

POUND POOCH

Collins cousins 'civil-ised'

Presley is a laid-back male mastiff/ridgeback cross, about two years old.



Microchipped but not registered, Presley has a nice nature and could make a good family dog.

Meanwhile, Animal Control is urging people who exercise multiple dogs at the beach to ensure they have a sufficient number of leads for their pets.

Animal Control officer Kelly says too often dogs without leads are rushing up to other dogs, and people, and causing problems.

"Please have enough leads for each of your dogs and have them under control when they approach the public or other dogs being exercised."

Like most university students, local cousins Anna and Alice Collins have spent the summer catching up with family and friends – and topping up their bank balances and CV experience.

Anna completed her civil engineering studies at the University of Canterbury at the end of 2009 and will graduate in April with a 1st Class Honours degree. Over the summer she has been working on a retaining wall design and detailing project at

Opus International Consultants under the watchful eye of local engineer Tony Moran.

"It has been fun," she says. "I chose engineering because I'm interested in how things work, and working at Opus I have learnt heaps about what 'real' engineering is all about."

Meanwhile, Anna's cousin Alice recently returned to Dunedin for her final year of an honours degree in geology. "I've been converting foundation and site investigation reports to GIS (mapping and aerial photography software) so land information is easy to find and use," Alice says. "Opus has really helped me to grow the theory I've learnt at uni, and start to apply it to real-life situations." Alice was strongly involved with rowing and athletics while a student at Wanganui Collegiate, as well as being a youth councillor at the Wanganui District Council.

Anna's family runs a sheepfarm near Mangamahu, and she boarded at Nga Tawa School near Marton throughout her secondary school years.

"I'm interested in getting into water resources engineering and infrastructure work in the future," Anna says, "which I guess might have come out of my farming background."

But I like the city life too much to want a farm of my own." Anna is thinking of doing engineering work in poor countries overseas once she has some experience under her belt. But the immediate plan is to put her studies firmly behind her with a ten-week trip through Thailand, Brunei, Laos and Vietnam. "I'm not really thinking about what I plan to do work-wise until after that," she says.

Opus International Consultants has continued to employ university students and graduates in engineering, sciences, law and accountancy despite the recent recession.

"As a company we are committed to supporting the construction industry and New Zealand in general," Opus Wanganui Business Manager Jenny Harrison says. "Employing students like Anna and Alice provides a fantastic opportunity for our senior engineers to pass on their knowledge and experience, and it helps to future-proof our industry."

Opus currently employs 149 graduates in many of its 38 offices and 10 testing laboratories throughout New Zealand, plus an additional 39 graduates in Australia, Canada and the UK.



Anna Collins at work during the summer holidays at Opus Wanganui.

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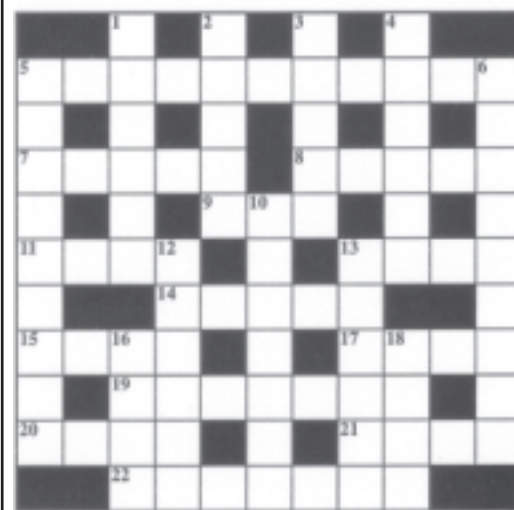
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RCP crossword



Combo Crossword No. 687

- | ACROSS | DOWN |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| 5 Disabled | 1 Quick-tempered |
| 7 Two-footed animal | 2 Flighty |
| 8 Signs | 3 Member of the peerage |
| 9 Desire | 4 Introductory beat (2-4) |
| 11 Playthings | 5 Fit to live in |
| 13 Male deer | 6 Differs with |
| 14 Head of monastery | 10 Jostled |
| 15 Tie up | 12 Cruel person |
| 17 Musical instrument | 13 Pliated |
| 19 Source of oil | 16 Common sense (Coll) |
| 20 Flightless birds | 18 Stain |
| 21 Ages | |
| 22 School attender | |

Cryptic Clues No. 687

- | ACROSS | of horses with ten changes | DOWN |
|---|----------------------------|--|
| 5 Crippled when put behind the line | | 1 Impatient agent out of sleep |
| 7 Man is one to be tender about exercise | | 2 Affected with vertigo when over-impulsive |
| 8 Portents for males in outsize surrounds | | 3 Magnate with a lever on |
| 9 Yearning for some foreign money | | 4 Cheerful to beat up in reverse (2-4) |
| 11 Plays with trifles | | 5 Dress to be fit for living in |
| 13 Silver thoroughfare for men's only parties | | 6 Dissents, as greed is involved |
| 14 Religious head to grab bottled portion | | 10 Made way by pushing as the Spanish courtied |
| 15 Unite legally to cover the edge for protection | | 12 It's sad to see one enjoy inflicting pain |
| 17 Hobo enjoys something to make music | | 13 Has crept away when hot |
| 19 Lubricate properly with "BlackGold" | | 16 No American with this intelligence |
| 20 Total key in return for Australian runners | | 18 Spot the second sale portion |
| 21 Nose around for ages | | |
| 22 He studies a number | | |

Answers on page 21