



# REBUS CLUB NEWS

May 2025

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May has been a busy month, and what a great time was enjoyed by those attending the Rebus NZ Inc. AGM at Palmerston North. Palmerston North Rebus Club, the hosts, compiled a varied programme for delegates, showcasing their special part of the country. Thank you, Palmy, your efforts were greatly appreciated.



The **2025-26 Board** (L to R) George Tregidga, John McCall, Stephen Becket, Garth Dutton (chairman), Paul Wilkinson, Paerau Taylor-Mosen, Steve O'Sullivan, Janet Larkman. See more photos of the AGM on page 9.

## CAMBRIDGE MENS' REBUS CLUB



Members visited the facility of Action Manufacturing at Te Rapa on 30 April. Action manufactures a range of products, including the assembly of 4 and 6 berth camper vans, and the fit out of ambulances for St Johns, Wellington Free Ambulance as well exporting kits to Queensland.  
*Nigel Salter, Newsletter Editor.*



## REBUS CLUB OF PALMERSTON NORTH

Club Speaker at our May meeting was **Rosalie Heckler** who told us about her wonderful tour of Turkey. Her visit to Gallipoli to participate in the dawn service on ANZAC Day was a moving experience. Cappadocia was captivating with accommodation in 1500-year-old cave houses, and fascinating rock formations viewed from a balloon. "The terrain of Turkey was charmingly rugged and barren."

Guest Speaker **Alan Martin**, member of our club, stressed the importance of preparing for the distribution and preservation of family treasures. He advocated making records of (1) your life story, (2) your ancestry,



(3) the location of your will, and (4) your family treasures, with stories about them, and who will be the beneficiaries. Alan brought many of his family treasures to display to us and related stories about some of his distinguished ancestors.

A group of us visited the Southward Car Museum near Paraparaumu to view the amazing collection of cars and motorcycles stored there. Enthusiasts' wonderland! This was followed by an excellent lunch at Tatum, Manukau. *Dean Halford, Newsletter Editor.*

### WARKWORTH REBUS LADIES' CLUB



In April our speaker was Ugandan PhD student **Shamirah Nabbosa**. She talked about her life and her solo Mum's difficult life in Uganda. Her mother was her inspiration and raised four children, almost alone, all of whom went on to get degrees in education. She herself speaks six languages. She is now working on a PhD at Massey University related to strokes/exercise and nutrition with a focus on stroke prevention.

We held our most successful coffee get together this month at Brick Bay - a unique venue combining a vineyard, sculpture trail, gardens and farm. Thirty ladies attended including four visitors. Lovely to see some of our new members coming along to these events.

*Maryanne Dransfield, Newsletter Editor*



### WEST AUCKLAND MEN'S REBUS CLUB

Our group recently enjoyed a delightful and economical excursion to Waiuku, which boasts a wonderful museum and several charming cafés. We took full advantage of our Gold Cards, travelling by train to Pukekohe and then boarding the 396 bus to Waiuku.



For lunch, members had their choice of venues. Some opted for local cafés while others dined at the historic Kentish Hotel. The meals were

excellent and reasonably priced.

Our April coffee morning at Kreem Cafe was a lively affair, with the bustling cafe packed with customers and staff working tirelessly to keep up. The popularity of this spacious venue never ceases to amaze!



*Suzanne Barrett, Raymond Barrett, Alan Verry, Linda Narayan and Trevor Pollard at the busy Kreem Cafe  
Newsletter editor, Vince Middeldorp*

## REBUS CLUB OREWA



President **Lori Hope** inducted 4 new members at our April meeting. L-R: Diane Stevens, Brian Stevens, Linda Gillett & Paul Gillett.

Our Guest Speaker in April was **Phillippa Pitcher**, Educator for Macular Degeneration NZ. Macular Degeneration NZ is dedicated raising awareness of MD and enhancing the quality of life for people with the condition. Phillippa gave everyone a pack of very interesting information. With an eye self-test chart called an Amsler Grid Test which she suggested we do every week. It's

important to have an optometrist check your eyes every 2 years as they can see any problems. Wear sunglasses, eat healthy diet of oily fish, fresh green leafy veges, fresh fruit. Take supplements as advised by your doctor. Early diagnosis is crucial to prevent vision loss. Find out more at [www.mdnz.org.nz](http://www.mdnz.org.nz).

