



REBUS CLUB NEWS

April 2023

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

In a few days' time some of us will be gathering in Wanganui for the Rebus NZ Inc. Annual General Meeting, hosted by the Wanganui Rebus Club. This will be a milestone for our family, having eaten and breathed all things Rebus since its incorporation in 2016. A few of the original clubs have closed, but most are continuing to flourish, against the odds of Covid, ageing membership and the difficulty finding club officers. But there is good news. This month we welcomed the **Whangamata Rebus Club** to the Rebus Family. Their membership decision to become a Rebus Affiliate was unanimous, and they are now a fully-fledged, up and running Rebus Club. I look forward to receiving their news for inclusion in Rebus Club News.

Last month's edition contained thirty-one contributions from clubs – a record – but one which may not be repeated this month. I nearly had a heart attack yesterday when half of this month's contributions disappeared. My resident guru found them (I hope), but if you sent me some news, and it has not appeared in the following pages, my most sincere apologies. Technology!! So, let's get started on our trip around the country:

REBUS CLUB OF HAMILTON



We welcome four new members who were inducted in March.

Glenda McLean, Lynn McKenzie, Leslie Mason, and Carol Davies.

We hope you will enjoy your time in Rebus.

Kath Kenrick, Bulletin Editor. (Welcome Kath). Ed.

I don't know how to act my age; I've never been this old before.

AVONDALE LADIES' REBUS CLUB

Short Talk: Coralie Ross, who was born in Sydney, gave an entertaining and humorous version of her early childhood experiences, school life as it was and her journey to New Zealand from Sydney. Coralie was accompanied by her much loved teddy bear.

Speaker, Murray Parker, gave a very polished presentation on some of the American National Parks. Such magnificent rock formations and grand scenery.



Audrey Hepburn died at the age of 63, but as a humanitarian, a rare EGOT winner and a loving mother, she was always wise beyond her years. Here are some quotes from the fashion icon:

- **Nothing is impossible; the word itself says 'I'm possible'.**
- **Happiness is health and a short memory!**
- **Be happy. That's all that matters. The most important thing is to enjoy your life.**

EGOT: Emmy, Grammy, Oscar, Tony.

Barbara Douglas, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF KHANDALLAH

On a 'will-it-won't-it rain' day on 13th March, 16 keen members of **The Garden Group** set off to the **City Council Nurseries in Berhampore** to view where Wellington City Council grows many of the plants which we see on roadsides, hillsides, gullies, and public gardens around Wellington.

One of the senior staff spent about 60 minutes explaining about how they propagate the plants in their care – many of which grow from seeds they have collected themselves – and for what specific areas. Which plants will grow well in certain areas around Wellington. They also collect rare plants which have almost died out and are starting to propagate these plants too.



Sharon Major, Newsletter Editor.

WARKWORTH MEN'S REBUS CLUB

Please feel free to bring any chaps or Partners who are at a loose end. Young or old who would like to relax and enjoy Mature Male Camaraderie. (This time some Feminaderie as well). Tea Coffee then go, or stay for a bit of lunch. Up to you.

You don't have to be a REBUS Member to join us.

If you need a lift, give us a call and we will try and arrange a pick up for you.

Ron 09 422 3111
Terry 09 425 0208



If you have transport, you can carpool, or there maybe someone you know who would like a trip out to enjoy some social contact. See you there

Men's Coffee Meetup.

How about this for a novel way to invite friends, partners, and prospective new members, to a Coffee Meetup at "Sheepworld".

Thanks to Ron Smalley for this original way to advertise your function. Hope it worked! Ed.

REBUS CLUB OF RIVERSIDE HAMILTON



A photo from the **Tramping Group** on their **Riverlea/Tamahere** walk in March.

Twenty members enjoyed the tramp in glorious weather. Thank you, Alwyn Paterson!

Steve O'Sullivan, Bulletin Editor.

"If you think dogs can't count, try putting three dog biscuits in your pocket and then giving Fido only two of them." Phil Pastoret.

WEST AUCKLAND MEN'S REBUS CLUB

Club Speaker, Neil Castle: "Prospecting for gold in the South Island".

