



REBUS CLUB NEWS

May 2023

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What an enjoyable time we had at the Rebus NZ Inc. AGM in Wanganui on 6th and 7th May. It was great to catch up with friends we see only once a year, and the Rebus Club of Wanganui were kind and efficient hosts. Special thanks must go to President, Jim Hulbert – not only was he chief organiser, but also tour-bus driver twice, and MC at the Dinner on Saturday night. Unflappable Jim and his team gave us a weekend to savour, he also had the weather under control. Thank you, Jim, and your team.



The new **Chairman, Bill Irvine**, Immediate Past President of Taupo Moana Rebus Club, was introduced to the meeting by outgoing Chairman, Graeme. Bill outlined his aspirations for the future of Rebus.

At the Saturday evening Dinner, **Past Chairman, Graeme, was honoured with Life Membership** of the Society, the trophy presented by Secretary, Sue Eckworth. Photos from the AGM can be found on the Rebus website – www.rebus.nz – and at the end of this issue. Those who did not attend the AGM this year will have another chance next year, 2024, when **Omanu Rebus Club** of Mt Maunganui will be hosts. Make a note in your diary now, the first weekend in May 2024.

Now let's get down to the important stuff, your news, so pour yourself something warming, and settle in for a catch up of what has been happening in our family during the month of May.

CAMBRIDGE REBUS CLUB

Hamilton Gardens Tour: Members took a walk around **Hamilton Gardens**, which was followed by coffee and a muffin at the **Gardens Café**.

"I don't know the question, but cake is definitely the answer."
Woody Allen.

Steve O'Sullivan, Presidential Scribe.



THAMES BONANZA CLUB

Our **Guest Speaker was Graeme Lee**, Minister of the Baptist Church in Thames. Graeme, who had a previous career in the Police Force, talked about the homeless people in Thames. Yes, homeless people are in every part of New Zealand. The Baptist church provides breakfast every morning with the support of the public and the business community. The other churches and voluntary organisations also supply meals at different times. Apart from meals, very little is being done regarding a place to sleep. Graeme expressed his disappointment that pleas to the Government for support fall on deaf ears, but he says he will never give up the fight. A very thought-provoking talk.

Diane Williams gave a Member's Talk on education in the fifties and sixties. How refreshing - all the children went to school every day!

Murray Newby, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF RIVERSIDE HAMILTON



On Wednesday April 12th we set off in our coach to **Miranda Bird Sanctuary** to see the Godwits before they flew off to Russia. We enjoyed morning tea and a very informative talk by an expert at the information office. After lunch at **Bay View Hotel, Kaiawa** we visited the **WW2 Minesweeper "Hinau"** and saw the plaque placed on the old ship by members of our Rebus Tramping Group.

Steve O'Sullivan, Bulletin Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF KHANDALLAH



The Committee, 2023/4. Back Row: Nick Lambrechtsen (President), Natasha Nahkies, Sharon Major, John Preston, Peter Clemerson, Vish Sarma. Front Row: Jenny Cornelius, Stella Thorp, Judy Whiteside, Angela Hill. Absent: Liz Beresford, Emma McCallum.

Plans to make Wellington the world's first predator free capital city were outlined by **Guest Speaker, Alastair Henshaw**, the Community Engagement and Field Officer from Predator Free Wellington.

Alastair spoke about making the capital a place where our native species can thrive. Making Wellington predator free involves the commitment of thousands of households, community groups and

organisations, all of whom are working together to remove every single rat, possum, stoat and weasel from the entire Wellington area. It also involves innovative ideas and new technology: for traps and bait stations, trail cameras and many other monitoring tools.

Sharon Major, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF MILSON INC.



Arnold Bloxham, President, receiving the Chain of Office from **Past President, Kaye Castell**. (L).

(R) Arnold with **Guest Speaker** from the Red Cross, **Antoinette Umugwaneza**. What a story she had to tell - the fighting in Rwanda was really over-powering (and total power corrupts totally). What a life she had, escaping with her baby and a thermos flask full of water. One of her repeated comments was "living in New Zealand is like winning Lotto every day."

I love to see a man on his knees. Ed.

Margaret Broderick, Secretary.



RED BEACH LADIES' REBUS CLUB

Committee For 2023 We have a great new committee onboard this year and I'm so looking forward to working with them for the continued success of our thriving and very supportive club. Here we are assembled for our first meeting on 17 April. From L to R – Trish Meurant, Lorraine Sanders, Jan Kerslake, Bobbie Wakenell, Wendy Dazeley, Marnie Tolhopf, Janet Gunn, and Judy Henricksen.



