



REBUS CLUB NEWS

February 2024

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Welcome to the February edition of Rebus Club News. Yes, I am still here as Editor, and not a murmur from anyone willing to carry the RCN baton into the future. I know from much feedback (she said modestly) that many clubs look forward to reading the monthly news from around the country, however, it is time for somebody else to step up for the next exciting phase of Rebus.

Plans are afoot for a new Name Awareness Program in the form of branded hats, visors and caps, an initiative from new Board Member, Garth Dutton. It is intended they should be ready for viewing at the AGM in Mount Maunganui in May. This may be just the shot-in-the-arm your own club needs – it pays to advertise! I know that Walking Groups are often asked ‘who they are’ when out getting their exercise fix. Soon you will all be able to advertise your own Club and Rebus NZ Inc. whilst protecting yourself from the sun. Simple really, a win-win situation.

A note to the gardeners amongst us: this year I have grown “Siberian” tomatoes (the seed were sent because they ran out of the ones I ordered). Hallelujah, what a bumper crop of juicy, sweet fruit. The suppliers say they will do well in winter in NZ, as they need only a few degrees above freezing. So, I have bought extra seed to germinate for the Sales Table for a winter crop – watch this space. And now, what you have been waiting for – Club News.

REBUS CLUB CAMBRIDGE



Left: At the December meeting, a presentation was made to **Margaret Carver**, in appreciation of her work as the Club’s Almoner. Right: **Mary Cannons and President Steve** cut the wonderful Rebus Christmas cake at the December meeting.

Thanks to Liz for the photos.

Steve O’Sullivan, President.



REBUS CLUB OF RIVERSIDE HAMILTON



Guest Speaker: Peter Carr received the QSM for his services to the community in the New Years Honours. He was President of the Retirement Villages Residents of New Zealand between 2020 and 2022, serving 45,000 residents of retirement villages in New Zealand. Right: The Tramping Group at the **Avantidrome** to Hooker Road.



Steve O’Sullivan, Bulletin Editor.

**When it comes to plastic surgery and sushi,
never be attracted by a bargain.”** Graham Norton.

TAUPO MOANA REBUS CLUB



New member **Sylvia Churchman** was inducted and warmly welcomed at the January Meeting.

10-Minute Speaker was **Peter Fage**, who shared with us one of his life's adventures, when as a Boy Scout aged 13, he was one of the NZ contingent of 106 Scouts and 32 Leaders, travelling to the World Jamboree in England.

HAWAII 51. 51 eager members, suitably dressed for the occasion, descended on Mary Lockwood's lovely property just out from Taupo. Mary and Secretary Tina had done a lot of preparation: tables festooned with Lei's, the garage turned into a Food Hall, two tables laden with various salads, new potatoes drizzled with butter, bread rolls, sausages, and meat patties. Judges selected the best dressed male and female costume. The event was a huge success – different theme next year.

Christine Bailey, Bulletin Editor.



THAMES BONANZA REBUS CLUB

A wonderful Christmas Luncheon was held in December with lots of fun and laughter.

Our enthusiastic Committee met in January to get 2024 under way. Committee Meetings are hosted by each of its members, and the photo is a sample of our morning tea. Our Committee Meetings are little Think Tanks, and we all participate and help with all our activities.

Murray Newby.



OMANU REBUS CLUB



On Sunday 21 January, 23 of our members enjoyed a very pleasant afternoon at the home of **Adrienne and Graeme Wilson**.

Everyone contributed to a potluck meal and the weather was very kind to us.

Many thanks to all those who helped make this gathering so enjoyable.

Adrienne Wilson, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF FOXTON



Sixty Rebus members gathered in December at the Manawatu Marine Boating Club. In the play, narrated by Dereley, three wise women, well not all that wise really, (Heather, Jill, and Derek), search for the new king. On the way, they were led by, and I quote– 'a very bright and quite sexy star Brian', who, it became obvious, had no real sense of direction. However, they stumbled across a palace, (not the right one), and are greeted by The Lord Chamberpot, AKA Lord Potty or Barry. Finally, the Star realised his role in the whole historical event and settled due east. Well, they didn't actually find the new king, but they did stumble upon 'The New King's Inn'. A great second best. The Innkeeper was Lord Potty's identical twin brother. What a coincidence! This fiasco was followed by Santa delivering gifts and then we all enjoyed a delicious Christmas lunch. *Dereley Barry, Newsletter Editor.*

'Failure is success in progress.' Albert Einstein.