*Bulletin editor, Maureen Grigg*

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## REBUS WAIHEKE

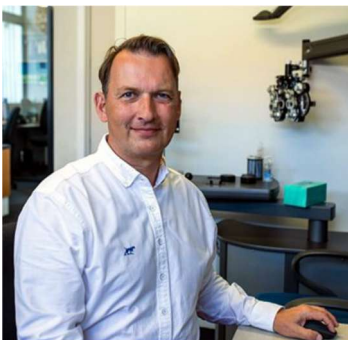
The main speaker was **Mike Breckon** who has worked for the last 40 years as a consulting engineer in developing countries. He started his career in Napier and in 1979 started working overseas in a multi-disciplinary capacity. The objective was to help people, the team included himself as an electrical engineer, environmentalists, social scientists and economists. Mike is a very keen photographer and showed us wonderful photographs of people from the different countries where he has worked.

The mini speaker was **Rhonda Paton** who spoke about and showed us many pictures of the 37th America's Cup in Barcelona which she and her husband, who is a master boat builder, attended for 2 months from 1 September 2024. They watched most of the Louis Vuitton and all the America's Cup races.

*Tania Sweet, Newsletter Editor.*

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## REBUS CLUB OF CAMBRIDGE



Our May guest speaker was **Oliver Svadlenak**. He is an eye surgeon specialising in refractive Laser Vision Correction and other treatments to free patients from the need of glasses. Club member, **Margaret Carver** spoke about her time in Papua New Guinea. She and her husband and son have been travelling there for the past 53 years.

*Steve O'Sullivan, Newsletter Editor.*

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## WAITAKERE COMBINED REBUS CLUB



In November we had Keith from Miranda Bird Sanctuary come and talk to us about the work they are doing with the migrating birds and how they are developing the area. We decided to follow this up with a visit to the Sanctuary, which we did in April. After an introduction from one of the workers, we were able to go to an area where the birds are usually nesting. There were very few birds as most had left already for their long flight to Korea. For lunch we stopped at the famous Kaihua fish/chip shop. **Alex Milligan** from Operatunity has also visited us, telling us how this entertainment got started and their plans for the future. Alex willingly sang us some songs which were really appreciated. - *Phyl Greenland, newsletter editor.*

## REBUS CLUB OF FIELDING

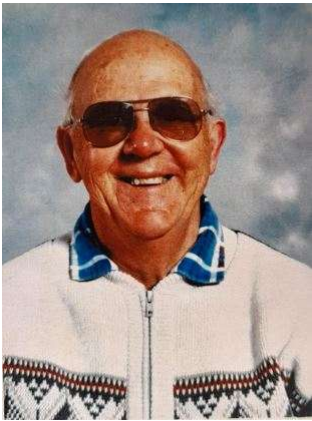


**Navina Clemerson** was our Guest speaker in April. Navina wrote a novel “There was a Garden in Nuremberg” based on family events during the Nazi times in Germany and the persecution of Jews. Navina had power point slides to illustrate various parts of the story. Nuremberg was the centre of Nazi ideology and there was an armament factory nearby, hence the 6,000 bombs that fell in one night, which is so hard to comprehend. All signs, books, anything Jewish was systematically destroyed. Children were evacuated for their safety. A lot of the buildings were beautifully reconstructed; some were rebuilt by the allies.

*Lyn Jensen, Rebus Feilding Sec/Editor*

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## SOUTH WAIRARAPA REBUS CLUB



President John Reeve noted with great sadness the passing of **Ken Hyde** who recently retired down from the club after being one of our very reliable members. Ken had stepped up to several roles in the committee when needed to ensure the club continued to flourish through hard times. Because he had an appointment with an eye specialist in Wellington on the day of Ken’s funeral, he asked editor Dave Woodhams to speak on his behalf. Based on his time as a paramedic, Dave characterised Ken as our First Responder, noting that he had been the first to respond to three opportunities to serve the club, as speaker-liaison officer, treasurer and president, all of them at times of great club need. As president he was a reliable guide through the first Covid lock-down and during our club’s recovery from it afterwards including the celebration of our 30th anniversary in

2020. Dave offered sincere condolences to Nola and family and expressed our deep appreciation of all Ken and Nola had done for the club over the years.

