



# REBUS CLUB NEWS

October 2023

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As I start to assemble this edition of Rebus Club News, it is exactly two months to Christmas, with all its stress, fun, food, and celebrations. Most of our clubs have functions planned for the festive season - the highlight of the social calendar for many. It does not need to be a costly affair; it is the socialising that is the most important ingredient.

In the meantime, Spring continues to be her fickle self with rain, wind, and glorious sunshine, all intertwined. For the gardeners amongst us, it is a little difficult to make plans from day to day in order to get the garden jobs done at this busy time of year. Any plantsman who could invent floodproof/droughtproof seeds would make a fortune. Who knows?

This month several clubs have been celebrating milestone anniversaries, and we have the photos to prove it. With an ageing membership, grandparents parenting grandchildren, Covid etc., not to mention a plethora of Lookers and a dearth of Doers, it is very gratifying to learn of the successful and longstanding Clubs who have obviously found the right recipe. Unfortunately, one of our Clubs is closing at the end of the year through lack of Doers willing to take office, but some of its members will transfer to a nearby club. This is a potential danger facing us all if we do not constantly bring in new members.

That is my gripe for the month, now on to the good stuff, your news, so prepare to be inspired by the efforts of others.

## **REBUS CLUB OREWA**



**Left: Guest Speaker, September, was Mike Maran**, Forensic Handwriting, and Document Examiner, one of only two private examiners in New Zealand. He is also a graphologist, and kept us interested with his presentation showing us examples of fraudulent attempts to copy signatures, comparing handwriting in letters sent anonymously bringing the culprits to justice. It was also an interactive talk - he had us examining our own personality through our signature style, which had us laughing.

**Club Speaker was Brian Mudge** who gave an interesting talk on when he worked for Westpac Bank on **Rabi Island in the Pacific Islands**. He told us of the injustice done to the Banaban people who were forced to move from Banaba Island due to phosphate mining.

*Maureen Grigg, Bulletin Editor.*

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## **WAITAKERE COMBINED REBUS CLUB**



In September our **Speaker was Chris Hagan**. His topic was **The Stately Homes of the United Kingdom**, and he spoke from first-hand knowledge, having lived in, and managed one of them. His talk was filled with fascinating stories.

Our Club joined together with another club and friends and travelled to the **Hamilton Gardens** for the day. The weather was very kind to us, and we were able to walk around the gardens and enjoy the variety that were on display.

*Phyllis Greenland, Secretary.*

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**It's not how much you do, but how much love you put into the doing.**

**For the first 25 years of my life, I wanted freedom. For the next 25 years, I wanted order. For the next 25 years, I realized that order is freedom.** Winston Churchill.

**REBUS CLUB OF FOXTON**



We welcome our two new members, **Jeannie Scott, and Wayne Stuart**, who were inducted by Past President Warren Vaughan.



**Dr. Wayne Stewart**, a

great guest speaker, gave us an insight into the **Manawatu Gorge Works Project**. *Dereley Barry, Newsletter Editor.*

**REBUS CLUB OF MILSON INC.**

Those who went to the **Manawatu Knitting Mills** enjoyed the outing and learned about mixing wool with possum fur to make a very fine yarn, and quite a few purchases were made.



The **Guest Speaker** at our September meeting was **Andrea O'Donnell** (shown here with our President, Arnold). She gave us lots of useful information about buying and selling houses.

*Margaret Broderick, Secretary.*

**REBUS CLUB OF WHANGAMATA**

**Daylight Saving Breakfast at Titoki Golf Club Café.**



Our **Speaker** this month was **Gareth Sherwen**, a computer technician with the local firm **BOOT IT**. He gave us a very informative talk on the benefits, ramifications, disruptions, and future implications of Artificial Intelligence (AI). AI is defined as the simulation of human intelligence processes by machines, particularly computers. Its strengths lie in processing large data sets, precise execution, and trial-and-error learning. In the immediate future AI will mostly be as an assistant rather than a complete job replacement. Some of the potential risks of AI include job loss due to automation, fake videos and misinformation, privacy violations, automatization of weapons and perhaps ultimately uncontrollable self-aware AI that are more intelligent than humans. Gareth ended his talk with a strong plea for ethical and responsible AI development which many countries are now trying to address.

