



REBUS CLUB NEWS

March 2024

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On a glorious autumn morning, welcome to Rebus Club News. March is a busy month in our family – a wedding anniversary, two birthdays, and this week we said farewell to an old friend, when we should have been celebrating her 97th birthday. **Nothing is for every, enjoy every day!** Easter is almost upon us, then soon it will be May.

AGM This is a reminder that **Rebus NZ Inc. will be holding its AGM in Mount Maunganui from 3rd to 5th May.** Have you registered yet? Just click on this link to register; <https://form.jotform.com/230416675235859> If you wish to lodge any **Remit or Motion**, please note that the closing date will be **Saturday 6th April 2024**. Please give thought to any matter which you wish to be considered for inclusion in the AGM Agenda and send to rebusnzsecretary2@gmail.com

Omanu Rebus Club is hosting the event, and they have compiled a very interesting list of activities for delegates. A copy of the program can be viewed in the attachment accompanying this Newsletter. If you have not been to any of our previous AGMs, you don't know what you are missing – it is a wonderful opportunity to meet with Board Members and other Rebus members from around the country, and enjoy a couple of days' break away before winter arrives. Any questions? Email me as above.

EDITOR I am delighted to advise that one of our newsletter/bulletin editors has put up his hand to take over the editorship of Rebus Club News. The handover will take place when his current commitments have run their course, so I have agreed to remain in this position until then. Judging by the professional look of his own productions, I am confident Club News will continue to bring you the information and amusement you enjoy each month. Well, that's my news for this month, now for YOUR news – and plenty of Easter reading if the weather keeps you at home.

REBUS CLUB OF HAMILTON



On 7th February a group of men ventured out to **Modern Building Solutions in Ngaruawahia**, the builders of prefabricated small/tiny homes. We had a guided tour of the site lead by the General Manager. It was a great educational trip. The buildings come highly recommended by the group. Following the tour we enjoyed lunch at the **Breaking Bread Cafe** in town.



Our 2024 Committee L-R: Marlene Dons, Helen Burnie, Karen Devoy, Kevin Knight, Jennine Duffell, Jill Marshall, Robert Patrick (Past Pres.), Leonie Murray, Lew Jowsey, Kath Kenrick. *Kath Kenrick, Bulletin Editor.*

TAUPO MOANA REBUS CLUB



February Outing: 30 members attended, and 23 tried their hand at the skills of lawn bowling--- not as easy or as simple as it seems. Getting the right bias was a challenge, some bowled too slow and others too fast, but lots of laughter as they all enjoyed the afternoon out on a beautiful day. All getting encouragement from the 7 spectators. No winners or losers just Rebus friends having fun together.

March Outing: 33 Rebus members boarded a luxury bus for a trip down to the mountain, enjoying the beautiful scenery en-route.

The ride in the **Skywaka** up the mountain was so quiet and peaceful. No snow, but many beautiful, coloured rocks, plus Alpine vegetation everywhere, all waiting for the big snow dump to cover them for the next big ski season.

It was a bit chilly but that's to be expected. When we disembarked at the top cafe/restaurant we thought we had landed in heaven, white cloud covered the windows. As we ate the cloud lifted and the sun came out - and so did the cameras and devices to capture the perfect photo. A great time for socialising in a setting different from the monthly meeting.

Christine Bailey, Newsletter Editor



OMANU REBUS CLUB

Our last speaker, Morag Hughson, was very interesting and gave us many ideas about how to avoid some of the huge costs of genealogy. She left us with a very useful website which those of you who are interested might like to try: <http://unstmorag.wordpress.com>. She can also be contacted on moraghughson@hotmail.com. Judging by the number of hands that went up at the meeting, many of us have already dabbled in family history. She suggested our local libraries are an excellent resource.

Rose Coutts, Secretary.

REBUS CLUB OREWA



February Guest Speaker was Wendy Hampton, Lawyer, who gave us a very informative talk on “**Estate Planning**” advising us of the pitfalls of not getting our wishes down correctly and in the correct manner. She has written a very good Estate Planning Guide in which you can enter all your personal information, business details, assets, bank accounts and wishes for money and gifts to your family and friends, without them having to search through piles of documents. This can then be a record for family or lawyers to refer to in the event of death.

