



Across

- 1 Close friends, mates, chums (Aus & NZ, informal). (7)
- 5 Van Gogh's 1888 painting, *The _____* can be seen as symbolising the bringing forth of new life and the eternal cycle of existence. (5)
- 8 Now used to refer to a shameless scheming woman, this name was the title of a number one hit for NZ pop singer Jon Stevens in December 1979. (7)
- 9 Exercised governing or controlling authority over a people, country or organisation. (5)
- 10 A colourless or white crystalline compound used in gunpowders, fertilisers, and as a preservative for foods. (5)
- 11 Born in Tokyo 1933, this multimedia artist, singer, songwriter, and peace activist married John Lennon in 1969. (4,3)
- 12 Examination of tissue from a living body to determine the presence, cause or extent of a disease. (6)

- 14 Someone who is _____ is able to understand and judge a situation quickly and to use this understanding to their own advantage. (6)
- 17 The eighth month of the ancient Roman calendar. (7)
- 19 Joyful religious song, usually celebrating the birth of Christ. (5)
- 22 Cut and/or plane rough-hewn timber to standard thickness and width. (5)
- 23 In 2020, _____ Street in Dunedin regained its status in the Guinness Book of Records as the *steepest street in the world*. (7)
- 24 Of French derivation, this word refers to something that is a brilliant or conspicuous success or effect. (5)
- 25 Something done without conditions, obligations, or catches is done "with no _____ attached." (7)

Down

- 1 A native of Louisiana descended from 18th-century Acadian immigrants. (5)

- 2 French composer of the Romantic era, best known for his operas e.g. *Carmen*. (5)
- 3 Special designs or visual objects representing particular qualities, types, groups or ideas. (7)
- 4 Rolleston has become the largest town in this central Canterbury district. (6)
- 5 The merino sheep on Bendigo Station near Tarras that gained international fame in 2004 after avoiding being shorn for 6 years was called _____. (5)
- 6 English politician and Whig statesman Sir Robert _____ (1676 - 1745) was effectively the first British prime minister. (7)
- 7 American actor and filmmaker Robert _____ became a major international star for his role in *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*. (7)

- 12 Formed in 1974 by singer Debbie Harry and guitarist Chris Stein, this US band had major success with their 1978

album *Parallel Lines*. (7)

- 13 A term used in the US (primarily), meaning "porridge". (7)
- 15 Someone who tries to embarrass you with gibes and questions and objections. (7)
- 16 Mount _____ is the southernmost active volcano on Earth, located on Ross Island in Antarctica. (6)
- 18 To assail or attack on all sides. (5)
- 20 A tree (*Sorbus aucuparia*) with white flowers and red berries, also known as the *European mountain ash*. (5)
- 21 A term for full-length trousers. (5)