



# REBUS CLUB NEWS

February 2023

\*Email: [rebusclubnews@gmail.com](mailto:rebusclubnews@gmail.com)

Welcome to the February edition, and what a difference a month makes! We were given plenty of warning of cyclone Gabrielle, and the waiting started to raise our apprehension. Here on the Hibiscus Coast we had some damaging wind, torrential rain and a rather sleepless night, but we escaped relatively unscathed compared with many areas, and our sympathy goes out to those who have lost loved ones, precious property and livelihoods. Our country is broken and heartbroken, but life must go on, and every little bit helps.

When I receive your contributions to Rebus Club News, they go into a folder in date order until I start work on the current issue. This month I have broken with tradition, as the recent article from South Wairarapa seems so topical.

## SOUTH WAIRARAPA REBUS CLUB

Hi Rebels, President Kay has asked me to circulate a message: She is in the process of moving house and surprised herself at how many clothes she has that she no longer wears. She thought of how valued they would be in Hawkes Bay at present by some of those who have lost everything. One little flash of a thought has caught alight.



Kay has contacted **Tony and Sally Bryan, President and Secretary of the Combined Rebus Club of Te Mata, in Havelock North**. They are enthusiastic about Kay's proposal and would ensure distribution at their end. Kay asks SW Rebus members to take the opportunity this week to identify good quality clothes they wear only rarely or never and to bring them to the AGM on Friday. It's a great chance to "downsize" painlessly in a good cause! Kay will arrange transport to the Bryans, even if she has to drive them herself. Kay says the **South Wairarapa RSA** has embraced her idea and offered to help. I have suggested to Kay that she should get SW RSA to contact the Havelock North or Hastings RSA to give Tony and Sally a hand with distribution. I wish Kay, SW Rebus and SW RSA every success in this community action.

*David Woodhams, Newsletter Editor.*

*Rebus Club News Editor's Note: I have spoken with **Tony Bryan** today, 23.2.23, who will be happy to distribute any donations of clothing from any Rebus Clubs. Might be a good idea to phone him first. Perhaps your local RSA can assist?*

*Contact details: **Tony and Sally Bryan, PH: 06 878 2229.***

*Address: **14 Ru Collin Road,  
RD4 Hastings.***

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## TAUPO MOANA REBUS CLUB



Our Main Speakers were **Megan George and Eileen Devane** (pictured here with Mary Lockwood, centre) who together are the energy and force behind the **Awhini Society** (Women's Refuge and Food Bank) In Taupo.

Hardly any of our members would ever have used either of these places, but many needy families have. Their role is so important, and they work tirelessly for the needy in Taupo, referrals coming from Police, Schools and WINZ. They try to keep families together and offer services to women in abusive marriages. Taupo is a generous community, and the Awhina Society benefits from this. They get "rescue food" from many sources. Money donations are gratefully received and used to buy fresh food. Email [info@awhina.org.nz](mailto:info@awhina.org.nz).

*Christine Bailey, Bulletin Editor.*

**"I want my children to have all the things I couldn't afford. Then I want to move in with them."** Phyllis Diller

## REBUS CLUB OF RIVERSIDE HAMILTON

**A Lifetime of Cars – Part 1 - by David Swain.** We've only had about six cars in sixty years, and they more or less match the ages and stages of our lives. I remember them all, and why we chose them, and I imagine the seventh significant vehicle (channelling Shakespeare and his seven ages of man) will probably be a hearse. My first car – the purchase price and the use shared with my parents – was when I was in my late teens and was used by my parents in my hometown of Brighton and by me and Maggie in London. It was a Rover P4 75 made in 1951 and its third headlight, a fog light (necessary in those times and places), was in the middle of the radiator grill so of course we called it Cyclops. It was, I thought, quite safe (the body was fairly thick sheet steel it seemed) and thus it took most of the length of the A23 between London and Brighton to reach the speed limit (and the rest to slow down again). It was our honeymoon transportation and looked splendid parked outside the monastery and ancient pubs from the **Good Pub Guide** that we used to plan the honeymoon itinerary.

*Steve O'Sullivan, Bulletin Editor.*

## OMANU REBUS CLUB



### OMANU REBUS CLUB OUTING

27 Club members enjoyed a pot luck picnic dinner on 22 January at the home of Graeme and Adrienne Wilson (The rain kept away, thank goodness).

*Rose Coutts, Secretary.*



## WOMEN'S REBUS CLUB OF WAIKANAE



Thirty-seven of our club members enjoyed a beautiful **Christmas Lunch at ANZIL** again this year. We were not disappointed with the service, food, and ambience that this lovely Hungarian family provided.