Bobbie Wakenell, Newsletter Editor.

WEST AUCKLAND MEN'S REBUS CLUB

COFFEE MORNING AT SELWYN VILLAGE: Thirty members of West Auckland Men's Rebus Club and Waitakere Combined Rebus Club accepted the invitation from **Senior Sales Consultant Kathy Fitchett** to have a look around Selwyn Village in Point Chevalier. Cakes, sandwiches, and sausage rolls were brought around on large plates, and we helped ourselves to coffee and tea. After about fifteen minutes, Kathy Fitchett welcomed everyone and gave a PowerPoint presentation on the village. Some of her talk was on the Selwyn Way, which is about promoting resilience, contentment, well-being, and engagement in life, during retirement.

Vince Middeldorp, Newsletter Editor.



A recent study found women who carry a little more weight live longer than men who mention it.

REBUS WAIHEKE ISLAND



April wine tasting at **Te Motu**. The group will meet next at **Casita Miro** for wine tasting and shared platters, \$40.

The Mini-Speaker was **Teresa Quinn** from **Project Reach Out**, supporting people on the Island with mental health issues.

It is known as the place to go for a family having mental health issues. They have 15 buddies who are people matched, brokering support between people who want to support and those who need it. The volunteers are amazing.

Tania Sweet, Newsletter Editor.

MOUNT ALBERT LADIES' REBUS CLUB



We had a fun meeting in April. Instead of a speaker we ran a *Getting to know you/Speed dating*, Rebus style session. Members sat in two long lines. We had two sets of seven questions. For example, *What was your first job? What is the most daring thing you have ever done? What makes you laugh?*

Making up the questions to stimulate conversation was also an interesting exercise. There were no rules, except each couple had 5 minutes to discuss a question from their sheet with the other person. When the bell rang to change partners, some women were reluctant to move as they were so engrossed. A hilarious opportunity to meet new people and to find out about each other (all confidential of course).

Anne McKenzie, Vice President.



REBUS CLUB OF MANAWATU



Our club members strained their brains over **President Fred's** diabolical quiz questions at our May meeting. In the absence of a speaker **President Fred** became quiz master with a several Kiwi-based questions for us to answer singly and in groups. Suffice to say none of us are going to be on Mastermind soon. But there was a clear winning group and a general enjoyable buzz as we puzzled and guessed the answers and enjoyed some sweet treats.

Margie Comrie.



WAIKANAE MILLENNIUM REBUS CLUB INC.

The conventional image of the readers of this newsletter, as portrayed by the aged care industry, is of a cohort who wants a carefree retirement without responsibility. Well that maybe the case for some but not others, who are prepared to take on all manner of risk to enjoy every moment available to them.

Don Noble has just graduated with a **Batchelor of Arts History**. This was accomplished as a distance student at Massey University, at half pace, taking six years rather than the normal three.

This raises serious questions other than the obvious WHY? As a young fellow Don attended a rural district high school with very limited subject choice. Most students left in the fourth form taking up trades or rural work. History, which was his passion, was out of the question upon reaching college in the fifth form. Well life gets busy. After several years of retirement, and with some prodding from friends, he gave it a go. It was, in his own words, *a hell of a challenge*, but enjoyable and well worth the effort. Where to from here? That is still a bit of a mystery. *David Goggin, Editor.*

They say that age is all in your mind. The trick is keeping it from creeping down the body.

REBUS CLUB OF GULF HARBOUR

In May **The Club Speaker** was **Lynette Phillips** whose fascinating presentation had us glued to the screen as she took us with her on her visits to family in Aspen, Colorado. The colourful scenery was wonderful, but it was the interaction from the local bears that held us spellbound. Thankyou Lynette.



The Guest Speakers were Karyn and Rod Klarwill, residents of Gulf Harbour, who have published a detailed record of the development of the Gulf Harbour Marina. Karyn's presentation contained facts and figures and photographs of the entire development from the purchase of the land, and through the various stages – quite a history lesson for us locals.

J. McIntosh, Newsletter Editor.

SOUTH WAIRARAPA REBUS CLUB

April's **Guest Speaker** was **Dr Tim Maling**, speaking on "**Medicines Safety - a Specialist Physician & Clinical Pharmacologist's story**". His opening statement: "If surgeons knew as little about their patients as physicians knew about their medicines, the surgeons would not be allowed to operate."