Our **March Guest Speaker was Garth Dutton, Retired Police Officer, President Rebus Club Hibiscus Coast and Deputy Chair**

Rebus NZ Inc. Garth joined the Police in 1962. He gave us an interesting insight into his career and events he was involved in during his 50-year career. He showed us the various helmets, cap, whistle and handcuffs he used.

Maureen Grigg, Bulletin Editor.



REBUS WAIHEKE ISLAND



The Main Speaker was Wayne McIntosh, Head of Electron Reusability at Rocket Lab. He said that Peter Beck went to America as a young man, and they laughed at him. He was obsessed with rocketry from a young age. He had a goal, and shares his wealth, the more successful the company, the more successful the staff. He sends rockets into space to improve life on earth, e.g. communication and tracking weather conditions. Every rocket has a kiwi on it. Wayne told us how Peter Beck empowers people and has a strong team. It is the second most frequently used launcher in the world with 5 mission control centres, one at **Mt Wellington**, two at **Mahia** and one in **Virginia USA**. It has had to be registered as a U.S. company, NASA being its biggest supporter. There are 1700 satellites in orbit, 14 interplanetary lunar missions and 500 satellites to be launched. Rocket Lab customers are 50% commercial, 20% civil (universities, etc.) and 30% defence

(these are launched out of USA and unarmed). All communications are controlled, and the staff strictly vetted. Auckland is the main centre, **Mercer** the test facility and **Mahia** the launch site. Rocket Lab has bought companies which complement them, like a solar panel company and also a carbon fibre company in Warkworth. They now recycle rockets which are waterproof. They go from the atmosphere to space and back to the atmosphere and are then picked up at sea and processed immediately to flush out the sea water. Some hardware has flown for the second and third time. It takes 90 minutes for a rocket to orbit the earth.

Tania Sweet, Newsletter Editor.

Count your age by friends, not years.

Count your life by smiles, not tears. John Lennon

REBUS CLUB OF RIVERSIDE HAMILTON



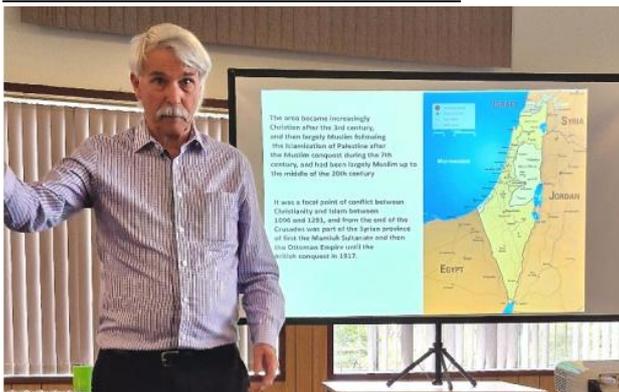
At the February meeting, four new members were inducted into the club:

Kath Greenwood, Lorna Brown, John Hart and Michelle De Luen.

**We can complain because rose bushes have thorns,
or we can rejoice because thorn bushes have roses. Abraham Lincoln**

Steve O'Sullivan, Bulletin Editor.

WEST AUCKLAND MEN'S REBUS CLUB



Navigating the Holy Land: Insights from an unconventional tour guide, Guest Speaker Mark Beale.

As the vicar of St. Elizabeth's in Clendon, my journey began when a tourist company, impressed by my biblical and historical knowledge, asked me to lead a tour to the Holy Land and then to Oberammergau in Germany for the passion play. One of the most striking aspects of leading a tour through Israel was the requirement to have an Israeli guide. While our guide was a lovely person, I couldn't help but notice the propaganda woven into her narratives. The history of the region we now know as Israel and Palestine is a complex tapestry of empires, wars, and

political movements. The last major empire to control this area, known as the Levant, was the Ottoman Empire. This vast empire encompassed Syria, Lebanon, Cyprus, Egypt, Turkey, Jordan, and Palestine. During my travels, I experienced first-hand the palpable tensions that permeate the region. Crossing into the West Bank and engaging in late-night conversations with the Palestinian people in cafes, I could feel the angst, the hatred, and the resentment. The irrigation practices in the region, while beneficial for agriculture, are causing problems. They're killing the Dead Sea because the water isn't flowing in as it should. One of the most spiritual moments of my trip was at the Wailing Wall. Here, people write down the name of the person they're praying for on a piece of paper, fold it up, and push it into the cracks of the wall. I did this for my daughter-in-law Ruth, who had been diagnosed with MS. When I returned to New Zealand, I found out that Ruth had been completely cleared of her condition. Whether my prayer at the Wailing Wall had anything to do with it or not, it was a meaningful moment for me.

