



REBUS CLUB NEWS

March 2025

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With only two issues of Rebus Club News to go before I step down, I have been in a reflective mood, and looking back through past issues of Rebus Chronicles, the recurring theme has been the need for “**membership rejuvenation**”. Recently, three clubs have manned publicity stalls in prominent places in their community, with successful results. It doesn't take long to assemble a display of happy smiling faces enjoying themselves at your Rebus meetings, outings, or other activities. Space to show your display at shopping malls, agricultural shows etc. is usually free, and it helps if you have something to hand out to prospective members, either back copies of your newsletter/bulletin; printed cards with contact details; or just a piece of paper with information about your club included. On the day you will need about four-six persons working in rotation, two-hour stints each. Think about it – it really is worthwhile. The alternative is to do nothing, and then we know what happens, don't we? Without a rejuvenation plan, clubs wither and die, just like the plants in your garden.

I hope you have also given thought to attending the Rebus NZ Inc. AGM in Palmerston North in May. This is a great opportunity to meet the Board Members face to face, and air any concerns/ideas your club may have. This is your chance to have your say, and I hope to see you there whether you are a regular attendee or a first-timer, so I can thank you in person for your input to Rebus Club News. **If you have not already registered, just click on this link for details:** <https://form.jotform.com/230416675235859>

TAUPO MOANA REBUS CLUB

President Peter inducted new member **Dawn Stewart**, who was introduced by Diana Henry.

Rosemary Crisp was our **10-Minute Speaker**. She is interested in genealogy and in her family tree she found some interesting people, from a prime minister to the maker of Swan Brand tea and coffee pots, and kettles.

The **Main Speakers** were **Kelly Buchan** and her work mate **Olivia from Greenlea Helicopter, Phillips Search and Rescue Trust**. They have a new upmarket helicopter in their

fleet, and it needs a winch, so there is a donation drive in the community to raise the money to purchase one.
Christine Bailey, Bulletin Editor.



REBUS CLUB OREWA

Welcome to our New Members!

Four new members were inducted to our club at the February meeting. They are (L-R): **Lynne Cutfield, Julie Deacon, Peter Aitken and Debbie Street**.

We hope you all enjoy the fellowship and activities our club has to offer.
Maureen Grigg, Bulletin Editor.



Being a little older, I am very fortunate to have someone call and check on me daily. He is from India, and he is very concerned about someone scamming me and hacking into my computer and banking details. He is always helpful and asks for my Password to fix my problem.

REBUS CLUB CAMBRIDGE



Meet Jean Elborn, our new President for 2025-2026. Jean came to Cambridge in 2021 to be closer to her family. Apart from Rebus, Jean is also Secretary of Grey Power, a member of U3A and volunteers for Urban Miners and Days for Girls.



Rebus Club Cambridge BBQ was held last month at Lake **Te Koo Utu**.

Steve O'Sullivan, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF MT HOBSON

February Club Speaker, Barrie Brown – “Conservation and Current Methods to Eradicate Predators.”



Barrie opened his address with the startling information that each day at least 63,000 birds die because of predation. The “big three villains” are possums, stoats and rats. Fortunately, these animals do not like rivers so there are good natural boundaries which can define areas where eradication of predators is aided by the geography. But these predators can go to very high altitudes. Rats effective eradication programme must manage forests, townships, farmlands, alpine areas and tussock grasslands. 1080 poison remains the principal means whereby rats are controlled. The deer stalking community is encouraged to kill mountain tahr in the region where a drop is going to occur. This provides carrion for the kea to feed on, keeping them away from the 1080. *Pat Alley, Editor.*

THE LADIES' REBUS CLUB OF WARKWORTH

In February we kicked off the year with a coffee at the **Estuary Café** at the **Omaha Golf Club**. Advertising on the local Facebook pages resulted in three visitors attending who are eager to join Rebus. In March 23 members ventured to the Crimson Coast café at Snell's Beach.

David Wright was Guest Speaker at our first meeting for 2025. Now



retired, David had been a supervisor on the sailing ships Spirit of Adventure and Spirit of New Zealand, which over the past 52 years has taken tens of thousands of young New Zealanders on voyages of personal discovery. The organisation is committed to inspiring young people to embrace the challenge of the sea.