REBUS WAIHEKE ISLAND Mini Speaker was Elizabeth Taylor who grew up on the Thames coast and now lives on Waiheke. Whilst walking along the beach she found an artistic voice that came in the form of driftwood and shells, initially picking up pieces and putting them in her pockets. A friend gave her an old table and she started making patterns with her treasure; plywood is her paper, and a glue stick her pen. Her first piece she named “**Back to the Beach**”. When Liz finds paua or kina she feels that she has hit the jackpot. She never takes a shell that has something living in it. She offered her work to **The Spirit of Waiheke Children’s Charitable Foundation** who arranged an exhibition at **Tantalus** which raised over \$35,000 for the charity helping underprivileged children on the island. Liz said that everything she collects is free, and giving to charity helps children fulfil their potential. *Tania Sweet, Newsletter Editor.*

WEST AUCKLAND MEN’S REBUS CLUB



Neil Castle, Club Speaker. In the heart of Westmere, I grew up with two inseparable companions, the Cash brothers, Alan and Peter. They were regulars on Queen Street, living life on the wild side after work hours. My family, in contrast, was the epitome of tranquillity and propriety, where alcohol was a stranger. One day, Alan and Peter announced their plans to move to Canada. The idea seemed

radical to me. On their last night in New Zealand, as I watched them pack their suitcases, I was inspired. If they could embark on such an adventure, why couldn’t I? The very next day, I visited the Union Steam Ship company to book my passage. Due to the country’s shortage of overseas funds, I had to wait 12 months and migrate rather than simply holidaying. And so, I did. I secured my passport, migrated, and found myself in Vancouver. Finding a job was my next challenge. I approached the local union, armed with my membership card from the Bricklayers Union in New Zealand. As luck would have it, they had a job opening at the northern end of Vancouver Island. My task was to construct a chimney for a large boiler.



My friends, Alan and Peter, had moved to Canada a year before me. They had settled in Toronto with two other blokes from Auckland. Life with the Cash boys was a constant celebration with more than a fair share of alcohol. We often hosted dinner parties, inviting South Africans and Aussies over. Moving to Canada was the beginning of many marvellous overseas adventures for me, thanks to meeting the Cash brothers.

Vince Middeldorp, Secretary.

RED BEACH LADIES’ REBUS CLUB

CHRISTMAS LUNCH AT RED BEACH SURF LIFESAVING CLUB



There was a great turnout of members and partners, enjoying fine food, wine and camaraderie at our Christmas lunch last November.

Bobbie Wakenell, Newsletter Editor.

**Just because it pops into my head,
does not mean it should come out of my mouth.**

REBUS CLUB OREWA



Christmas Luncheon 2023, celebrated at Red Beach Surf Club.



Maureen Grigg, Bulletin Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF WHANGAMATA

Our Christmas Dinner function was held at the Whangamata Club with the local ukulele group the Surfing Ukes providing the entertainment.



Wednesday 7th February was our annual BBQ at Williamson Park. We chose to hold this in early February in the hope we might get some nice fine weather. Either by

luck or good management that is what occurred and the sausages from the local butcher were much appreciated along with all the other lovely food people provided.



Leyden Baker, Bulletin Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF MANAWATU



Club member, accomplished speaker, **Blanche Lauridsen**, captured our attention with her personal story. Among other things Blanche has served as chaplain for several large organisations, but she talked mainly about her childhood as one of nine children on a farm up the Waitotara valley. We learnt about a historic Māori fort on their farm, her schooling and her developing faith. We would love to hear more from Blanche!

Right: Our **Rebus Christmas Party** was enlivened with **President Fred's** conjuring tricks. *Margie Comrie, Newsletter Editor.*



WAIKANAE MILLENNIUM REBUS CLUB INC.

