



**12<sup>th</sup> October 2021**

**From (MERRA Chair) on behalf of the Scotts Landing community**

**RE movements of grey Mazda Bounty ute Rego: APH661 (scrubbed out number plates) sometimes with galvanised trailer Rego: E88TC or similar.**

The Mahurangi East Residents and Ratepayers Association believes it is important that the driver of this vehicle is made accountable for the loss, damage and upset he has inflicted on our small coastal community over recent days (and probably for some time). Residents (some elderly and isolated) are concerned that this person has clearly been roaming on private property, breaking and entering and engaged in prolific theft

On Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> October this person was caught in the act of stealing a resident's kayak (arrested after a resident saw him paddling off in their kayak and blocked the road in the next bay to prevent his escape with the kayak on his trailer and called police). On the same day he also attempted to steal an inflatable dinghy relocated from Cantyre (Bank St) until deterred by residents in Young St who approached him. Other break ins and thefts (>3 outboards stolen, windows and doors forced, tools stolen) have occurred while his vehicle **Mazda Bounty ute Rego: APH661** has been parked in various streets and sighted by residents as below.

The following timeline has been compiled by residents in the hope that it will assist in his conviction and a suitable sentencing that means he is not able or willing to continue his offending and understands the impact of his actions on community members. We understand he has previous arrests and convictions for similar offences. The community has circulated his details.

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> October: Resident** *"saw this man and his Ute parked at the community garden (parked in a driveway in Young St) he was just finishing putting something in the back of the Ute and covering it up. I thought it was suspicious so I stood and watched him until he turned and drove off. I took note of his Ute but couldn't read the number plates. Saw him again leaving Young street on Friday afternoon*

**Outcome: It is yet to be determined what was being loaded and covered. It may have been one of the missing outboards.**

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> October:**

1) **Mazda Bounty ute Rego: APH661** parked unattended in Young St on two occasions with driver absent from vehicle. Witnesses available as above and below.

2) **Mazda Bounty ute Rego: APH661** parked unattended in driveway in George St for some time around 5.15pm as noted by a resident. *"I noticed a Mazda ute in the drive at around 5.15pm. The Registration appeared to have been sand blasted off but just legible. Rego was APH661. I reasoned*

*that it was probably the owners getting a contractor in prior to Christmas... sadly. I checked the property this morning and the window in the garage has been jemmied and that accesses a storeroom. The window was pushed closed but is slightly ajar now due to damage. Both security stays are ripped out and one of the two window catches was broken off.*

**Outcome: Inflatable Dinghy and outboard motor taken from Cantyre Estate and dinghy relocated around point to beach access in Young St. Outboard now missing. We understand a police report has been laid by owners of the dinghy.**

**Storage shed in George St has been burgled (window jemmied/stays broken to gain entry) and tools stolen. Again we understand a police report has been laid by owners. Subsequent fingerprinting resulted in only glove prints.**

**Saturday 9th October:**

**1) Mazda Bounty ute Rego: APH661 with Trailer Rego: E88TC or similar** "parked in Young St, in a different position from his 2 visits on Friday. We heard a noise down at the bay late morning and went down to check. The guy was proceeding to take the dinghy onto the beach now in a semi deflated state. When approached he said he needed a pump and then parked ( and tied ) the boat up with the others. I then took the opportunity to race up to road to photo his vehicle. On return after talking with our neighbours he had disappeared.

*A Cantyre (Bank St) resident came late afternoon to see if we knew anything about his outboard motor that had also gone missing about this time from near the dinghy. We had not seen nor heard an outboard. We encouraged the owner to lodge a report.*

*The car and trailer left sometime after 2pm"*

**Outcome: Dinghy prevented from being removed by resident intervention. As above outboard remains missing.**

**Note: Locks on beachside shed at foreshore in Young St found jemmied open at same time. Nothing apparently taken likely due to resident intervention**

2) Mid afternoon local residents see their kayak being paddled away from their foreshore heading north around Burton Wells. They follow in their vehicle and block Charles St West in Andersons Bay after seeing their kayak loaded onto Mazda Bounty ute Rego: APH661 with Trailer Rego: E88TC or similar. Driver unloads kayak and is detained by the roadblock and residents (see pic) until police arrive and make arrest around 4.30pm.



**Outcome: kayak theft prevented and thief caught red handed. Kayak retrieved from grass accessway to Andersons Bay at the end of Charles St West.**

**Sunday 10 October:** Resident of Ridge Road reports outboard motor missing from house on Ridge Rd (near to where kayak was stolen). *"Our 2hp Yamaha 2stroke outboard was taken from under the house at Ridge Rd between 2pm Saturday- Sunday 10am. I assume by the same person who was caught last night!!"* We understand a police report has been laid by owners.



**Outcome: Outboard motor (see pic) remains missing.**

**Footnote:** MERRA adds that this may well be linked to a pattern of similar thefts in our neighbourhood over past months eg. breaking and entering of shed (outboard stolen) on 31 May at Ridge Rd. We understand a police report was laid by owners.

**MERRA appreciates the support of our neighbourhood support group and the NZ Police and urges suitable and deterrent consequences for the individual involved.**

**MERRA Chair**