A survey was undertaken that highlighted members are keen to participate in activities besides the monthly meeting. There were many suggestions and as a result we have already established the coffee group and movie outings.

Maryanne Dransfield.

Ring your own doorbell on your way to bed. This will clear the dogs off the bed.

CAMBRIDGE MEN'S REBUS CLUB

The Club welcomed two new members in February, with a further two to be inducted this month.

On 26 February, Club members were hosted by **Karapiro Rowing Inc**, who are responsible for all the "on water" infrastructure on Lake Karapiro. The visit included:

- A tour of the Rowing NZ High Performance unit, the athletes' gym facilities, the extensive trophy and photo collection and the boat shed.
- The workshop and visitor accommodation centre.
- A leisurely cruise to the start of the 2,000-metre course, with detailed explanations of how the courses are set up for rowing (both the separate 1,000m and 2,000m courses) and the Waka event.



The visit concluded with a natter over coffee at the Boatshed Café. Truly a day to remember, thanks to the social committee and local rowing legend, our own Club member **Peter Britton**.

Nigel Salter.

REBUS WAIHEKE ISLAND



Handover from **outgoing President Jennie Collins** to **incoming President Rhonda Paton**.

The Main Speaker was Bernard Hickey, a journalist and podcaster. He started work in 1992 for Reuters as a financial journalist reporting on bond markets, rugby and cricket tests, whale strandings and car crashes. He started with an IBM selectric golf ball typewriter, would take the interview down in shorthand, write 300 words on the subject then connect to a large dial-up mobile telephone. In those times most people got their information from newspapers, radio and television. The difference now is that he has an optic fibre cable to his home and can do everything on his mobile phone. He produces podcasts and articles reaching 50,000 people per day. He also does 10-minute podcasts for the ANZ Institute about the global economy especially through the Asia Pacific region. This is put together daily and published at 7.50am, out at 8am in New Zealand and 6am in Australia. He is up from 3am preparing.

Tania Sweet, Newsletter Editor.

RED BEACH LADIES' REBUS CLUB



Last month's speaker, **Brendan** from **Dementia Auckland**.



Red Beach ladies – picnic guests of Rebus Gulf Harbour at Shakespear Park.



Bobbie Wakenell, Newsletter Editor.

**They say that nobody is perfect.
Then they tell you practice makes perfect.
I wish they'd make up their minds.** Winston Churchill.

**The only way to make your dreams come true
is to wake up and do something about them.** Steve Jobs.

WEST AUCKLAND MEN'S REBUS CLUB

The **Red Boats** trip to Riverhead was a delightful journey on a stunning early autumn day, offering a vivid reminder of how the Waitematā Harbour once served as Auckland's primary highway, connecting communities long before roads were built. Our vessel for the day was the charming **MV Hogwash**, though its side proudly bore the name **The Riverhead Cruiser**—a far more elegant title for this marvellous little boat. Boarding at Westhaven Marina, we cruised toward Riverhead, the port side revealed Point Chevalier, Te Atatū, Hobsonville, Herald Island, Whenuapai, and Hupei. To starboard, we passed the iconic Chelsea Sugar Refinery, Beach Haven, Kauri Point, Paremoremo, and Coatesville. The journey took a leisurely hour and a half, accompanied by an informative onboard commentary about the history of the areas we passed.



Vince Middeldorp, Secretary.

REBUS CLUB OF MANAWATU

Speaker, Michael Hodgson, gave us a detailed and fascinating insight into the whole forestry industry and its importance in the Kiwi economy. Mike spoke of the importance of health and safety, the danger faced by foresters on the ground, and the slow reduction of our sorry injury and death statistics. Finally, he covered new legislation designed to reduce logging slash after rain and landslides.

Mike Hodgson drew in the members to his talk on NZ forestry.



Margie Comrie, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF PALMERSTON NORTH

The **AGM** occupied much of our March meeting, so we had no speakers. Reports from the President and Treasurer showed that the club is in good heart. We welcomed several members into vacant positions of office or on the committee. A full muster – excellent!



New member **Ken Wilson** was inducted by President Marilyn Laing who also presented **Carolyn Wirth** with a Certificate of Appreciation for her excellent project work for the club.