One of the most challenging issues facing the NZ health system is the aging population, with many folk on multiple drugs daily. He noted that the frequency with which patients went to their GP with adverse drug reactions depended highly on the number of daily meds they were on: 13% of those on 2 meds, 58% on 5 meds and 82% on 7 meds. Interactions between drugs are not well understood and these became one of Tim's major areas of study and expertise.

David Woodhams, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF MT HOBSON

Club Speaker for April - John Coutts: "A walk through the Venice Biennale 2017".

Venice is known for its canals, gondolas, and historic architecture. It is also known for its art and cultural events such as the Venice Biennale, an international art exhibition that takes place every two years. It features contemporary art form around the world and includes exhibitions, installations and performances in various venues around the city. It began in 1895 and is considered one of the most prestigious events in the art world. In 2017 there were 86 countries participating city wide. Venice is built on a group of 118 small islands, linked together by over 400 bridges and the easiest way to get round is by canal water buses, Vaporetti. The city continues sinking by 1-2mm per annum, so some buildings may require a helping hand!

Chris de Boer, Newsletter Editor.



WAIKANAE COMBINED REBUS CLUB

Recently a volunteer from **Coastguard Kapiti Coast** enlightened us with a presentation on their sea rescue and safety roles stretching from Foxton to Makara. Like all emergency services they are on call 24/7, all equipped with pagers for call outs with two headquarters and boats located at Waikanae and Paraparaumu. Most common call outs are for a boat running out of fuel or a mechanical breakdown. One of the frustrations is that it is a legal requirement to have life jackets available for all people on boats, but it is not compulsory to wear them.

Back on land we were entertained by the co-founder of **Imagination Gin**, one of the largest boutique gin distilleries in Aotearoa, based in Reikorangi near Waikanae. When well-known beer brewers Tuatara moved out of their Reikorangi location some years ago it proved an ideal site for the gin makers. Originally a 2-man band they now employ 6 people and distribute locally and internationally. Winners of international awards they are constantly looking at new Kiwi flavours. Their classic dry gin has an earthy flavour with the addition of Manuka, others are damson plum and blackberry, a French oak barrel aged gin, a strawberry flavoured gin, one with Waikanae seaweed and the biggest seller a rhubarb and raspberry distillation. How things have changed from the traditional G&T!

Clive Palmer.

Yesterday, my husband thought he saw a cockroach in the kitchen. He sprayed everything and cleaned thoroughly. Today I'm putting it in the bathroom.

REBUS CLUB OF WANGANUI

Rebus NZ Inc. A.G.M. 5-7th May 2023. A new Chairman, William Irvine, was appointed, with most of the previous Board maintaining their positions. We were reminded to continually check the REBUS website as this has all the information you may seek regarding our Rebus organisation. Rebus Website, www.rebus.nz Photos: back page.

Paerau Taylor, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF PALMERSTON NORTH

We have some skilful craftswomen in our club. **Maureen Thompson** brought her daughter **Jessica** to the last club meeting and showed us a colourful array of blankets they had made from knitting and crocheting peggy squares. Both belong to Peggy Purl Manawatu. Besides squares, they accept donations of beanies and booties for babies, clothing and toys for children. Their talk sparked interest in forming a crochet group among some of our members.



Our guest speaker was **Jill Rolls** from the **Arohanui Hospice** who informed us about the service provided by a dedicated team of 500 volunteers who work about 54,000 hours a year doing laundry, gardening, cleaning, kitchen duties, arts & crafts, biography service, and staffing the four hospice shops in the Manawatu - Horowhenua region. About 60% of Hospice patients have a cancer diagnosis, and 70% receive home care where a nursing team visit them to manage pain and medications. Our Rebus Club is donating a collection of goods to the Hospice in June.

Thanks to **Jim Walker** for organising the annual car rally which took us through city and countryside, a very interesting drive with some challenging questions! Great fun. The winning team is pictured.

Dean Halford, Newsletter Editor.

CAMBRIDGE MEN'S REBUS CLUB



In May, the **Guest Speaker** was well known TV personality, **Karen Rutherford**, whose anecdotes around her career in the media were fascinating.



Club members enjoyed an excursion to the **Adrian Worsley Gallery in Te Aroha**, followed by a visit to the **Paeroa River Boat Cruise and Maritime Museum**.

Nigel Salter.