**Lucky Number Prizes:** This year, after so many generous donations we were able to provide 36 prizes. The Committee spent a happy time wrapping them at Ally's home.

*Mary Paddock, Newsletter Editor.*



## RED BEACH LADIES' REBUS CLUB



There was a great turnout for our Christmas Lunch in November at the **Red Beach Surf Lifesaving Club** with festive table decorations by the committee and an excellent meal provided by the chef.

Instead of a guest speaker this month it was decided to hold a special **Welcome Back Morning Tea**, for members to catch up after the long holiday break. Members brought a plate of goodies to celebrate the **start of another great year with Rebus.**

*Bobbie Wakenell, Newsletter Editor.*



**The older you get, the better you get, unless you're a banana.**

## REBUS WAIHEKE ISLAND

**The Mini Speaker was Steve Lines who works with Howick MenzShed.** Steve was a teacher and came to New Zealand from Birmingham in 1990. The MenzShed is safe, supportive, and enjoyable providing a well-equipped facility for woodwork, engineering, and crafts, to name a few. Everyone is welcome but it is a meeting place primarily for men. Men's health is discussed. It is an international operation. In NZ there are 121 operational, and 21 under development. Many men join after a significant life change, e.g., widowhood or retirement. Among other things they have been involved in making pest-free traps and sandpits for childcare centres. **The Stevenson Trust** has given them a generous donation for brand new machinery, and safety is paramount.

For more information contact: [chairman@howickmenzshed.nz](mailto:chairman@howickmenzshed.nz).

*Tania Sweet, Newsletter Editor.*

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## REBUS CLUB OREWA

### THE FRIDAY WALKERS ENJOYED A CHRISTMAS PICNIC AT SHAKESPEAR PARK



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## PETONE REBUS CLUB



The Petone Rebus Members enjoyed a lovely lunch at the **Day's Bay Pavilion**. The food was great, and it was a good start to the beginning of the year catching up with club members. *Sharyn Bowen.*



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## WEST AUCKLAND MEN'S REBUS CLUB

**Bill Fairs** began by saying that for many years he hired speakers for West Auckland Men's Probus Club when it was based at Kelston. He said he wanted to talk about someone who was his friend and the best speaker he ever had. Bill knew his friend as **Willie Schneider**. His association with Willie began in 1958 when Bill was on tour with Howard Morrison and was based in Christchurch. He went out one night and heard Max Merritt play and in that band was Willie Schneider. Bill described Willie as an excellent saxophone player and got to talking to him. He found out that Willie was from Hungary and had come to New Zealand after the uprising in 1956 with three of his mates. They fled to Denmark and from there came to New Zealand.



About 15 years ago Bill learned Willie was teaching music at a Jewish school called Kadimah School. One day Bill was working in his garage and listening to talkback - an interview with a **Benjamin Steiner**. As soon as Benjamin started talking Bill realised it was Willie, and the story he told just knocked his socks off. Willie agreed to speak at Bill's club provided a donation was made to the Kadimah School. In 2017, Bill went away on holiday and on his return, Willie's mates told him Willie had passed away, aged 81, and Bill had missed the funeral. *Vince Middeldorp, Secretary.*

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### **REBUS CLUB OF MANAWATU**



**Guest Speaker was Dr Kitrina Norrish** a local medical scientist recently returned from working in Libya, Iraq and Syria for Doctors Without Borders (MSF) held us fascinated.

Photo: Our speaker Kit Norrish (left) with some of her team in Iraq's Hawiji District, where she managed a lab in primitive conditions and trained local health workers.

*Margie Comrie.*

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### **REBUS CLUB OF KHANDALLAH**

**Bill Goldstone was nominated for Life Membership** of the Rebus Club of Khandallah. Bill joined what was then Probus in 2002. Soon he became club Secretary, before moving on to become Vice President, President, and Immediate Past President. He has been the photographer for our club for a very long time, keeping an historic record through his well-maintained series of photo albums. He is a valuable club resource, a regular contributor to the newsletter, has managed the technicalities of the speaker system for some time, and arranges Gold Card walks. He is also involved in lunch and dinner groups.

Bill was **nominated by John Moles, seconded by Raey Butterworth:** and the unanimous vote to award Bill Goldstone Life Membership of the Club was carried by acclamation. When Bill was called up to receive his framed Life Membership Award certificate, he looked stunned. It was clear this was totally unexpected, and he modestly suggested it was probably only because he was one of the oldest members. Bill said he enjoys being in the club, and especially in his terms as Secretary and as President. "That's when you get to know people," Bill said. *Sharon Major, Editor.*



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

Our 2023 programme began with two picnics in January, each different in style. The rose garden in **Victoria Esplanade**, PN was a splendid venue for a relaxed lunch together in the shade of an historic tree – it was sunny and very warm (see photo). The second picnic was held, in blazing sun, at a private cinema in Feilding, where we ate outside and then watched two excellent movies inside.