The photo shows the winning team in the recent **car rally** enjoyed by enthusiasts for this annual event. Participants ended their investigative drive at Murray's Irish Bar in Feilding for a very good lunch. *Dean Halford, Editor.*

WAIKANAĒ MILLENNIUM REBUS CLUB



On a typical sunny day in Paradise 20 club members enjoyed the Bar – Be – Cue Picnic.

Youth is wasted on the young. Oscar Wilde.

OFFICERS AND COMMITTEE 2025/26



From Left: Robert Johnson (Treasurer), David Funnell (President), Don Mathieson, Maggie Copland, Ann Harkness (Vice President and Secretary), Cathy Mitchell, Judy Binning, David Goggin, Charlie Metcalfe.
Front: Liz Thevenard (Immediate Past President).

David Goggin, Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF WANGANUI



Club **Picnic,**
Wednesday 26th
February 2025,
Bason Gardens,
Westmere. A
beautiful summer
day, for our picnic,
friends relaxing,
spending time
together, sharing



food, fun and laughter.

Paerau Taylor-Mosen, Newsletter Editor.

WARKWORTH MEN'S REBUS CLUB

On 15th March the two Rebus Clubs of Warkworth combined with a stall at the **Warkworth A&P Show**. Volunteers from both clubs helped with a display of club activities and speakers. We had flyers to distribute and even though our target demographic is older that the majority of show goers we still had considerable interest from older folk, as well as younger people with parents who would benefit from joining Rebus. Some gave us their email address so that we could sent them our newsletters. This was a great exercise in raising the recognition of Rebus and gaining recruits to the club.

Costs were minimal consisting of some balloons and some printing. The A&P Show organisers gave us a free position (because we are a community service) located in the middle of the showground. For a little effort and some willing volunteers, we expect about 10 new members. At the Show we met some interesting organisations – either to visit – or possible speakers.



Stephen Beckett.

I try to avoid things that make me fat – like scales, mirrors and photographs.

REBUS CLUB OF GULF HARBOUR

At the March meeting and AGM, **Jean McIntosh** received the **President's Chain of Office** from **Past President, Ken Daniels**.

Committee 2025-2026. From L-R, Gill Raynor, Gill Wild, Alister Fookes (Treasurer), Jean McIntosh (President) Ken Daniels, (Immediate Past President), Lynette Phillips (Secretary) and Verna Harford.



Following the AGM, we welcomed **Guest Speaker, Brendan Hallam** from **Dementia Auckland**. His subject was "**Cognitive Ability**". With a series of power point slides, he illustrated how the decline in Cognitive Ability is a natural part of ageing. Dementia is a general term to describe how the brain and short-term memory is affected. The main triggers of dementia are diabetes, hearing loss, high blood pressure, air pollution, excessive alcohol consumption, depression, head injuries, social isolation, obesity, inactivity, smoking and less education. Keeping as physically active as possible and exercising the brain with the company of others, learning new skill and hobbies should help to keep the brain active.

We had ten visitors as a result of our **membership drive at the Plaza**.

J. McIntosh, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF FOXTON

Guest Speaker: Navina Clemerson, author, "There Was a Garden in Nuremburg". Navina gave such an interesting and moving talk about her book which was based on the true story of her mother who lived in Nuremburg during WWII. She wrote a novel rather than a true story and changed names of people involved to protect them, and also so she could fill in any gaps in her mother's story. Her book was thoroughly researched, and she based it on the stories told her by her mother, AnneLiese, her uncle Ludwig and Dr Frances Porter who had first-hand knowledge. She also based it on the memoir "The Jews of Nuremburg 1939-45" by Bernhard Kolb which she translated from German to English. Her husband, Dr Peter Clemerson, who was here with Navina, was a huge help to her in writing and editing her book. *Dereley Barry, Editor.*

REBUS CLUB OF UPPER HUTT INC.

The Guest Speakers were Major Jon Martin and Captain John Irving from the **Royal NZ Army Medical Corps**, who spoke about the trials and tribulations managing travellers at Covid isolation hotels during lockdown. Jon & John were thanked by Malcolm Stone. Jon & John were thanked by Malcolm Stone.

Alex Attewell, Newsletter Editor.



I am old enough to remember when we were cutting down too many trees to make paper bags and wrapping. So to save the planet, plastic bags were invented as the saviour. Anonymous.