Vince Middeldorp, Secretary.

RED BEACH LADIES' REBUS CLUB

A small group of members thoroughly enjoyed lunch at **Artie's Café** in the Hibiscus Coast cinema complex on 23 February followed by a special viewing of the **KINKY BOOTS** musical. Filmed before a packed live audience at the **Adelphi Theatre in London's West End**, it was hilarious and had the audience on their feet, including us Rebus ladies pictured below. Don't miss it!

Bobbie Wakenell, Newsletter Editor.



My choice early in life was either to be a piano player in a warehouse or a politician.

To tell the truth, there's hardly a difference. Harry S Truman, 33rd President of the USA.

REBUS CLUB OF PETONE



John Brown was our **Speaker** today. He was on the pilot boat during the **Wahine Storm**. A pilot takes over control of the ship when berthing. That day John had a 5.30 a.m. start. He heard the ferry had hit Barrett's Reef but was assured by the captain that everything was under control. At 7.30 the ferry was off the reef and had dropped both anchors, but with a huge hole in the side. The captain kept saying nothing was wrong. Finally at 1.15pm it was decided to abandon the ferry. Only one lifeboat had an engine. The captain should have entered the harbour at full speed instead of reducing the speed of the ferry. He should also have used the system to stop the rolling of the boat. The swell at the time was 30 knots. A cricket team that was on board have decided to write a book about the day, 10th April 1968. *Sharyn Bowen.*

WAITAKERE COMBINED REBUS CLUB

Our club joined together with the **West Auckland Men's Club** and friends for a trip on the scow, **Jane Gifford**, which is moored at **Warkworth**. The weather cleared when we got to Warkworth, and we had a lovely one-and-a-half-hour cruise on the river. Our **Captain was the Secretary of the Warkworth Rebus Men's Club**, so it was good to have a talk with him. Restoration of the Jane Gifford cost \$1million.

Our regular coffee mornings are proving to be an excellent way of socialising and getting to know fellow members better.

Phyllis Greenland.



WAIKANAE MILLENNIUM REBUS CLUB INC.



Bruce Scott (IPP) congratulates **Liz Thevenard** on her election as the Club's President for the year 2024/25.



Photo Right: **The Committee**, from left: Bruce Scott (IPP), Ann Harkness (Secretary), David Goggin, Liz Thevenard (President), Judith Binning, Cathy Mitchell, David Funnell (Treasurer/Vice President). *Absent:* Shirley Clarke, Robert Johnson. (What a good-looking lineup, Liz. Ed.) *David Goggin, Newsletter Editor.*

THAMES BONANZA REBUS CLUB



We had a wonderful Day Trip to **Pat's Begonia Farm** on the **Hauraki Plains near Hikutaia**. The range of colour and style of the Begonias were outstanding, and we filled up the car boots with the plants we bought. Pat was smiling with the number of sales she had made. We went on to **Paeroa** and had a great lunch at **The Refinery**.

Murray Newby, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF PALMERSTON NORTH

Our recent AGM was well attended, concluding with a lunch enjoyed by many of us at **Rosie O'Grady's Irish Pub**. A change of officers saw **Allan Inglis** (left in photo) hand over the President's chain of office to **Keith Eckworth**. Adrian Turner retired from the position of Treasurer after 9 years of meticulous service.



CAR RALLY, 21st February 2024. Winning Team, Bob and Desma Isles, Sue and Keith Eckworth.



Rally organisers, Alan Inglis and Jim Walker.

Dean Halford, Newsletter Editor.

SOUTH WAIRARAPA REBUS CLUB

Our meeting on 23 February was our AGM. **John Reeve of Carterton** was elected as President, inheriting the full committee from 2023. The club unanimously supported an increase in the annual subscription from \$25 to \$30. This only the second time since our founding in 1990 that it has been raised – something of a record. With several new members joining recently, the Club moves forward into the New Year with confidence.