We were informed and entertained at our February club meeting by two very good speakers. **Marie Good** told us about the joys of raising a family on a farm – some amusing anecdotes there! Marie ended with a poem, written by her family, about one of her productive pastimes, knitting. Then **Dr Wayne Stewart** from engineering company WPS gave us a marvellous insight, using virtual reality images, into the construction of the Manawatu-Tararua Highway that is scheduled for completion in 2024. This new 4-lane east-west road replaces the previous Manawatu Gorge road that has been closed since 2017.



*Dean Halford, Newsletter Editor.*

**Retirement – twice the husband on half the income.**

**Regular naps prevent old age – especially if you take them while you're driving.**

### TAURANGA CENTRAL LADIES' REBUS CLUB



February 1922, Correspondence School founded. **Janet Mackenzie**, the first teacher in what was to become the **Correspondence School for Back-block Children**, took up her position in a spartan office in Wellington's Government Buildings at the beginning of the 1922 school year. It was thought that there were about 25 children around the country who could not attend school because they lived in lighthouses or other remote locations. In fact, Mackenzie initially had 83 pupils ranging from beginners to Standard 6 (Year 8). She soon found that many of them could neither read nor write. She had at first to draft lessons and correspond with pupils and parents entirely by hand.

In late 1922 a second teacher was appointed to assist Mackenzie. The following year **Stanley Mills** was appointed headmaster of the Correspondence School, which moved into an old house on The Terrace. Mackenzie was appointed first assistant and over the next few years wrote a number of English textbooks for pupils in the standards.

A secondary department was set up in 1929 and regular weekly radio broadcasts began in 1931, the year Mackenzie retired; Mills followed in 1934. His successor, **Dr Arthur Butchers**, inherited a teaching staff of 45 and 1,800 pupils. In 1938, Butchers trialled a service for which the Correspondence School was to become renowned, sending out into the field visiting teachers who literally got their boots dirty.

*Thanks to Margaret Douglas for this gem.*

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### WAIKANAE MILLENNIUM REBUS CLUB INC



**MAGGIE COPLAND** was inducted at our February meeting. She was introduced and nominated by **Gaynor Bass**.

At this month's meeting we were entertained by the screening of the latest movie produced by our **Moviemakers Group**, entitled "**That's Life !!**" What a talented bunch of people they are! Hopefully there will be many more productions to look forward to.

*David Goggin, Newsletter Editor.*

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### REBUS CLUB OF UPPER HUTT INC



**Guest Speaker: Andriy Legenkyy** is originally from a western Ukrainian city of **Ivano Frankivsk** 175 kilometres from the Polish border. He studied geophysics there and after graduation worked in Ukraine and abroad for 15 years. Andriy immigrated to New Zealand 6 years ago and is currently working in GNS Science where he monitors Earthquakes and Tsunamis for New Zealand.

He explained the long history and culture of Ukraine, the legacy of communist interference in the move to democracy, and the current conflict with Russia. An incredibly interesting and informative talk. His presentation had many images. He was thanked by Sister Mary McKernan. *Alex Attewell, Editor.*

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### REBUS CLUB OF MILSON INC.



**CHRISTMAS LUNCH AT THE BOATSHED.** We enjoyed good food, good company, laughter and singing.

We had a small number of attendees at our **January** meeting, but everyone appeared to join in the different activities the committee arranged. There was plenty of laughter and a scrummy morning tea. Thanks to the committee members and kitchen volunteers for all your good work.

*Margaret Broderick, Newsletter Editor.*

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**To succeed, consult three old people.** Chinese proverb

**After a game of chess, the King and the Pawn go back into the same box.** Italian proverb

## WAIKANAE COMBINED REBUS CLUB

Our first meeting of the year in early February was a challenge, a rainy and windy day as **Cyclone Gabrielle** raged in the east. Our Guest Speaker from **Wellington Free Ambulance** cancelled that morning because of the national emergency. 38 hardy souls braved the elements to enjoy some fellowship and respond to a DIY morning tea schedule. Morning tea has become a favourite for many members with a chance to catch up and have a chat, and it's often difficult to call for order to get folk back to hear the guest speaker.