My wife and I, after I retired, bought a camper van and went down to the South Island. Some of the best gold that I got was from a place called the Howard Valley. Finding gold is just a form of relaxation. You're out there with mother nature in the bush. The use of the gold pan is with both hands, and it's quite a tricky sort of motion. It's around and backwards and forwards at the same time. The idea is to keep moving the material all the time, and the gold finds its way down towards the bottom.



Vince Middeldorp, Secretary.

REBUS CLUB OF PETONE



Gary McKay and Caryl Cook met at the Rebus Club of Petone when he was President and Caryl joined the club in 2019. Caryl quickly became an active member and developed the role of Liaison Officer making prospective and new members feel at home. She also arranged the club's popular and well supported morning and lunch gatherings.

Their friendship developed to the point where they realised that more than friendship had evolved and on 12 February 2023 they were married in the company of family and friends at the beautiful homestead of **Wallaceville House** in Upper Hutt. We wish them a long and happy time together.



Sharyn Bowen, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF MANAWATU

APRIL'S SPEAKER: Lyal Brenton, Palmerston North's Town Crier since 2020. Lyal, who is active in many community groups, brought us to order with his bell, and entertained us with a history of town crying, let us into secrets of his costume, and described experiences as Town Crier, as well as Santa!



(Left) This is probably the nearest most of us will ever get to gracious living. Here are some of the March Walkers outside **Caccia Birch House**.

Margie Comrie, Newsletter Editor.



WAIKANAE MILLENNIUM REBUS CLUB INC.

A group of 12 Members travelled to the **Otaki Museum** on 24th March. We had the pleasure of Guide, Judith Miller's in-depth knowledge of the history of Otaki and the surroundings. We explored the building, and after lunch we journeyed to **Rangiatea Anglican Church** and the **Te Rauparaha Memorial**. Then on to the **Historic St Mary's Pukekaraka Catholic Church**. Irene, a volunteer, gave us a wonderful insight into the church's amazing history and French heritage. It is one of the oldest Catholic Churches in New Zealand - well worth a visit. Some of the group climbed to the lookout above the church to see an outstanding view of the Otaki surrounds.

David Goggin, Newsletter Editor.



REBUS CLUB OF PALMERSTON NORTH

A great month for speakers in April. **Dave Hardman** presented an interesting photographic story of the fourteen garden visits he and Raewyn made in **Featherston, Martinborough, Gladstone and Carterton** last November.

Jacques Cook and **Jack Taylor**, co-leaders at Awatapu College, were introduced by Principal **Gary Yeatman** who gave us information about the College. The students told us about their own life experiences, school activities and aims for the future. Refreshing!

Andrea O 'Donnell from Property Brokers informed us about the current state of the real estate market in Palmerston North. She gave us valuable advice on 'decluttering' and 'downsizing' before putting a house on the market. A recent trip to Wellington was eventful! The bus broke down and added to the adventure. Lunch was enjoyed at the **Chocolate Frog Café** followed by a visit to **Weta Workshops** where the exhibits are out of this world!

Dean Halford, Newsletter Editor.



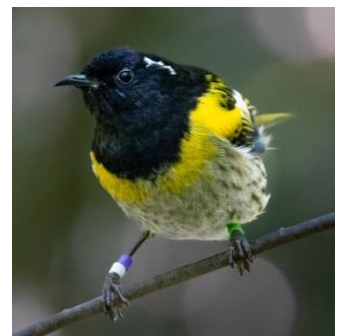
REBUS CLUB OF MT HOBSON

Welcome to new **President, Chris de Boer**, who is also Newsletter Editor. (*Now I know what you look like Chris*). Ed.



Bellbird (Korimako)

Visit to Tiri: 22 members and partners enjoyed a beautiful day out to Tiri and saw some great birdlife. Thanks to Tony Lawson for these photos.



Stitchbird (Hihi)

Happiness is not about getting what you want. It is about all you have.

