

Healthy Banana Loaf

This recipe is moist, gluten free, dairy free and sugar free. I know it seems hard to believe it can be all of the above! Makes 2 loaves of banana bread.

Ingredients

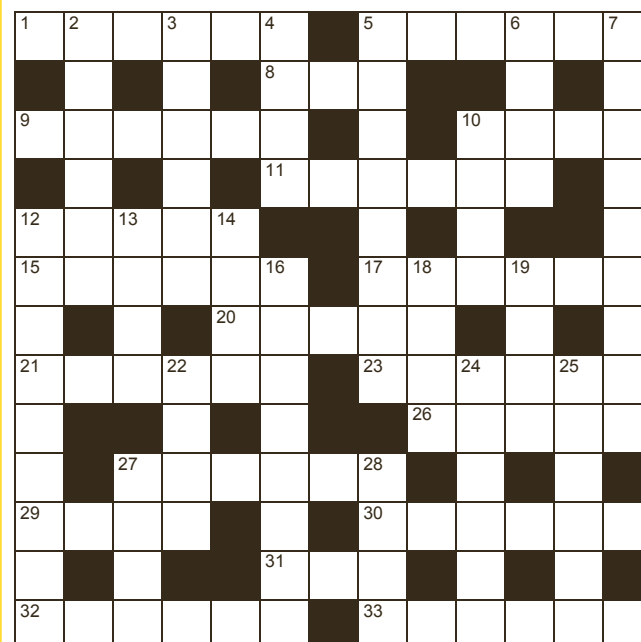
- 4-5 ripe bananas
- 2 cups of almond flour
- 1 cup of oat flour (made by blending oats into a flour)
- 3 eggs
- 3 Tbsp honey
- 2 handfuls of chopped dates
- 5 Tbsp of coconut oil
- 2 tsp of vanilla essence
- ¾ cup of coconut/almond milk, with 1 tsp baking soda dissolved into it
- 1 tsp of baking powder

Method

1. Mix flours together, add wet ingredients and mix
2. Bake at 180C for 40-50 minutes until a stick comes out clean
3. Delish as is, or serve with peanut butter



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Across

1. Thinly spread (6)
5. Lines of poetry (6)
8. Animal GP (abbr) (3)
9. Graduates (6)
10. Small religious group (4)
11. Myth (6)
12. A discussion meeting (5)
15. Rubber (6)
17. Reddish-brown (6)
20. Financial resources (5)
21. Second-hand store (colloq) (2,4)
23. Boredom (6)
26. Scatterbrained (5)
27. Self confidence (6)
29. Cruel or terrifying person (4)
30. Make officially valid (6)
31. Soft murmuring sound (3)
32. Grab (6)
33. Unrestrainedly (6)

Down

2. Wanness (6)
3. Disturbance (6)
4. Malevolent (4)
5. Not circulating or flowing (8)
6. Require (4)
7. Celestial science (9)
10. Spurn (4)
12. Savagely aggressive (9)
13. Tattered clothes (4)
14. Short note (4)
16. Rebuke (8)
18. Taken advantage of (4)
19. Single thing (4)
22. Blatant or sensational promotion (4)
24. Extract and purify (6)
25. Handy (6)
27. Territory (4)
28. Forehead (4)

Answers on page 10

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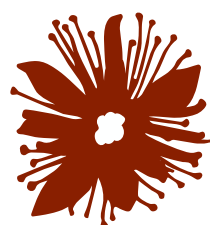
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Do you know a good egg?

Perhaps they have done something wonderful for a neighbour, the community or even just something for you that deserves a pat on the back and a little treat to say well done.

Nominate them for the Pohutukawa Coast Good Egg of the Month Award!

The winner of the Good Egg Award will be announced in the PC Times and will be presented with a restaurant voucher, plus a Spirit Hair voucher. Future nominations can be made at Coastal Treasures or Rosa Gifts in Beachlands Village.

Pohutukawa Coast Good Egg of the Month Award!



This month's Good Egg: If you are ever in the Kiwi Laundry and your machine starts operating for free that's a sure sign that Tim is around. He gets a kick out of these random acts of kindness but together he and Annette are an amazing team demonstrating considerate and consistent kindness over the last 18 months. Just in this year to date they have helped in so many ways. In February when our community was struggling without water they teamed up with Orange Sky to provide free showers and free laundry facilities. When Level 4 lockdown hit in March the laundry stayed open much to the relief of those still struggling with water and those healthcare professionals needing hot wash facilities for uniforms. It became clear that they had opened during this time motivated only to serve the community as unbelievably they donated the profits from this whole time to the local Takutai Foodbank. In June when their EFTPOS machines were not operating, they turned this to benefit other local businesses by encouraging people to wash for free but buy something local instead, or to donate an item to the Foodbank. Recently Tim gave up his Saturday evenings to launder blankets for the 'Give a Kid a Blanket' campaign. What a selfless couple!

T&Cs: The monthly selection will be made based on number of nominations for a single person in a month and reason for nomination. A person can be nominated for consecutive months but can only receive the award once in a 12 month period. The winner must be willing to have their photo in the PC Times and a small write up about their good deed.

Beachfront house on the move



This substantially-sized older beachfront home at 235 Maraetai Drive farewelled Maraetai last week, as it was transported off site by Randle House Removals.

Events Postponed

Due to the extension of alert level 3, the following events scheduled for this coming weekend have been postponed:

Friends of Te Wairoa bait and trap day, Clevedon Community Centre - check their Facebook page for updated details.

Friends of Platts Mills Reserve planting day, Platts Mills Reserve, Maraetai - further details will be notified in the PC Times.

Clevedon Pony Club welcome rally postponed until 19 September.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS - Across: 1. Sparse, 5. Stanza, 8. Vet, 9. Alumni, 10. Sect, 11. Legend, 12. Forum, 15. Eraser, 17. Auburn, 20. Means, 21. Op shop, 23. Tedium, 26. Ditsy, 27. Aplomb, 29. Ogre, 30. Ratify, 31. Coo, 32. Snatch, 33. Wildly.

Down: 2. Pallor, 3. Rumpus, 4. Evil, 5. Stagnant, 6. Need, 7. Astronomy, 10. Snub, 12. Ferocious, 13. Rags, 14. Memo, 16. Reproach, 18. Used, 19. Unit, 22. Hype, 24. Distil, 25. Useful, 27. Area, 28. Brow.

Please support the businesses who support your local paper!

PUBLIC NOTICES

The
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the
Trustees of the Pohutukawa Coast Sea Rescue Trust Incorporated is to be held at RMCC, 213 Maraetai Drive, Maraetai Beach, on Tuesday 22nd September 2020, at 7:00 pm.

Agenda:

Open Meeting
Apologies
Present minutes of last meeting
Chairman's Report
Annual statement of accounts
Election of Officers:
• Coastguard Maraetai Representative
• Rotary Club of Pohutukawa Coast Representative
• Pohutukawa Coast Community Association Representative
• Local Police Representative
• 2 Independent Trustees
Chairman Elected by Trustees
Remits
Close Meeting

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