Two members came to the rescue as speakers, the first reminiscing about **Tramping and Tahr Hunting** in the Mount Cook/Aorangi region and experiences in finding accommodation at the Hermitage. The second took us through her journey some years ago with a tour group through **Argentina, Bolivia, Peru and Ecuador** and the challenges of border crossings, thefts of belongings, language difficulties, but a fascinating expose of various cultures, ancient civilisations, mountains, forests, lakes, and rivers.

*Clive Palmer, Newsletter Editor.*

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## WARKWORTH MEN'S REBUS CLUB



At our February meeting we were shown many of the ways that unscrupulous criminals stole around \$35 million over the last year from New Zealanders. Telephone, Internet, Credit Card and E-mail scams are around every day, but all sound very good to the unwary. **Simone and Elaine from the local Branch of The Bank of New Zealand** spoke to members about the simple precautions required to keep hold of our money. If it sounds too good to be true – then it probably is a scam; If you must pay now to get the amazing bargain from a website you have never seen or visited before; or only need to give your Bank details to receive millions of dollars for moving money from a person you have never heard of – then watch out! Your Bank can help in many ways with information and advice to keep Scam Savvy. The session generated lots of questions, and tips to keep us all safer. We were all disgusted to hear that criminals are already setting up false accounts to take donations from the public towards aid after the recent weather disasters in the North Island.

*Robert Dye, Secretary.*

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## REBUS CLUB OF GULF HARBOUR



Club members enjoyed one of the few fine days this summer at our annual BBQ, held at **Shakespear Reserve** on 18 January.

Five new members were inducted at the first Meeting in February 2023, a positive start for the year.

The February **Guest Speaker, David Gerrard**, Olympic gold Medallist, gave a very interesting talk on his time

serving as the NZ Olympic Team Doctor, covering drug misuse and transgender athletes. Dave was thanked by VP Gill Wild.

*Pamela Warner, Secretary.*



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## PUKENAMU REBUS CLUB INC.



**Club Speaker Debbie Mortensen** made herself busy after life threw her a curveball when her husband died quite young. It was a wakeup call - she realised that life wasn't over and if she didn't do something depression would set in. She studied to become a marriage celebrant and a JP. Debbie told us: "Enjoy, and you're not too old. When we die, we should slide into our grave saying I've had a hell of a ride." The book she wrote, **The Silent Scream**, is at hospice.

*Helen Goldfinch, Newsletter Editor.*

**The positive thinker sees the invisible, feels the intangible, and achieves the impossible. Winston Churchill**

## **REBUS CLUB OF HAMILTON**

Our Rebus party of seven enjoyed a day at **Waimangu Thermal Valley** recently. The walking tour included Inferno Crater Lake - beautiful and blue following the rain, Frying Pan Lake, active geysers and a panorama of rocks and terraces with various minerals such as tungsten, iodine, arsenic, and sulphur forming spectacular orange, brown, green, and yellow colours. Algae, silica, and crystals also added to the brilliance. With some awe, we learned that the famed **Pink and White Terraces** were just metres below us as we cruised over Lake Rotomahana. This lake is filled only by rain and has no outlet, due to the lava flow from the Tarawera eruption blocking its outflow. There is no farming or other development permitted round this scenic reserve, so the area has been preserved in its natural state since the eruption of Mt Tarawera in 1886.  
*Kaye Wallis, Bulletin Editor.*



## **REBUS CLUB OF HIBISCUS COAST**



A very successful event was held amid the confusion of **Cyclone Gabrielle**. Nearly 40 turned up despite having to change the date and the venue. The weather finally came right and contributed to a bright, sunny, and happy gathering. The food highlight was the very fresh fish caught and prepared by Graeme and Jean McIntosh and served up on the day by the fish-team including Bill Anderson. The venue, **Te Haruhi Bay at Shakespear Park**, although our second choice, was in fact perfect with plenty of shelter and open spaces. The group of volunteers who put it all together were thanked. Some relaxed but mildly competitive sport was enjoyed between Pétanque and 'umbrella golf.'

*Phil Martell, Bulletin Editor.*

## **FITZHERBERT REBUS CLUB INC**

The Speaker in February was **Robyn Ballard, the manager at Olive Tree Retirement Village**. She gave us an insight into her work in the village, saying her main focus was "People, people, people". She described her life experiences working in villages around N.Z at local and national level, and explained some of the things to look at for those who are considering the move. Robyn then answered questions from the floor, and we all learned a bit more from her answers. Peggy square update: 636 Peggy squares from our group have now been taken to **Peggy Purl Manawatu** to be made into blankets. Awesome work!