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

David Woodhams, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF MANAWATU



Polio survivor, **Sonia Blue**, started by describing the current global fight against the scourge of polio. But with no cure for polio, only prevention through vaccination, the heart of her talk was personal. Her journey from a frightened two-year-old in a hospital bed in 1952, through months in a recovery home, from painful operations, to winning ballroom dancing medals, always with the loving support of her family. Sonia now, like thousands of New Zealanders, lives with post-polio syndrome and she discussed the organisations set up to

help them.

The Strolling Group (R) needed their coffees after Margie led them astray in Bill's Bush.

Margie Comrie.



REBUS CLUB OF GULF HARBOUR



At the March AGM, **Verna Harford** handed over the chain of office to incoming **President, Ken Daniels**.

Guest Speaker was **Greg Moyle** whose topic was “**NZ Memorial Museum Trust – Le Quesnoy**”. Greg first visited Le Quesnoy in 1999, a very ordinary little French town. NZ forces had spent from 1916 – 1918 there, trying to liberate the town – not destroy it - but German forces had occupied it for years. The ramparts are 33’ tall, with a moat, designed by **Vauban**, the king’s fortress architect in the



17th Century. But on 4th November 1918 the wall was scaled by **Leslie Averil**, an intelligence officer, using a ladder. 700 Germans surrendered. Greg Moyle wanted a place to commemorate the NZ success as a museum and visitor centre. In 2017 the former Mayor’s home was purchased for \$1.5m. This was a fact-filled talk, and a credit to Greg’s determination to honour our heroes – highly recommended.

J. McIntosh, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF WANGANUI

March Guest Speaker: Pam Phese. We were delighted to welcome Pam back complete with her power point presentation, to tell of the years she taught in ‘Malaysia’ - a very different concept from being a mere tourist. She enjoyed her time there, the people, culture, animals, and embracing the lifestyle. A very interesting presentation.

Wednesday 20th March, Trip to **PALERMO GARDENS. Fordell.** Hosts: Clive & Nikki Higgle.



Paerau Taylor, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF MT HOBSON



The Manukau Cruise

18 members and 9 partners set sail on the Manukau on 12 March. There was the odd sprinkle of rain, but the seas were calm, and two hours quickly passed thanks to an excellent running commentary from the crew pointing out the many features of this deceptively large body of water. Great views of the **NZ Steel Works**, **Waitangi Falls** and **migratory seabirds**. The 30-minute visit to the **Waiuku Museum** itself is a delight. A sumptuous ploughman’s lunch left no one hungry and the coach transfers were on time and comfortable. Many thanks to **Doug Wilson** who – as usual - worked hard behind the scenes to get this organised.

Pat Alley, Newsletter Editor.

These days I get most of my exercise from shaking my head in disbelief.

REBUS CLUB OF HIBISCUS COAST



The Annual General Meeting preceded our club meeting on Tuesday, 5th March. **President Garth** handed the chain of office to the incoming President. The committee for 2024 is: President, **Paul Robinson**: Treasurer, **Bryan Wentworth**:

Committee members:
David Gatland, Steve Waller, Earl Brookbanks, Bill Cobb, and Peter Fava.

(Right) A group of intrepid travellers from Hibiscus Coast visited the **Kauri Museum at Matakoho** on Wednesday, 21st March. It was a fascinating insight to our early history. Put on your must-see list!

Earl Brookbanks, Editor.



AVONDALE LADIES' REBUS CLUB

Short Talk: Rita spoke on her recent visit to the **Waitangi Day** festivities.

Our Guest, Garth Dutton, Deputy Chair of Rebus NZ. gave a short talk of his role, and asked for more volunteers to assist in Board matters. He would also like to see more social interaction between clubs. Currently there are 49 clubs scattered throughout the country, with a total of 3,500 members. *Barbara Douglas, Newsletter Editor.*

Anybody remember this iconic neon sign in Queen Street ?



REBUS CLUB OF MILSON INC.

What a good meeting we had in February with **Terry Young**, who explained and demonstrated **Tai Chi**. I was pleased that so many people took part, as I knew she was going to get our club on their feet. I was a bit worried if that would happen, but it did, you never know how these things will work out.