We live in a time where intelligent people are being silenced so that stupid people won't be offended.

REBUS CLUB OF HIBISCUS COAST



Club President, Paul Robinson [in blue] and **Rebus NZ Chairman, Garth Dutton** [in white] strutted their Rebus Apparel on the catwalk at **Motutapu Island** during a recent club outing. Now, don't they look good in their coloured threads, cool! We caught a **Red Boat** from Westhaven out to Motutapu in conjunction with the Hibiscus Friendship Club, and although the weather was a bit changeable, the sea conditions were



smooth for both legs. We spent several hours on the island rambling among the ancient baches that still survive in this DOC-managed part of the Hauraki Gulf Maritime Park. *Right: The Ramblers, on a beautiful March day, at Dacre Cottage.*

Earl Brookbanks, Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF HAMILTON

A group of members enjoyed a brilliantly fine day to visit the **Pukorokoro Shorebird Centre** and were treated to seeing tens of thousands of birds preparing for departure. They did a practice flight directly overhead in preparation for their impending journey to Alaska - without GPS.

Kath Kenrick, Bulletin Editor.



REBUS CLUB OF PARAPARAUMU BEACH INC. Last month's meeting – a picture paints a thousand words.



Rona Huggins, invested by President Vaughan.

Right: Handover of power, Vaughan to Nancy.



New Life Members:

Robyn Janse, John Calman and Carol Calman. Robyn is also holding the plaque for her late partner Keith Dreyer.



Committee for the 2025/2026 year.

Steve Hutchison, Bulletin Editor.

PAPANUI REBUS CLUB

Speaker for the month was **Dame Sue Bagshaw** who spoke to us about the pressures on young people today, and what we can do to help. She is the **Chair** of the **Youth Hub Trust**, who are continually fundraising to improve the services they provide.

17 members braved the wind and heavy rain, (including one brave person, Diane, who came on the bus,) to go to the **Flaming Rabbit** in **Lincoln** for lunch. They had good Gold Card specials and a nice variety of food, including the good old fashioned Lambs Fry & Bacon. Yum!



Linda Barnes.

REBUS CLUB OF MILSON INC.

Kate from **Centrepoin Theatre** was our **Guest Speaker** at our February meeting. She gave a very interesting talk about the theatre, the actors and the plays, and encouraged us to come to one of their shows.

Margaret Broderick, Secretary.

**Wealth is not a permanent friend.
But true friends are a permanent wealth.**



PUKENAMU REBUS CLUB INC.



This month, 21 members met at **The Brickhouse** for lunch.

Helen Goldfinch, Newsletter Editor.

**Age is an issue of mind over matter.
If you don't mind getting older,
then it really doesn't matter.**

WOMEN'S REBUS CLUB OF WAIKANAE

March Speakers were Nic and Cathie Weldon: Bird flu in Antarctica? Who would have thought that it could take hold in such a remote and pristine environment? But with the increase of tourism to the Antarctic, special measures now have to be taken to protect the wildlife, from seabirds and penguins to elephant seals, against the devastating effects of the avian influenza virus. "Disinfect shoes" was the rule when Nic and Cathie arrived in the White Continent in the company of a scientific team with a superbly equipped laboratory aboard "The National Geographic Resolution". It was fascinating to see the many breathtaking photographs; from orcas and humpback whales surfacing, to sunbathing seals, penguins launching themselves into the icy sea and the "carving" of Antarctic ice into the ocean, reinforcing the message of just how fragile this special part of our world is now.

Mary Paddock, Newsletter Editor.



**I went to the bookstore yesterday and spotted a book titled
'How to solve 50% of your problems.' I bought two !!**

FITZHERBERT REBUS CLUB INC.

Our **Speaker was Dr Cynric Temple-Camp**, pathologist and author, who gave us some tips on committing the perfect murder using examples from cases he has investigated. Firstly, police always look at the victim's partner first. Then, circumstantial evidence is best. A support group is necessary to get you off the charge, regardless of the evidence. This group works best if a well-known celebrity fronts it - preferably an All Black. Next, be aware that security cameras are everywhere. If you find a place where shops and street corners don't have cameras remember that passing cars and buses do. When the job is done dig a deep grave – at least eight feet deep – otherwise pigs or hunters will find your victim. And lastly, don't have a motive and keep your mouth shut. It was a very interesting and entertaining talk peppered with lots of science. Cynric has written three books about some cases he has investigated (not all murders) – all with the permission of the families. Royalties from his books are given to the Palmerston North Rescue Helicopter and, so far, have raised \$65,000.