*Karen Carter, Secretary.*

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

If you want to fly big models, then fly big models. Wingspan is 88 inches. The real plane is a



homebuilt called a Smith Mini Plane DSA-1. In real terms, this is a 42% model. DSA-1 stands for Darn small aeroplane. 1 seater. I made the instrument panel and the pilot, buying just the head. The pilot is 1/3 scale. Kath gave me a hand with the stitching (and the beanie).

*Steve Hutchison, Presidential Scribe.*

## REBUS CLUB OF WANGANUI



**Club Picnic:** Bason Botanic Gardens have been developed from bare farmland since 1966. Extensive roading allows the visitor to tour the garden without leaving their vehicle while tree plantings, wide-spread lawns and modern conservatories have added a completely new dimension. The architecturally designed conservatories were built with recycled bricks from a city theatre and house tropical plants, begonias, and a collection of cooler climate orchids. A picturesque lake fills the valley floor, a haven for wild life. Walking trails lead visitors round the gardens and the original homestead.

*Paerau Taylor, Editor.*

### Gardeners' Brag Page



Last month, in the January edition of Rebus Club News, I invited Rebus Club Members to send me photos of anything they had grown - flowers, vegetables, whatever. Mistakenly, I presumed that gardeners were as proud to show off their efforts as fishermen are. But as the month progressed, I started to think that perhaps this was not one of my better ideas, until, hallelujah, the first, and only photos arrived. Both are from the same garden, and clearly demonstrate that the owner has, indeed, green fingers. This garden with vegetables, flowers, and topiary, belongs to: **Don Champion, Waikanae**



**Combined Rebus Club.** Thank you, Don, for your photos – I am sorry there is no prize. However, for next month, a photo of a flower, a quirky carrot, giant pumpkin etc. will be most acceptable. Ed.

### **Rebus NZ's Annual General Meeting, 6 May 2023.**

With Covid causing the cancellation of the 2022 AGM, we are looking forward to seeing a bumper number of attendees this year.

Details of the social program surrounding the formal AGM can be found by downloading the Registration form. Just click on this link: <https://form.jotform.com/230416675235859>

It can also be downloaded from the Rebus NZ website.

And that brings to an end this month's roundup of happenings around the country, thanks to your contributions. If your Club has been omitted this month, may I make the following suggestion:

I have learned from experience that if anything can go wrong, it will, especially at the last moment, and for a multitude of possibilities. Therefore, I have made it my policy not to include items described as "suggested, possible, coming up", or even "next month". Outings and Speakers can be given a great build up, and then fizzle out. So, I wait till the event has taken place to give an honest account of your speaker/event.

However, if your newsletter etc. only tells me what is *coming up*, but the next one does not tell me *what happened*, your news will probably be missed out, which is a pity for everyone. It is not my place to suggest what you put in your newsletter, just to explain to you what I put in *mine*, and why. I hope this helps, food for thought.

*Jean,*

*Editor, Rebus Club News.*

That's not quite all, see next page:



## An Obituary

Today we mourn the passing of a beloved old friend, Common Sense, who has been with us for many years. No one knows for sure how old he was, since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He will be remembered as having cultivated such valuable lessons as:

- Knowing when to come in out of the rain;
- Why the early bird gets the worm;
- Why Life isn't always fair;
- And maybe it **was** my fault.

Common Sense lived by simple, sound financial policies (don't spend more than you can earn) and reliable strategies (adults, not children, are in charge). His health began to deteriorate rapidly when well-intentioned but overbearing regulations were set in place. Reports of a 6-year-old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate; teens suspended from school for using mouthwash after lunch; and a teacher fired for reprimanding an unruly student, only worsened his condition.

Common Sense lost ground when parents attacked teachers for doing the job that they themselves had failed to do in disciplining their unruly children. It declined even further when schools were required to get parental consent to administer sun lotion or an aspirin to a student; but could not inform parents when a student became pregnant and wanted to have an abortion.

Common Sense lost the will to live as the churches became businesses; and criminals received better treatment than their victims. Common Sense took a beating when you couldn't defend yourself from a burglar in your own home and the burglar could sue you for assault.

Common Sense finally gave up the will to live, after a woman failed to realise that a steaming cup of coffee was hot. She spilled a little in her lap and was promptly awarded a huge settlement.

Common Sense was preceded in death,

- by his parents, Truth, and Trust,
- by his wife, Discretion,
- by his daughter, Responsibility,
- and by his son, Reason.

He is survived by his 5 stepchildren;

- I Know My Rights
- I Want It Now
- Someone Else Is To Blame
- I'm A Victim
- Pay me for Doing Nothing

Not many attended his funeral because so few realised he was gone. If you still remember him, pass this on. If not, join the majority and do nothing.