REBUS CLUB OF HIBISCUS COAST



Our meeting on 4th April featured the induction of **Fred Elley** by President Garth Dutton [pictured], and an address by a team from the **O Mahurangi – Penlink** project. For those of you outside Auckland, this is a new road that has been talked about for many years [a bit like Transmission Gully] that will exit east from SH1 north of Albany and cross the Weiti River to join Whangaparaoa Rd at Stanmore Bay.

On Thursday 20th, 20 members and spouses joined our Mystery Car Tour organised by Steve and Tessa Waller. This is the fourth time we have held this event. After touring around the local countryside following the clues and collecting answers, we ended at the Puhoi Hotel for a very pleasant lunch. Two cars achieved a score of 78 from a maximum of 81.



Paul Robinson, Secretary/Bulletin Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF UPPER HUTT INC.



Our Club has a new **Life Member**. **Tom Penrose** has been a member of Probus/Rebus since 1994 and is one of the longest serving members. He was the Convenor for the Snooker Group for over 15 years which means he has been one of the longest serving Group Convenors.

The **Guest Speaker** was **Stephen Opie** who is the **CEO for Age Concern Wellington**. He joined the organisation in April 2020 and has extensive leadership experience in the charitable sector after spending 18 years working for various non-profit organisations. Stephen's primary focus has been strategic leadership, project management, communications, and fundraising. He is passionate

about ensuring our region's older people are connected into their community and have access to the support and services they need.

Alex Attewell, Newsletter Editor.

SOUTH WAIRARAPA REBUS CLUB

President's Message. I really want to thank you all for the generosity shown when I asked if members could donate good used clothing items which we could forward to the Hawkes Bay to help those people whose homes were devastated during the floods a few months back, and who literally had only the clothes they stood up in. Friends at the local RSA also joined in, and just as well, because my small car would never have been able to accommodate the amount of beautiful clothing which was donated. We collected it at the RSA rooms and eventually the RSA President said he would use his bigger vehicle to deliver the items. Yeah, right! The goods donated filled his commercial delivery van, his large trailer and his wife's car! So, everything was delivered to the Hastings venue, and I'm sure the Rebus members there were kept very busy for a while, sorting, hanging, and delivering the clothing.

Outfits were received from all over the Wairarapa, from Kapiti, Otaki, and Foxton. My sincere thanks, *Kay Paget.*

Fifteen members made a return visit to **Cobblestones Museum, Greytown**, in March. Our tour took in the stables, the saddlery, the woolshed that gave its name to the famous Donald Wool Press and the 1865 Methodist church, probably the first church erected in Wairarapa. We visited the one-teacher Mangapakeha School (1902-1966). A mobile roading workman's hut for living on the job (an early prototype for a mobile home), Wairarapa's first public hospital and dispensary (1875) and the early colonial cottage (1867) were also inspected.

David Woodhams, Newsletter Editor.



History is not yours to change or destroy.

REBUS CLUB OF WANGANUI

WELCOME To WANGANUI.



Rebus NZ Inc. AGM, Wanganui 5-7 May 2023. We look forward to welcoming you to our beautiful city.

COMBINED REBUS CLUB OF PARAPARAUMU BEACH INC.



Our speakers last month were **Ruth and Bill Ward**. They spoke about some of their diving adventures, an interest that Bill took up as something he could share with Ruth, who had been diving for many years. They took both the 10 minute and main speaker slots. In the 10-minute slot, they laid out the scuba diving apparatus as would be worn by Bill. Fortunately, he didn't try and put the wet suit on, but as Ruth explained each piece of apparatus, Bill donned it and Ruth explained how it worked. This meant that over morning tea members were able to examine and ask questions about the various pieces of kit. During the main speaker time slot, they took us along on many of their adventures in diving around the Pacific. It was not only a very well prepared and delivered talk, but extremely interesting.

There were times in the intro, that Bill rather resembled the Michelin man!

Steve Hutchison, Bulletin Editor.

KOWHAI REBUS CLUB OF BETHLEHEM



Introducing new President, **Pauline Hetherington**. "There have been some changes to our group. I am now leading the way, having been elected as your President at our recent AGM. I don't really know how that happened. It was a bit "last minute," but the prospect of our group not being able to continue without a President left me no choice but to take the helm".