TAUPO MOANA REBUS CLUB



Twenty-three members visited **Wairakei School** to view the hydroponic and aquaponic gardens which staff member, Diane, has been instrumental in establishing in the school's disused swimming pool. Over the past 10 years, through trial and error, Diane, and her willing band of Years 4 to 6 pupils, have learned the secrets to producing tomatoes, celery, lettuce, rhubarb, and more, in a soilless environment of clay balls, fed by nutrient-enhanced water in the case of the hydroponics, and water boosted with fish fertilizer for the aquaponics. The fish fertilizer is produced on site by about 150 goldfish kept in 2 large vats. Over the years lessons have been learned as to the best fish to use and what their care and requirements are. This whole exercise has been a wonderful learning experience for the students involved. As well as the pupils growing vegetables in a different environment, and learning good gardening skills, the school has benefitted financially from sales of the produce. Why can't all schools have such a scheme for educational purposes!



Christine Bailey.

"Old age is like everything else. To make a success of it, you've got to start young."

President Theodore Roosevelt.

REBUS CLUB OF FEILDING



Antoinette with Sherryn.

Our **Speaker in April was Antionette** who told us of her journey as a refugee from Rwanda - a very green country with gorillas. Most refugees are women because the men die in the fighting. The Rwandan president was killed as well as 1 million people and all their lives changed. Originally, they went to Kenya for 3 years then learned that they were accepted to come to New Zealand. They felt like they had won the lottery. French is their first language, so they had to learn English and the NZ way of life at the **Mangere Refugee Centre**. Antoinette, her husband and 5 children all came to NZ which is a miracle in itself. She urged us to volunteer for the Red Cross.

Lyn Jensen, Editor.

This speaker is proving to be very popular with our Clubs. Ed.

HOKOWHITU REBUS CLUB INC.



We had a very interesting Speaker last month, **Dr Ruth Gorinsky**. She is a very passionate advocate for children suffering from heart disease. Her organisation "**Heart Kids**" helps them and their families to meet the additional challenges they face.

Fourteen members recently visited the robotic dairy farm. **Gregg Gemmel** demonstrated to the group how the robots work.

Joan Letts.



REBUS CLUB OF PETONE

Ian McCulloch was our **Guest Speaker**. He is the owner of 5 vintage cars, and he kindly brought his **1929 Pontiac 6 Roadster** to show us. He gave a short history of the vintage car clubs, started by a group of Christchurch University students in 1948. The local club was started in 1958, and Ian joined in 1969 at the age of 19. At present it has 300 members and there are 8,000 members nationwide, mostly over 70. They have outings and monthly meetings and each week retired members get together for a chat. There is a sale and swap meeting held in Levin each month. The value of vintage cars is dropping. A car made before 1900 is a Veteran car, and anything over 30 years is a Vintage car.

Sharyn Bowen.

WOMEN'S REBUS CLUB OF WAIKANAE

Speaker for May was Allison Miller: Alison entertained (and impressed) us with a pictorial record of her time in the **New Zealand Army between 1985 and 1988**. It was an experience which tested her both physically and mentally, drawing on her stamina, determination, and inner resources. From overnight camps out in the open to river crossings in full kit, she emerged with a whole new level of fitness and an understanding of having pride in oneself while working as a team. Thanks to the "Get paid as you learn" career training opportunities she also gained a chef's qualification while serving her three years.

Alison now works as the **Health and Volunteer Visitor Coordinator for Age Concern Kapiti**, which provides services including "Staying Safe" driving refresher courses.

Mary Paddock, Newsletter Editor.



'Although most people avoid walking around in a borrowed hat or coat, they are only too happy to go around with borrowed opinions, which have been served up to them by journalists.'

Arthur Schopenhauer (1788 – 1860), German philosopher.

Random acts of kindness make everyone feel better.

KOWHAI REBUS CLUB OF BEHLEHEM



Past president, Tony Hopkinson, welcomes our new **President, Pauline Hetherington**. Tony had been President of the Club since May 2018 through to March 2023.

On 5th May, President, Pauline Hetherington presented a laminated **Certificate of Appreciation** from the Club to **Shirley Hansen, Laurel Nixon and Ross Eades**.

Our May Guest Speaker was Lori Luke, CEO, from The Acorn Foundation, which has been connecting generous people with causes that matter in the Western Bay of Plenty region since 2003.



Marie Mabey, Newsletter Editor.

FITZHERBERT REBUS CLUB INC.



President Libby welcomes new members **Janice & John Westerman**.