Pam Fawcett, President.

REBUS CLUB OF FEILDING



We were entertained by **Saem Millward, an 18-year-old** graduate from Palmerston North Boys High. He started singing in high school and last year completed his Grade 7 Trinity exams in Classical and Musical Theatre, earning distinction in both. He has Grade 8 piano and also plays guitar. Saem has performed in Oklahoma and Chitty Chitty Bang Bang. He toured with NZSSC (Secondary Students Choir) and now he is off to Auckland University to study Law and Opera. He sang songs by Frank Sinatra, Elvis Presley and Dean Martin. His encore was "I did it My Way" which was fabulous.

Members enjoyed a bus trip to **Whanganui** with stops at **Viv's Kitchen in Sanson**, and **The Sargeant Art Gallery** and lunch in Whanganui. In the afternoon we visited **Paloma Gardens, Fordell** which also had a motorbike museum.



Lyn Jensen.

REBUS CLUB OF KHANDALLAH

Wairarapa Day Trip to Pukaha and Fell Locomotive Museum. A group of 18 enjoyed a day trip to the Wairarapa on 13 March. The first stop was at the **Pukaha National Wildlife Centre at Mt Bruce**, a captive breeding facility located in a protected native forest area. We started with a view of the rare Takahe feeding. These are two of a total population of 500 birds. Then we learned about kiwi and the centre's breeding programme from an expert. None of us knew that Kiwi do not have a sternum, so they can accommodate such a large egg. But more, we were told females sometimes carry 2 eggs, which shocked us. Apparently the second egg is likely to be laid 20 days after the first one. In the wild, the male sits on the eggs until they hatch, then the chicks are entirely on their own.



After a generous lunch we departed for the **Fell Locomotive Museum in Featherston**. Fell was the name of the man who set up the system. The museum housed one of the engines used for the railway that ran high over the Remutakas, through a short tunnel, from 1870 to 1955 (when the current longer tunnel opened). It is remarkable that the same technology was in use for 85 years. We had an expert explain the complex and novel system for operation. A centre rail was used by horizontal driven wheels to provide extra traction for the uphill journey. The same centre rail was then part of the braking system when going downhill. This intriguing system was operated by a steam locomotive that ran both normal wheels and the horizontal ones. *Sharon Major, Newsletter Editor.*

Rumours are created by haters, spread by fools, and accepted by idiots.

OMANU REBUS CLUB



Speaker, Yann Lehe, joined the French Navy in 1975, was commissioned from the ranks in 1985 and retired after a career as a navy jet fighter pilot in 2003. He met Jocelyn, a wonderful kiwi girl, in France and married her in 2014. They retired in New Zealand and settled down in Rotorua. They have a blended family of 3 children and 1 grandchild. He has been a volunteer at **Classic Flyers** for 3 years and has a share in an ex-RNZAF Air Tourer.
Adrienne Wilson, Editor.

Wow, this has been a bumper edition, 29 contributions, and some interesting stuff (well I think so). I learn something from you every month – who knew kiwis could lay two eggs? Ouch! The April edition will be my last before handing over to Steve O’Sullivan, who will do things his way. It will be interesting seeing your news through somebody else’s eyes.

I have not mentioned the downsizing/decluttering for a while, because I have nothing exciting to tell you. The house is still on the market, and the Villa refurbishment at our Retirement Village is almost complete, including the garden!! All we want now is a buyer – just one will do. I like to be organised, and this state of limbo does not sit well with us.



I am really looking forward to the Rebus NZ Inc. AGM in Palmerston North, and I hope to see you there. The AGM itself is **free**, but how about staying on for the **Dinner**? Here is the link again – just click on it:
<https://form.jotform.com/230416675235859>

There is always lots to talk about with friends and like minded folk in the Rebus family. Until next month, don’t forget to turn your clocks back, and have a Happy Easter.



Jean

Editor, Rebus Club News.