*Leyden Baker, Bulletin Editor.*

**RED BEACH LADIES' REBUS CLUB**



Left: Some members at the club movie morning in September to see **My Big Fat Greek Wedding 3**.

Special thanks to those members who kindly brought along their



treasures last month and shared some wonderful stories with us. Right: **Doreen Vaughan** with her Grandmother's bedspread at our **Bring Something You Treasure** morning tea last month.

*Bobbie Wakenell, Newsletter Editor.*

**REBUS CLUB OF MANAWATU**



Last month, members enjoyed lunch at the **Woolshed Café in Sanson** and looking at the nearby historic homes.

Paul Gregg took the pictures.

*Margie Comrie.*



## **WEST AUCKLAND MEN'S REBUS CLUB**

**Trip to Hamilton Gardens.** Hamilton Gardens is the Waikato's most popular visitor attraction with more than 1.1 million visitors each year. Online information says Hamilton Gardens is a 54-hectares park on the banks of the Waikato River. The entrance at Hamilton Gardens leads into the eighteen enclosed gardens.



Left: The Indian Char Bagh garden is designed as an escape from a harsh environment. Right: The Modernist Garden is designed for outdoor living, with mostly hard surfaces.  
*Vince Middeldorp, Secretary.*

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## **REBUS CLUB OF PETONE**

Seven members went on a visit to the **Police Museum** followed by lunch at the **Peppermill Café**. It was a great trip. The rogue's gallery at the front desk had pictures of criminals with their hands crossed in front of them as it was a way of identifying them before fingerprinting came into use in 1907. Apparently, everyone has differently shaped hands. On display were uniforms used throughout the different eras and various weapons used by criminals.



*Sharyn Bowen.*

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## **WAIKANA E MILLENNIUM REBUS CLUB INC.**

Ten members travelled by Mini Bus to the **Aston Norwood Blossom Gardens** and the **Gillies Garden and Art Collection** on 28<sup>th</sup> September. What a momentous day. The blossoms were blooming in every 'nook and cranny'. We loved every moment of the experience. Following these 'magic moments', we headed to Gillies Garden and Art Collection. The house was set in acres of bush, and the garden was an 'artistic treat'. A mixture of hedges and small trees surrounded by beautiful naturally growing flowers. Their New Zealand art collection included a wide range of topics from scenery to modern art throughout every room in the house. This was an attractive and eventful day - enjoyed by all.



*David Goggin, Newsletter Editor.*

**So, if you feel a smile begin, don't leave it undetected,  
let's start an epidemic quick, and get the world infected.**

### **SOUTH WAIRARAPA REBUS CLUB**

On 29 September, 13 members had a guided tour of the **Greek Orthodox Church of the Transfiguration**, a little northwest of **Masterton**, followed by an enjoyable lunch together at **Farriers Restaurant** in the city. The interior of



the church was overwhelming – completely covered with 43 iconic paintings by **Stephen Allwood**. In 1980, as a 2nd year art student at **Ilam School of Art in Christchurch**, Stephen took a year off his studies for the work, having a rigid deadline – starting 3rd year classes at Ilam. But he was taking his first steps towards later acknowledgement as a Wairarapa artist of serious note. **Bernard Cleary**,



our guide, is a passionate advocate and caretaker of this precious local inheritance from **George Pantelis**, a Greek immigrant in the 1970s. (Bernard would love to hear from groups who would enjoy a visit. 027 569 8600.) Our return visit to Farriers for lunch after 3½ years was again a very pleasant and relaxed opportunity for members to socialise.