President Bruce Scott welcomed **Charlie Metcalf** to the Club. He was proposed for membership by his wife Jan.



When the Waikanae Combined Rebus Club closed down 18 members applied to join our Club. Those who attended our meeting (pictured above right) were welcomed by President Bruce and then we had a special afternoon tea.



(Right) 24 folk attended a most enjoyable **Barbecue Picnic at Queen Elizabeth Park**. The meat patties and sausages were cooked to perfection and with the trimmings made for tasty burgers. *David Goggin, Newsletter Editor.*

SOUTH WAIRARAPA REBUS CLUB

The South Wairarapa Rebus Club celebrated its end of financial year and the beginning of 2024 with a garden party at Dave Woodhams' home in Martinborough on 26 January. The weather was obliging; it was a very pleasant opportunity for longer chats than at our monthly meetings, particularly with our new members. Our next meeting is our AGM on 23 February. With several new members joining recently, the Club moves forward into the New Year with confidence. *David Woodhams, Newsletter Editor.*

WOMEN'S REBUS CLUB OF WAIKANAE



Pippa Hinton was very informative about the goals and systems associated with **Kaibosh**, the food rescue organisation which collects food from supermarkets and other sources, then redistributes it to groups and individuals in need. Their vision is zero food poverty and zero food waste. With the food available from Kaibosh, and that donated by church members and others, Pippa runs '**Friday Food Share**' in Waikanae. Food boxes can be collected without any "hard" questions being asked, and as often as needed to preserve the dignity of recipients, feeding around 55 families or individuals. These contain meat, soup, pasta, potatoes, vegetables, tinned fish and fruit, coffee and tea. *Mary Paddock, Newsletter Editor.*

REBUS CLUB OF HIBISCUS COAST

Our December **Guest Speaker was Neil Castle** who addressed us about the restoration of **Dacre Cottage**, a small brick cottage built beside the beach in Weiti around 1855 by Ranulph Dacre. His sons farmed the property, and the original bricks arrived as ballast from Australia. In 1984 Neil and his partner were approached by Amalgamated Brick & Tile [New Lynn] to rebuild the cottage which was in a very poor state. The cottage remains in a good condition and is now maintained on a regular basis by volunteers.



Our **Christmas Luncheon** was held at the **Whangaparaoa Golf Club** on 7th December. Sixty-nine members and spouses/partners attended a very tasty buffet lunch. The bar was open and the company pleasant. We continue to ramble every Monday. The photo right proves that even old-timers are susceptible to the "charms" of Maccas. *Paul Robinson Secretary/Editor.*



Chinese New Year 2024 began on February 10.

It is the Year of the Dragon.

Lucky numbers 6 and 8.

REBUS CLUB OF KHANDALLAH

Advantages of being on the Committee

Our Vice President, Judy Whiteside, was surprised this year to discover how much she's enjoying being on the Rebus Committee, and she's keen to encourage others to get involved.

- You get to know many people and their names, making socialising more enjoyable.
- Yes, it might take you a bit out of your comfort zone, but people are very forgiving.
- It is stimulating and good for the brain. It is mentally and physically energising, possibly adding many good years to your life.
- You will be doing a service for the club and will gain respect from others for what you are doing. "It gives you a new lease of life!"
Sharon Major, Newsletter Editor.

**"You'll never get bored when you try something new.
There's really no limit to what you can do." Dr Seuss.**

REBUS CLUB OF PALMERSTON NORTH

The whole of our February meeting was a celebration of 40 years since the founding of our club on 7 February 1984. Formed as a Probus Club, initially for men, it was the first of its kind in the Manawatu region and the 14th Probus Club in NZ. The club opened to women members in 2013. In 2014, our affiliation changed from Probus South Pacific to Probus NZ (which became Fellowship NZ) and then, in 2016, to Rebus NZ Inc. Sue Eckworth, Secretary of Rebus NZ, who is also Secretary of our club and its first woman president, **presented President Allan Inglis with a 40-year Attainment Certificate**. A delectable cake was cut by former President and Secretary Bryan Cooke and his wife Jeanette. Our longest-standing member (34 years) Dave Marshall and our first woman member, Anne Halford



addressed the meeting. A brief history of the club was presented, and many memories were kindled



by photographs of a wide range of activities over the years. A special Anniversary Lunch was enjoyed at the Manawatu Golf Club.
Dean Halford, Newsletter Editor.