*David Woodhams, newsletter editor.*

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## FITZHERBERT REBUS CLUB INC

A very informative recounting of the formation of the Flying Doctor Service in outback Australia was



presented by our own Australian **Richard Scott**. Many people were involved in establishing parts of this total service: providing and flying the aircraft, establishing radio contact starting with pedal power and upgrading to modern communications, as well as the medical staff and all the people involved in running this service. The service covers over 7 million sq miles and runs a health service to rural and remote areas. The RAFDS is based in Alice Springs and treats all who need it. John Flynn, a Moderator of the Presbyterian Church had a large, long-lasting influence on the formation and organisation of this service. He passed away from cancer in 1951,

aged 71. Many people in outback Australia owe their lives to the Flying Doctor Service. Thank you, Richard.

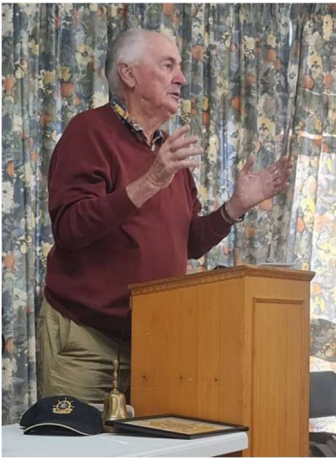
– Robyn Manderson

*Pm Fawcett, Newsletter Editor*

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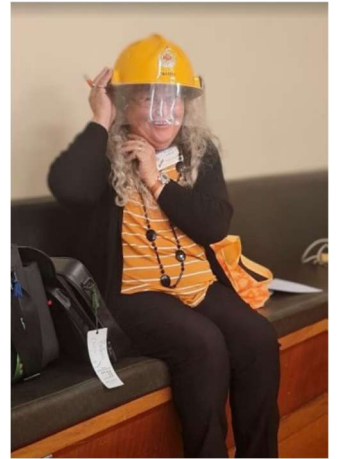
*“I’ve had a wonderful evening, but this isn’t it” Groucho Marx*

## REBUS CLUB OF WANGANUI



In May, we were privileged to have **David Bennet** ex "PACIFIC HELMETS." A great man who spoke of his trials and tribulations, of setting up, owning and operating a very successful business from scratch, to supply and sell world wide specialist helmets for Fire Depts, emergency and other services. Though the business is now sold, David still maintains an advisory role. A very interesting and passionate speaker.

*Paerau Taylor-Mosen. Newsletter editor*



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## REBUS CLUB OF GULF HARBOUR



At the May meeting President Jean inducted five new members, Jan Albon, Pamela Tucker, Sylvia Davies, Shirley Powell, and Linzi Meyer

Member **Garth Dutton** stepped in at short notice to fill in for Graeme McIntosh as Club Speaker. Garth's interesting address was about tracing his great grandfather's roots, and journey to NZ in 1862 aboard the "Robert Henderson". He is buried in Balclutha with his wife. Guest Speaker was **Charlie Thomas** from Forest and Bird, who gave an enthusiastic talk about Pest Free Hibiscus Coast, and trapping predators.

*Jean McIntosh, Newsletter Editor*

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## HOKOWHITU REBUS CLUB



What fantastic weather over the Easter and Anzac break, good old Palmy. I had a colleague who on more than one occasion said to me the weather in Palmy is its best kept secret. Winter waits around the corner and now it's the time to get the flu jab. **-Andy Trow, President**

Congratulations to Kate and John McNamara and Janet Tremewan who won our Club Quiz in May.

*-Newsletter editor, Joan Letts*

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***Whatever you do, always give 100% — unless you're donating blood." —Bill Murray***

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### RIVERSIDE REBUS CLUB OF HAMILTON



Club members enjoyed a visit to the Otorohanga Kiwi House last month. The weather held off, and we got to see some kiwis and other animals, including giant weta which are now endangered.

Afterwards we had a lunch at the “Thirsty Weta” restaurant to help celebrate Trish’s birthday

*-S. O’Sullivan, Bulletin Editor*



### TAUPO MOANA REBUS CLUB



Taupo-nui-a-Tia College production of “Mama Mia”. A nonstop time of sound and dance, and a well-presented show. Some great talent there.