*David Woodhams, Newsletter Editor.*

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### **REBUS CLUB OF WANGANUI**

Bus trip to the **Woolshed Colonial Houses, SANSON**, 25th October. Houses from the early Settlers' times to the 90s, all authentically furnished. A great display, well worth the visit, enjoyed by all.



*Paerau Taylor, Newsletter Editor.*

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### **REBUS CLUB OF PALMERSTON NORTH**

A delightful talk at the October meeting from Club Speaker **Alyth Darwin** showed a depth of talent in her life story. Born of a farming family in South Canterbury, Alyth attended Christchurch Girls' High School and then became a nurse. She married Roger, a farm adviser in the Dept of Agriculture, and had three children. Alyth worked in pastoral care and gained a Licentiate in Theology. A fine arts painter, Alyth is also an author, having written her autobiography, several short stories and three novels.

Our guest speaker was **Apryl Cadman**, a legal adviser from the **Manawatu Community Law Centre** which provides free advice on matters that may require legal support. Apryl urged people to make a Will and keep it updated regularly, preferably annually. She also strongly recommended getting an Enduring Power of Attorney, especially if going into care. Adequate insurance cover on house, contents and vehicle was advised.

An outing to the **PN Fire Station** was very informative. The "**Big Reds**" were on display, of course, and we were told about Fire Service operations, training, and the camaraderie at shared meals. *Dean Halford, Newsletter Editor.*

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**You do not need a parachute to skydive.  
You need a parachute to skydive again.**

## REBUS CLUB OF MT HOBSON



New members inducted on 26th September:

Left: **George Foote** introduced by Graham Whiteman.

Right: **Robert Hay** introduced by Harold Coop.

Club Speaker for September – **Ronald Winstone, Topic: "AI"**

Guest Speaker for September – **Rob Campbell, Topic: "We Can't Vote Out the Big Issues."**

*Chris de Boer, Newsletter Editor.*



## REBUS CLUB OF HIBISCUS COAST

The October meeting featured an address by **Sheryl Takayama** from **Why Weight Academy**, regarding maximising nutrition as we age, and strategies for men's health.



On Tuesday 17th, 24 members and spouses visited the **MOTAT Aviation Hall** in **Western Springs**. The party split into two, with one group addressed by **Lindsay Mouat** of **NZ Bomber Command** while the other group toured the exhibits with another guide. Mid-way through the morning, the two groups swapped over. Mr Mouat's father was a pilot in Lancaster bombers during World War II who flew missions over Germany and the Axis countries.

He completed a full tour of 30 missions and survived to return to NZ at the end of the war. Mr Mouat spoke to us about the centre-piece exhibit **Avro Lancaster Bomber**, the role and history of NZ Bomber Command, and the Kiwis who flew these aircraft. Afterwards, the group met at the **Twisted Tomato** in Point Chevalier for lunch.



*Paul Robinson, Secretary/Editor.*

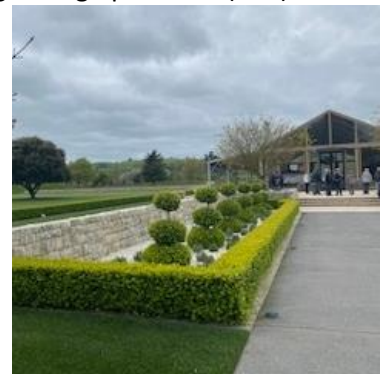
## CAMBRIDGE MEN'S REBUS CLUB

The Club held its monthly meeting on 18 October 2023 with 59 members present and two guests. Guest Speaker at the meeting was **Zoe Reece**, founder and CEO of **Ora Pharm**, a commercial cannabis growing operation. (Left).



The members and their guests enjoyed a visit to **TAKAPOTO ESTATE** in **Maungatautari** on Thursday 12th October.