Margaret Broderick, Secretary.



CAMBRIDGE MEN'S REBUS CLUB



At the Annual General Meeting of the Club held on 20 March, **Alan Wellington** took the chains of office from **Max Norvill** and will serve as President for the next year.



By way of a change, **January was a Brunch Meeting**, courtesy of **Max Norvill**, and members enjoyed a visit to **Hamilton Zoo** on 28th February.

Nigel Salter.

COMBINED REBUS CLUB OF PARAPARAUMU BEACH INC.



Last month's meeting was incredibly interesting with **Adam Richardson from the Reserve Bank** talking about money, the economy, the future of cash and endeavours to bring us back up to date with the rest of the world in some of our banking mechanisms. Adam's talk was wide ranging and informative.

Steve Hutchison, Bulletin Editor.



WOMEN'S REBUS CLUB OF WAIKANAE

March Meeting: Marian Weststrate, Home4All. Home 4 All is a day care home run by Marian and her husband, which caters to people in early stages of dementia, and its vital aims are giving people respect and autonomy over their lives. The concept is based on the Dutch model, run successfully for some time in the Netherlands. The home where this happens is in a country setting with chickens, vegetable, fruit and flower gardens and even a woodworking shed. They cater for up to seven *people* on three days a week, and while any activities are not compulsory, it was clear from the videos that attendees each found something to do which suited their own interests, or maybe even trying something new. Although not compulsory people were encouraged to help with preparation and cleaning up after meals.



Mary Paddock, Newsletter Editor.

PUKENAMU REBUS CLUB INC.



FEBRUARY MYSTERY OUTING - On a warm, fine day 22 members drove for 20 minutes through Fordell, to **Bruce Ardell's** property and his sheds filled with old, beautifully restored cars (**oldest 1926**) and machinery. Later, at **Anna O'Leary's** huge garden in **Whangaehu**, we saw a border of magnificent tall, mostly pink, cleomes. We wandered around, exclaiming with delight whenever we came across yet another of Anna's playful garden arrangements, before we spread out to eat our picnic lunches. Thank you, Maree and Don, for organising such interesting outings.

Helen Goldfinch, Newsletter Editor.

KOWHAI REBUS CLUB OF BETHLEHEM



2024 KOWHAI REBUS COMMITTEE

Left: Colleen Butler, Dorothy Moore, Tony Hopkinson, Jan Worthington, Marie Mabey, Chris Neilson, and **Pauline Hetherington, President.**



Right: Gwen, Marlene, Anne, Florence, and Vivienne enjoyed coffee at the Historic Village recently. *Marie Mabey, Editor.*

REBUS CLUB OF FEILDING



Ruth Beale, Operation Coverup.

Ruth Beale with a blanket and some toys knitted by volunteers to be sent overseas. Also bundles of beanie, scarf, gloves and mittens which are colour coordinated. Usually in dark colours as these people are unable to wash items frequently.

Photo shows **IPP Sherryn Ramsay** thanking **Ruth Beale** for her talk and displaying a blanket.

Lyn Jensen, Editor.

Whew! Twenty-seven contributors this month, and a big thank you to you all for your news. Just a reminder, in case your contribution did not make this edition: I have a policy NOT to include **future events**, because I have learned from bitter experience that if anything can go wrong with plans, it will. So, if your report contains future events, or content relative to your club only, that may be the reason. I am more than happy to include items (and photos) of events which have taken place, so they may be shared around the country.

Progress Report: The "Siberian" Tomato seeds I planted for a "bumper WINTER crop" germinated in five days. By my reckoning I should have seedlings to go on the Sales Table in May. This is just an experiment you understand. Who grows tomatoes outdoors in winter? The summer ones were sweet and juicy, just delicious. Watch this space.



Jean

Editor, Rebus Club News.

Old age is golden, so I've heard said,
But sometimes I wonder as I crawl into bed.
With my ears in a drawer, my teeth in a cup,
My eyes on the table until I wake up.
As sleep dims my vision I say to myself,
Is there anything else I should lay on the shelf?
How do I know my youth is all spent?
My get up and go has got up and went.
But in spite of it all I'm about to grin
And think of the places my get up has been.