TAURANGA CENTRAL LADIES' REBUS CLUB

Our **Guest Speaker** for the 20th February meeting was **Betty Woodcock**, who spoke on her research into the Memorial trees planted on the District High School grounds, now the **Tauranga Boys High School**. The beautiful **Totara trees**, which are a feature of the school grounds today, commemorate the 41 boys lost in WWII. Betty did extensive research over 28 years, travelling to meet families, and visit museums to collate her information. She had found photos of all 41 and had written an article on each. We had to admire her dedication to the tribute to those boys. Betty, who is 91yrs old, said it was the first time she had spoken in front of a group. It is never too late to start!!



Photo: Sue Knightly, Betty Woodcock, Barbara Fincham.

Barbara Fincham, Co. Secretary.

**Wouldn't it be great if we could put *ourselves* in the dryer for a short time,
and come out wrinkle free and two sizes smaller.**

REBUS CLUB OF GULF HARBOUR



At the February meeting, **Club Speaker was Colin Hewertson** who gave an entertaining account of the first 25 years of his life. Born in Lancaster, UK, he came to NZ working for Fletcher Building, and subsequently met his wife, Nancy, who is a member of Committee.

The **Guest Speaker was Pauline Bascik** who has the distinction of being the first female long-haul truck driver

in NZ. She and her husband started business In Christchurch in 1971, and now have several depots across the length of NZ. Pauline became a JP in her 30s, and also learned to fly, after receiving an aeroplane for her birthday. Her son now runs the business, following the earlier death of her husband. She related many interesting and challenging experiences associated with a woman breaking into what was a male dominated industry.

J. McIntosh, Newsletter Editor.



REBUS CLUB OF WANGANUI

Bason Botanic Gardens. An amazing fun filled day out, with a genuinely Caring and Sharing group of people.



Jaqui, Eileen, Robyn



Sue, Glennis, Aileen



Jim, Tony, Nola

Friends are the family you choose.

Paerau Taylor, Newsletter Editor.

KOWHAI REBUS CLUB OF BETHLEHEM



Last Thursday 16 members met at the **Te Puna Cider Factorie** for lunch. The restaurant was full of people. A pleasant drive there not having to stop for road works. Apparently, a favourite place for cyclists to stop while biking from Omokoroa to Wairoa River and beyond.

Marie Mabey, Newsletter Editor.

Do not look sad when I die, but smile that I have lived.

COMBINED REBUS CLUB OF PARAPARAUMU BEACH INC.

Wine Tasting Group: We held our first Wine Tasting for 2024 on Wednesday 21st at Midlands Retirement Village Recreation Centre with an enthusiastic 39 members attending. We tasted the following wines purchased from New World Supermarket. A Sauvignon Blanc from Mount Brown Estates, North Canterbury; a Pinot Gris from Montford Estate, Marlborough; a Chardonnay called Latitude from Stoneleigh Marlborough; a lovely Rose' from Ha Ha Hawkes Bay. Also, two wines purchased from Liquorland. A Riesling from Te Pa Marlborough, and finally an outstanding Pinot Noir from Black Cottage Central Otago. All wines were of Gold Medal standard and very well received by the Group.



John Calman, Group Convenor.

REBUS CLUB OF UPPER HUTT



President Malcolm Stone inducted two new members, **Margaret Simmons** who was born in Christchurch, and **Bruce Austin**, who was born in Alexandra. Welcome to you both.

Mayor Wayne Guppy spoke about the process of working through the Long-Term Plan and issues the council faces. He said that the current 10-year plan is the hardest yet. He spoke about the proposed new housing developments in Totara Park, St Pats, and Pinehaven. He is sure that at some stage in the future discussion will once more take place around amalgamation of the Wellington region. He was introduced and thanked by Chris Carlson.