*Nigel Salter.*



**Eventually you will reach a point when you stop lying about your age, and start bragging about it.**

## REBUS CLUB OF GULF HARBOUR



Our **Guest Speaker** for the 11 October meeting was **Emeritus Professor Ralph Cooney**, ONZM, FRSNZ, Dsc Phd. His subject was "**A Pathway to Zero Carbon**". With 80% of Kiwis acknowledging that climate change is real, his series of slides and commentary took us on a journey which included projected population growth, and the impact storms and floods will have on our mortality rate. Also, the likely impact on 25% of the planet's population from the release of 2 trillion tonnes of methane through the melting of the Arctic and Himalayan permafrost, was a chilling prospect.

However, with the target to limit climate warming to +2 C by 2050, efforts currently being made with the Green Hydrogen revolution, a safer nuclear age and further development of renewables, all may not be lost.

Fifteen members carpooled to visit **Eden Garden** on 17<sup>th</sup> October, enjoying an outdoor lunch at the Café. The beautiful garden was decked with multi-coloured new spring growth, a testament to the planning and foresight by city fathers, benefactors, and volunteers since 1964.

*J. McIntosh.*



## REBUS CLUB OF UPPER HUTT INC.

### 40th Anniversary

Long standing members of the club, **Denise Trotter and Tom Penrose** cut the celebratory cake which had been made by **Jan Kerkin**. This was followed by recollections about the club by **Stuart Forsyth, Margaret Brownie, Ian Pearless, Lynn McLeod, and John Campbell**.



**Nigel Dougan, Rebus NZ Treasurer**, then presented the club with a **Certificate of Attainment**.



*Alex Attewell, Editor.*

## TAUPO MOANA REBUS CLUB

19 members attended the morning tea at **Wairakei Thermal Valley Cafe**. Such a quaint cafe with bone china cups, saucers and plates, and beautiful, sweet treats made especially for our group. Lots of chat and laughter, and even squeals as the parcel of "wētā eggs" was handed around a couple of tables - a wee trap for beginners went off! A lovely catch up was had by all.

*Tina Tapa, Secretary.*

The **2023 Car Rally, "Round About Town"** was Helen and Tony Watson's this year's event. With 5 pages of instructions, clues, and questions, it was well named. "**Murray and his harem**", (Murray Bishop) was the first car to start, followed by the remaining 35 participants. All made it to the destination, "**EATS**", off the Huka Falls Road. Thanks to Helen and Tony for organising the event.



*Christine Bailey, Bulletin Editor.*

**A man is not old until regrets take the place of dreams.**

## **REBUS CLUB OF HAMILTON**



### ***Editor's Note:***

Rebus Club of Hamilton has a number of Special Interest Groups.

Left: This beautiful floral design comes from the Floral Art Interet Group (aka flower arranging), under the leadership of Susan Edwards. I think this is the only Club which has such a group. Floral Art is the perfect outlet for creative, artistic, plant-loving folk. How about starting a group in your own Club?

Their other groups are: Dining Out Group, Mah Jong, Scrabble, Mainly Men's Group, Ten Pin Bowling, Craft Group, Walking Group, and Movie Group. Worth a thought? **Ed.**

*Kath Kenrick, Bulletin Editor.*

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## **WOMEN'S REBUS CLUB OF WAIKANAE**

### **October Meeting: Speakers, Kathy McLauchlan, and Brigit Howitt**

**Kathy McLauchlan** has knitted all her life (in fact she wasn't exactly sure who taught her). She also learnt spinning at night school and has learnt weaving, but her preferences are knitting, crochet and spinning. She entered items in **Wearable Arts** when it was still held in Nelson. In Martinborough at the craft fairs her sales could be up to \$5000 on a good day. She showed us some of the colourful leggings she sold there. We were all impressed to hear she was asked to make the chain mail used in **Lord of the Rings** films.