Approximately 20 members enjoying a cuppa and friendship at **Bethlehem Shores Café**.

Marie Mabey, Newsletter Editor.



**Being a little older, I am very fortunate to have someone call me every day.
He is from India and is concerned about my Credit Card.**

PUKENAMU REBUS CLUB INC.



22 members enjoyed an outing to **Kanuka Estate**, which sits above the banks of the **Rangitikei River** near **Mangaweka**. The weather was miserable, but the Kent fire was stoked up and the modern house was cosy and warm. We were offered a



ride down to the river. It was steep and very bumpy, but the owner, Steve Mattock, was an excellent driver, although you did have to hold on! Lunch was included, coffee whenever you wanted and an enthusiastic and hilarious talk by Steve, who gave us a brief background to the venture. We all agreed that we must go again, but on a fine day.

Helen Goldfinch, pics Lindsay Stockbridge.

TAUPO MOANA REBUS CLUB

A FAREWELL TO SHONA - Putt-Putt Swingers Course at The Landing.

Unlike most Mini Golf courses, where one is responsible for each shot, the new Putt-Putt Swingers Course at The Landing gives assistance on two holes by means of dropping your ball from an aircraft or transporting it up the side of Ruapehu on a chair lift, all much to the delight of those who had not been to this venue before, and it transpires by some, that these two 'assists' were not considered to count as a 'stroke'! At the completion of the game, we all retired to **Café Lacus** for refreshments, a good chinwag to compare good holes and bad. Trophies and Easter Eggs were shared for various achievements. Thank you for supporting Shona with her last event.



Helen Watson.

REBUS CLUB CAMBRIDGE



This handsome line-up is the Committee for 2023/2024.

L to R: Jean Elborn, Committee: Jackie Gunn, Secretary: Davide Pini, Sound/IT: Steve O'Sullivan, President: Ann Maclure, Catering: Liz Webb, Speakers: Margaret Billington, Treasurer.

Steve O'Sullivan, Presidential Scribe.

**History is not there for you to like or dislike.
It is there for you to learn from.
And if it offends you, even better, because you
are less likely to repeat it.**

REBUS CLUB OREWA



President **Robert Letcher**, who has served the club so well from March 2019 – March 2023 through some difficult times, hands over the Presidential Chain to incoming **President Janet Larkman**. President Robert inducted 2 new members at our March meeting: **Veroni Wood and David Alston**. Welcome to the Rebus Club Orewa and we hope you enjoy the activities and fellowship our club has to offer.

Our **Guest Speaker** in March was **Louise Milliken, Practice Manager, Orewa Medical Centre**. She advised on ear health and what to do and not do to our precious ears. Advising of a new ear cleaning system called Micro-suction which is the safest and most effective technique for cleaning ear wax.

Maureen Grigg, Bulletin Editor.



OMANU REBUS CLUB

March Speaker was **Donna Llewellyn**, one of the **22 full time Coroners** in New Zealand, and a lawyer. In NZ, unlike other countries, there is no formal process to follow up on Coroners' recommendations. Whilst many government departments have very good processes in place it is not mandatory to follow up on recommendations from Coroners, and there is no one accountable to check on what is implemented!

Members enjoyed several outings this month - a small group using their gold card to travel free across **Tauranga** for a little retail therapy and lunch. This was in addition to our regular monthly **Wine & Dine** at a local **Thai Restaurant**. Two car loads of members travelled to **Hamilton Gardens**, which are constantly changing – not only with the seasons, but with new exhibits. Three members took the chance to view the **Wild Life Photographer of the Year Exhibition at the Waikato Museum** - one of the categories being won by NZ photographer Richard Robinson.

Rose Coutts, Secretary.



RED BEACH LADIES' REBUS CLUB

KAIPARA RIVER CRUISE, 22 MARCH.



Together with a group of ladies from the Whangaparaoa Friendship Club, 31 members thoroughly enjoyed a leisurely cruise on a warm, sunny autumn day along the **Kaipara River**, past a fleet of launches and sail boats lining the riverbank, winding through a maze of mangroves and regenerating bush while we tucked into morning tea, followed by a packed lunch and listened to the skipper's interesting commentary about the history of the area and the magnificent giant kauri trees that once grew there in abundance. A great day out.