Alex Attewell, Bulletin Editor.

WAITAKERE COMBINED REBUS CLUB

2024 was started off with a general get together, a shared morning tea, and stories of our festive season activities. For February our Speaker was **Phil-Sai-Louie** who has addressed us before, and he always keeps us interested.

This month was about "The Way we Were", which brought back many memories and laughs. Does anyone remember Karitane Nurses and the Karitane Yellow saying. This had members telling lots of stories.

Also, this month we welcomed **Garth Dutton (Deputy Chairman, Rebus NZ Inc.)** who came to introduce himself. We much appreciated his presence.

Phyllis Greenland.

FITZHERBERT REBUS CLUB INC.



President Libby presented **Bev Wallace** with a **Certificate of Appreciation**. Bev has provided the Club with six years of dedicated work from 2017-2022.

Professor Glenn Banks spoke to us of his work as a geographical consultant. He has worked all over the world but spoke mainly of the continuing mining work in Papua New Guinea, a place he really loves. The highlands of PNG have large deposits of gold and the 3rd largest mine in the world producing gold and copper. This is causing environmental concerns, but work is being done to fix this. Glenn is also studying the geography of wine production and the effects that soil and climate have on the vines. The weather in Thailand is very hot and humid and Glenn has worked with wineries there to adapt the plants to the conditions. Professor Banks is passionate about his career – he really loves his work.

Karen Carter, Secretary.

**My face in the mirror isn't wrinkled or drawn.
My house isn't dirty - the cobwebs are gone!
My garden looks lovely, and so does my lawn.
I think I might never put my glasses back on.**

PUKENAMU REBUS CLUB INC.

Club Speaker Rosalie Purdy and her late husband visited China eight years ago with Wendy Wu Tours. Shanghai is the Manhattan of China, with its beautiful buildings and high-end fashion stores. The one-child policy has been relaxed. City people live in apartments and exercise in the numerous parks. It is a cashless society with every transaction made on your phone. They were told not to mention the 1989 student uprising when the army moved tanks onto Tiananmen Square. In a reserve they saw two giant pandas with their curved claws for climbing and tearing bamboo. They also visited Xian where, in 1974, the Terracotta Warriors (covering 50sq.km) were found by a farmer. 2,000 years ago, the first emperor of the Qin Dynasty ordered that 8,000 life-size figures of warriors, horses and chariots be buried for his protection in the afterlife.



Above: photos from the December mystery trip. Another is planned for February.

Helen Goldfinch, Editor.

HOKOWHITU REBUS CLUB INC.



Jo Davies, Co-ordinator of "English Language Partners" who spoke to our February Meeting, is very pleased to have received two or three volunteers from our club. She would very much like any other willing members to get in touch with her.

(Right): What a great day we had last Thursday! Here are some happy travellers, enjoying a leisurely lunch at **Molen Café in Foxton**. The weather was perfect, and everyone just enjoyed being out and about with friends. A big thank you to the drivers and to Jocelyn, Marlene and Janet who organised the route and drew up the questions to keep us alert.



Joan Letts, Newsletter Editor.

And so ends the February edition of Rebus Club News. 28 contributors this month – thanks for your news. If you are your Club's newsletter/bulletin editor, and would like to go 'national', give me a call on **09 424 7115** so I can answer any questions you may have about the position of Rebus Club News Editor. It is an enjoyable job, and you will be in contact with many new friends. If you need any help, I will be able to assist.

It has been brought to our attention that those clubs similar to our own, who are still affiliated to Australia, are this year having to pay \$10 per member in affiliation fees, whilst Rebus' fees remain at \$2.75. I know that many of our members have maintained contact with friends in similar clubs, and we feel that now would be an opportune time to raise this subject with them, before their club is committed to the new exorbitant amount.

If you have such friends, perhaps you might mention the subject to them, maybe forward a copy of Rebus Club News, and/or send to Rebus any email/contact details so Rebus Administration may approach them. Time is of the essence as most clubs will be holding their AGM very soon. We thank you for your assistance. Till next month,



*Jean,
Editor, Rebus Club News.*