Also featured in Lord of the Rings films were cloaks and jackets for the **Hobbits** made by **Brigit Howitt**, which she described as 'lucrative work'. Brigit's passion is weaving which goes back thousands of years and has moved with the times, so that now patterns are computerised; it is a long process to set up the patterns before actual weaving begins. One story Brigit told was of seventy people who over four years collected silk from spiders which they wove into delicate fabric. Their work was certainly original and inspiring.

*Mary Paddock, Newsletter Editor.*

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## **KOWHAI REBUS CLUB OF BETHLEHEM**

Our Guest Speaker, "**The Bee Man**," was a real find. We had been waiting some time for him, and it was well worth it. An expert on Bumblebees, Geoff shared many facts and figures on the life and work of Bumblebees in our gardens. What a fascinating subject, we fell in love with his furry friends.

Our member, **Deidre Freeman** explaining her tapestry bag she had designed. She has worked on tapestries since she was a young girl. A small collection of Deidre's 209 beautiful tapestries she has crafted and had framed. Members were delighted to be taken on a tour of every room in her home. After a cup of tea/coffee and food we sat listening to Deidre playing her piano and organ. She taught music for many years. A very talented lady.

*Marie Mabey, Newsletter Editor.*



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**I think more about running away now than I did as a kid.**

**But by the time I put my teeth in, my glasses on, and find my keys,**

**I forget why I am going.**

**PUKENAMU REBUS CLUB INC.**

**Combined 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Lunch and Meeting.**



Above, L-R: **Foundation Members and Past Presidents.** Mary Harrison, Leon Carter, Colin Clancy, Kathleen O’Sullivan, Marjorie Clancy, June Linz, Barbara Young, Alan Raisin, Don Adams.



59 members celebrated our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with lunch at Barracks. **A Certificate of Achievement** was received from the National Office, congratulating the club for achieving 25 years, first as Probus and then as a Rebus Club. The four foundation members present cut the cake. *Helen Goldfinch, Newsletter Editor.*

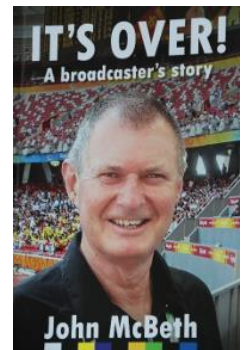
**COMBINED REBUS CLUB OF PARAPARAUMU BEACH INC.**

Our speakers last month were well received and enjoyed by all.

Member, **Isabel Robertson**, gave an interesting 10 Minute talk on travelling the **Canal du Midi in France** with friends.

Our Guest Speaker was the well-known and well-travelled radio and television broadcaster **John McBeth**. John gave an overview of his newly released book “**It’s over**”.

*Steve Hutchison, Bulletin Editor.*



**REBUS CLUB OF RIVERSIDE HAMILTON**



**Tramping Group**

This is a photo from our recent great day at **Athenree**, where 23 of us enjoyed a tour of the historic homestead, followed by a delicious **Devonshire Tea** on the veranda of the old Railway Station Cafe.

*Steve O’Sullivan, Bulletin Editor.*

**Lord, grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked,  
the good fortune to run into the ones I do,  
and the eyesight to tell the difference.**



And that is all I have for you this month – thank you for your contributions – without them there would be no Rebus Club News, and I would be out of a job.

I have been asked for more information on “what clubs do”. It transpires that they are looking for club activities/outings etc. rather than speakers. My reply was that I can only work with what I am given. 10/10 for those of you who plan your activities several months ahead, but plans can change or be cancelled for any one of a multitude of reasons. Therefore I do not include **planned** events, but relish accounts of the ones that **have taken place** – hopefully with photos. So, Newsletter Editors, could you please remember to include a record of your club’s activities which have taken place – we are all longing read your news.

As I conclude this edition, it is raining, blowing a gale, and I have the heat on. I should expect nothing else, it’s Spring. But stay warm and safe until next month, which will be my final offering for 2023. Best wishes to you all.



*Jean*

*Editor,  
Rebus Club News.*