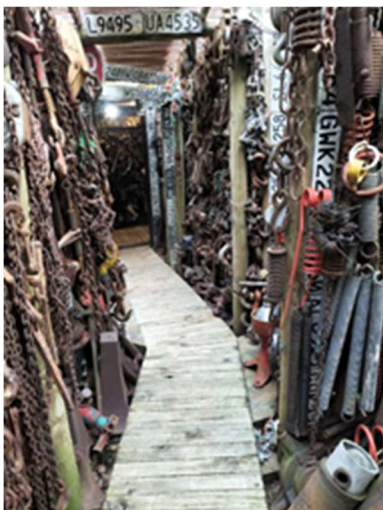
Taupo members out and about. May outing was to a local artist and woodturners studio, just south of Taupo, Wildwood Gallery. A very talented husband and wife had many of their works on show and for sale, not sure if anyone was tempted to buy! Coffee morning was well attended and lots of chatter and conversation there. The group go to a different café each month. The “Live Show” group went to see

*- Christine Bailey, newsletter editor*

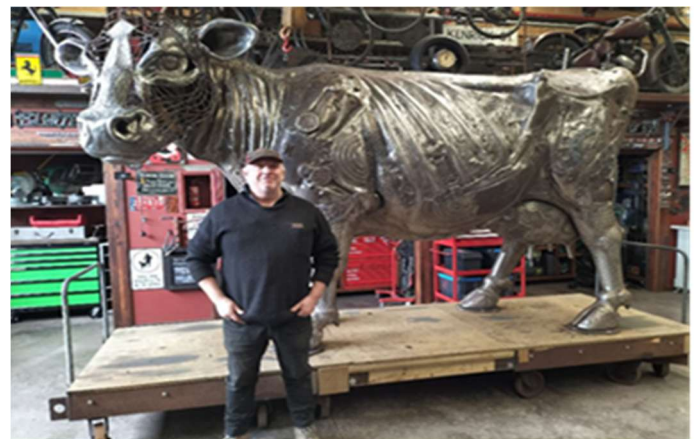
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### REBUS CLUB OF HAMILTON

A group of our Club members on a recent trip to Adrian Worsley’s Sculpture/Art Gallery in Te Aroha.



Some of the items used in his Art and Adrian with the current unfinished commission.



*Kath Kenrick, Bulletin editor*

### REBUS CLUB OF PARAPARAUMU BEACH INC



Walking Group: Our walk on the second Monday was interesting and not arduous at all but the day was very cold. A three-layer day. Not many of our members ventured out! This was a walk we’d not done before so there was a certain element of exploring to be done. Pharazyn Reserve, on the way to Pekapeka, is around the old sewage ponds which is being turned into a wetlands area. It has been a project for the KCDC for seven years with help from the local schools and the public. It is still a work in progress.

*-Steve Hutchison, newsletter editor.*

## REBUS CLUB OF HIBISCUS COAST

Our club enjoyed a morning of tenpin bowling with the Hibiscus Coast Friendship Club on Thursday, 22 May. We played two games and members from each club were mixed into six teams for each game. The high scores were Trevor Weal [148] in the first game and Paul Robinson [130] in the second game. Dave Betts and Glenis Robinson feature in the photo below.

*-Earl Brookbanks, Editor*



## REBUS CLUB OF UPPER HUTT



In recognition of his years of service to the club that have involved organising trips, speakers, and serving two terms as President the Committee unanimously agreed that **Malcolm Stone** be awarded Life Membership.



The guest speaker last month was **Bob Maysmor** who spent most of his working life in the museum profession. He is the author of nearly twenty books and is an award-winning travel writer / photographer. The topic of his talk was "Yemen" which at the time he and Alison visited had seen very few Europeans.



There were some anxious moments, but they were able to see and visit many interesting places. Yemen is currently on Department of External Affairs list of places not to visit!

*-Alex Attewell, newsletter editor.*

**"The best way to garden is to put on a wide brimmed straw hat and some old clothes, and with a hoe in one hand and a cold drink in the other, tell somebody else where to dig" Texas Bix Bender**

## WOMEN'S REBUS CLUB OF WAIKANAE



On the left, are our May Birthday ladies Barbara, Stella, Jo and Joy.

On the right are our Lucky Numbers Winners, Joy, Jill and Jenny.