Andrew Cullen, manager of the **Manawatu Community Law Centre** was our Speaker in May, which assists people in many areas of law with advice, assistance, and education. These services are funded by the Ministry of Justice, monies from lawyers' trust accounts and other sources, and are available to all. Putting people in contact with the right agencies etc. can be a great help in lots of situations. Handling immigration, neighbourhood disputes, and educating people of their rights are also some of their services. We all learned that this centre is much more than we realised.

Congratulations to the Ladies' Group who came 8th out of 13 teams who participated in the Knitathon with a grand total of 5,693 squares – that's a lot of knitting!

Karen Carter, Secretary.

COMBINED REBUS CLUB OF PARAPARAUMU BEACH INC.

Wine Tasting Group: Our last tasting was hosted by **Rob McGuinness of Constellation brands**. A genuine Irishman who



kept us well entertained and the wine flowing. Lots of blarney goes a long way. Our next wine tasting event will be held on Wednesday 21st June when the presenting Company will be **Clearview Estate Winery**, Hawkes Bay, and their lovely wines will be presented by Michelle Fraser. Carol & I have recently been to Clearview and really enjoyed the wines we tasted. I feel sure you will enjoy their wines too. *John Calman.*

REBUS CLUB OREWA

Our **Guest Speaker** in April was **Percy Wootton, President of the Patriots Defence Force Motorcycle Club**, who arrived with a roar on his Indian motorcycle. He is ex-RNZAF, but the Patriots consists of ex-Army, Navy, and Air Force personnel, also some serving personnel. The club started in Australia in 1993 by 3 ex-service personnel and has spread all over Australia and NZ. Auckland has the largest membership of 75. They are in no way associated with motorcycle gangs. The club supports those who are experiencing PTSD or finding it hard to settle into civilian life through the camaraderie of its members. It is a family-oriented club, which does charity cycle runs to raise money for various charities. They recently raised \$10,000 for Westpac Helicopter Rescue. Percy spoke of the various badges on his jacket and of his military medals. He showed us an interesting slide show of what the Patriots DFMC is all about.

Maureen Grigg, Bulletin Editor.



Words are powerful, use them wisely.

WARKWORTH MEN'S REBUS CLUB



The interest from members resulted in almost too many questions following **Anthony Partridge's** presentation at our May meeting. He started beekeeping at the age of 12 with 9 hives on the Port Albert farm, and 5 years later has 20, each with about 60,000 bees. They produce nearly 300 kgs of prize-winning honey each year. He researched all aspects of beekeeping and entertained members with his wide knowledge, at the grand old age of 17! He is a member of the Warkworth Beekeepers Club and has devised an attachment for the hives to reduce the entry of the deadly long-legged wasps who wreak havoc in the colony.

Everyone sampled the honey, and inspected the smoker, the hive sections and other equipment Anthony had on display. One

prize in the Door Prize draw was a section of honeycomb. You are never too old to learn!

Robert Dye, Secretary.

REBUS CLUB OF UPPER HUTT INC.



The **Guest Speaker** was **His Excellency Mr Edgardo Valdés López, Ambassador for the Republic of Cuba**. He outlined the history of Cuba, from the arrival of the Spanish, to independence in 1902. He explained the influence of American politics on the economy of the country, with relations improving until Trump became President. Restrictions on travel to Cuba and the impact on things like banking had slowed the ability to grow the economy. To maintain Cuba's, look old buildings are being modernised without changing their external character. The old cars that are a feature of the country are also a source of pride and demonstrate an obvious mechanical ability to keep them running as a tourist attraction. Cuba's health system provides free medical care to everyone and has around 93,000 doctors for a population of approximately 11 million. Cuba is a

Socialist Democracy - a one party state. It was an interesting address.

Alex Attewell, Newsletter Editor.



Old Cars,



+ Cigars,



+ Street Music = CUBA.

Wow – another bumper edition with twenty-nine gems for your information and entertainment. Rebus Club News just seems to be growing in popularity thanks to you. I enjoy reading your contributions, and feedback generally seems to confirm you do too. However, all feedback is welcome, good, and bad.

You may have noticed that I have not mentioned the weather or the garden this month – words fail me – a rarity!



Now we have the winter energy payment, stay warm and dry, stay safe, and try to think of somebody you could take along to your next Club Meeting. It is essential that there is a continuous membership rejuvenation to keep the organisation going.

Jean,

Editor, Rebus Club News.

Rebus NZ Inc.
A.G.M. 5-7th May 2023



Outgoing Chairman, Graeme, introduces New Chairman, Bill Irvine.



Life Membership Trophy.



Saturday Dinner.



Saturday morning bus trip to the Markets.