Bobbie Wakenell, Newsletter Editor.

Good wine and good laughs: the perfect combo when enjoying a tippie or two with friends. Here are a few quirky quotes to accompany your glass of wine, uncork the laughs and put you on cloud wine – oops, nine! Grape minds think alike. Que Syrah Syrah!

- In victory you deserve Champagne; in defeat you need it. Napoleon Bonaparte.
- Wine improves with age; the older I get the better I like it. Anonymous.
- I cook with wine; sometimes I even add it to the food. W C Fields.
- The discovery of a wine is of greater momentum than the discovery of a constellation. The universe is too full of stars. Benjamin Franklin.
- Men are like wine; some turn to vinegar, but most improve with age. Pope John XXIII.
- Penicillin cures, but wine makes you happy. Alexander Fleming.
- Wine is bottled poetry. Robert Louis Stevenson.
- A meal without wine is like a day without sunshine. Jean Anthelme Brillat-Savarin.



WOMEN'S REBUS CLUB OF WAIKANAE

Speaker for April was Jackie Dunne: Representing the **Breast Cancer Foundation**, Jackie gave a most informative and 'no holds barred' presentation which covered many facts about breast cancer, leaving us with the message that we should all be self-checking regularly. In New Zealand 3,500 women and 25 men are diagnosed with breast cancer each year. Alcohol over one drink per day, overweight and family history are all risk factors. In Jackie's personal journey, she said she had to learn whole new languages relating to chemotherapy and radiation. One of the side effects of chemo is 'brain fog' which meant she couldn't remember how to turn on the computer or drive a car. Jackie showed us the implants available, costing \$500 each, supplied by the "Breast Cancer Foundation". May is breast cancer awareness month, with many opportunities to attend "**Pink Ribbon**" functions.

Mary Paddock, Newsletter Editor – thank you Mary. Ed.

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

FITZHERBERT REBUS CLUB INC.

John Fowke JP, a retired lawyer with a wide variety of interests, is the CEO of the **MASH Charitable Trust** (Mental Health and Addiction Services). He gave us a great insight into the work this organisation does in coordinating support for the people they help. They are in 72 locations from Napier to Wellington, supporting 2500 people and have 680 staff. There are day care centres with food and showers, respite care homes along with education support and help with the problems of everyday living.

Listening to people and what they need is important to this organisation with support not replacement being paramount. MASH is supported by many other government and private agencies to coordinate help for people with problems.
Karen Carter, Secretary.

REBUS CLUB OF GULF HARBOUR

The Guest Speaker in April was **Anton Martin, (R)** who amazed us all with his address entitled **From Sandhurst to Gulf Harbour**. As a young man leaving university in England, and a confessed Yuppy, he set about making his fortune in the banking world, but gave most of the credit for his success to his years in the Army, which gave him the professional and ethical background to forge his career. A graduate programme with **Lloyd’s Bank** led to positions in several other international banks. After 9/11 the family decided to move to NZ.



Twelve members of the **CBD Explorers Group** enjoyed their day out on 27th April, at the Auckland Art Gallery Exhibition: **“Light from Tate: 1700’s to Now”** exploring the way light has been used in artwork over the centuries. One particular feature was puzzling to a few!

Thirty-four members of the **Dine Out Group** met for dinner at the recently opened **Mainsail Restaurant** in Gulf Harbour, good food, good company, and lots of chatter. Thank you, George. *J McIntosh, Newsletter Editor.*

That is all I have for you this month – I hope I have not omitted anybody – they are all important – and many thanks for your contributions, 26 this month, about 50% of affiliated clubs.

I am looking forward to the AGM in Wanganui next week, and hope to catch up with folk I meet only once a year (Covid permitting). The number of registrations is slightly down on last year’s figures. But I suppose we should not complain about playing second-fiddle to the coronation of Their Majesties. My invitation must still be in the post!



*Jean,
Editor, Rebus Club News.*



This lady comes from a generation that knows how to enjoy the moment



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