*-Mary Paddock, newsletter editor*

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## REBUS CLUB OF MANAWATU



**MAY MEETING SPEAKERS:** Over 9 years, **Esmee and Ian Rowden** have helped the Red Cross resettle 15 refugee families in Palmerston North. Ian explained the process and the challenges and joys for both the families and the volunteers. He gave a glimpse of the dangers and traumas suffered by refugees forced to flee their homes. Esmee's sewing machine project began in 2019 when her daughter went online to find a second-hand machine for a Rohingya mother. Since then, almost 600 machines, serviced by a volunteer, have been sent around NZ, along with donated sewing necessities, to refugee women who make beautiful goods for their family, communities and charitable causes.

*-Margie Comrie, newsletter editor.*

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## WAIKANAE MILLENNIUM REBUS CLUB

Hillary was a most interesting ten-minute speaker and I am sure she could have entertained us with her experiences of Newton Hall for another 20 minutes. Our main speaker **Lawrence Kirby**, the deputy mayor of KDCDC, was also well received with plenty of information about the Council's plans and many questions he was asked, shows the level of interest from the members.



We welcomed **Ilan Metcalfe** (centre) into membership at our May meeting. He was proposed by his brother **Charlie Metcalfe** (left) and inducted by President **David Funnell** (right).

*-David Goggin, newsletter editor.*

**"You have brains in your head. You have feet in your shoes.**

**You can steer yourself any direction you choose. You're on your own.**

**And you know what you know. And you are the guy who'll decide where to go." — Dr. Seuss**

## PUKENAMU REBUS CLUB INC



May Outing - Whanganui Fire Station - 20 of our members had a marvellous visit and were shown around by some of the officers, and who gave us a brief overview of their duties and the capabilities of the fire trucks. We saw the hose/equipment drying room, repair room and tower and all their functions were explained. This station has eight firemen in each of four daily shifts. And then ten of us ended up together at The Rutland Arms for lunch. Thanks to the organiser Mike Naylor. - Editor Helen Goldfinch



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## PAPANUI REBUS CLUB

18 members attended lunch at Ten27 Ferrymead. Unfortunately, it was a little cold where they had put



us, so we all moved inside, which meant we had to go on separate tables. Still, it was great to catch up.

**Tom Grindell** was our Main speaker this month and he spoke to us about the Good Friends – Living Well Centre. Good Friends is open to all Older Aged Persons and offers a

wide range of classes aimed at mobility and balance such as Strength and Core, Strength and Balance, Circuits, and they even have a class called Brain Gym.

-Linda Barnes, Newsletter editor

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## REBUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, Palmerston North, May 2025.

Over 21 clubs attended the Rebus NZ Annual General Meeting in Palmerston North. It was a very enjoyable and social weekend, starting with a meet and greet function on the Friday evening at the Cosmopolitan Club. On the Saturday morning, we had an interesting bus tour of the city and Massey University, together with a



ride on a miniature railway (2km through the beautiful Esplanade). In the afternoon, we attended the AGM which had 21 clubs represented. Those attending commented on the immense value in being able to socialise with their counterparts and exchange information on promotional, recruitment and entertainment ideas.

On Saturday night, we attended an informal dinner with excellent food and plenty of quality social time.

Some photos from the weekend.



Presentations were made at the Saturday night dinner, to Board members who were retiring, Administrator, **Graeme McIntosh**, Rebus News Editor **Jean McIntosh**, and Secretary **Sue Eckland**.



### **From the Editor**

When I first joined Rebus, I had no idea I would end up being the new Editor of Rebus Club News. My background is in photography, and I was the “unofficial” photographer for my local Rebus Club. When the newsletter editor in Cambridge decided to retire from the position, I put my hand up. I’d been the editor of newsletters at all the schools I’d attended, so I had an inkling as to what the job entailed. Then the editor of the Riverside Rebus Bulletin became unwell and needed someone to take over. Once again, I put my hand up and became Editor of both clubs.



I live in a small rural community, halfway between Hamilton and Cambridge. We have a couple of horses – my wife rides, I do not – a few sheep, and a new kitten called Millie.

Jean has done an amazing job with the Rebus Club News, and I’m hoping to continue her good work.

**Steve O’Sullivan, Editor, Rebus Club News.**