



REBUS CLUB NEWS

April 2024

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Welcome to the April edition of Rebus Club News, and a big welcome to the **Rebus Club of Papanui Christchurch**, who have just joined the Rebus Family. I am a few days early this month because I wish to talk to you about "**Jotforms**". I can hear the reaction from here! With so many scungebuckets these days trying to empty your bank account, steal your email address book, or worse, we are all being warned not to open attachments etc. to emails we receive. And it is better to err on the side of caution, as the alternatives can be disastrous.

But be assured: **Jotforms** are a safe and efficient way for Rebus NZ Inc. to communicate with Clubs when clubs/members need to register for something. You can safely click on the link (which appears in blue, something like an email address), and when the **Jotform** appears, you just start typing in the details. When you get to the bottom of the form there is a box marked SUBMIT. When you click on that box you will immediately receive an automatic acknowledgement.

Your *Club Officers* have all been sent the **Jotform** link to be completed for the **annual re-affiliation process**.

Members have also been able to access a **Jotform** to register attendance at the **Annual General Meeting**.

At the Board Meeting held on 20th April the subject of Jotforms was discussed, and it was felt that perhaps members need reassurance of the safety of **Jotforms**. The alternative of printing a paper form, filling it in, scanning it, and returning it, (we no longer have a PO Box), and the recipient then having to decipher the writing and enter the details manually into the system, is a much more cumbersome procedure, believe me. Please do not be frightened of Jotforms, they are easy, safe and secure, or Rebus NZ would not use them. Now, *your news*:

REBUS CLUB CAMBRIDGE



2024 Committee:
Davide Pini, Jackie Gunn, Jean Elborn, Steve O'Sullivan, Liz Webb, Margaret Billington, Jack Sharman (absent: Gill Sharman)



Look what happened last month: **Visit to the Velodrome**. "The Velodrome tour was great. I still don't know how the riders stay on the cliff face almost stationary. Pretty much defies gravity when you see how steep it is in real life" says Jackie Gunn.

Steve O'Sullivan, Presidential Scribe.

REBUS CLUB OF RIVERSIDE HAMILTON



(L). Past President, Kevin O'Keefe congratulating **Steve O'Sullivan** on being elected **President of Riverside Rebus Club of Hamilton**. Last year he was just Acting President as the elected President went on an extended holiday.

Steve thanked those for their support while he was the acting President. "I am now able to wear the chains of office at future meetings", he says. Steve extended a special welcome to new **Vice President, Dianne Lee**.

This year is our 30th year as a club, and a special **30th Anniversary Luncheon** is being planned for June. Past and present members, including life members, will be invited to join in the celebrations. The President of Rebus NZ has been invited to attend as guest of honour. Venue booking and menu options are being confirmed, the planned date is Tuesday, June 18th. Watch this space! *Steve O'Sullivan, President.*

Santa Claus has the right idea. Visit people only once a year. Victor Borge.

MT ALBERT LADIES REBUS CLUB

Move it, or lose it. Mt Albert Ladies have a secret weapon in the form of member, **Shirley Waterfield**. Each monthly meeting, before morning tea, Shirley (a retired exercise teacher of 22 years) leads us through a short 5-minute sit-fit exercise to music. Shirley maintains there needs to be an awareness of exercise for the older person, not only for the feeling of well-being, but for exercising of important muscles we use in our daily lives. Last month's **Staying Alive** by the **Bee Gees** had us all moving, smiling and feeling so good.

(R) Shirley Waterfield leading our sit-fit exercise routine. *Anne McKenzie, President.*



REBUS CLUB OF MILSON INC.



A group of us recently visited the **Mulberry Art Gallery** on Mangakino Road, Feilding. What an amazing place it was. After visiting the gallery we then had a lovely lunch.

Margaret Broderick, Secretary.



REBUS WAIHEKE ISLAND



A group of about thirty members had a very enjoyable harbour cruise to **Riverhead** on 18th March. The weather was fine with only a couple of short drizzly showers at Riverhead. During the cruise we were regaled by Holger, the Skipper, with wry comments on the features on the shore, politics, and life. A nice lunch was had at the Riverhead Tavern.

Tania Sweet, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF FOXTON

Following the AGM, **Stacey Shortall from Wellington**, gave an excellent and inspirational talk. She spoke about her experiences in New York working as a litigation lawyer for 11 years in Wall Street, alongside her voluntary work with women and children who were facing violence and related problems in their lives. Stacey now lives and works as a lawyer in Wellington and is continuing her charity work, especially helping women in prison and their families. She has founded a charity called "Who Did You Help Today?" and challenged all of us to help someone each day, even in a very small way.

Dereley Barry, Newsletter Editor.

THAMES BONANZA REBUS CLUB

We had a great trip to the **Velodrome in Cambridge**. A guided tour of this magnificent venue, the home of Cycling New Zealand and used by other high performance New Zealand sportspeople, particularly by rowing and canoeing. It has a fully equipped gym, which is also available to the local community. There are hire bikes that can be used on the inside of the racing track. 3-wheel bikes are available in the centre and are extensively used by disability people and older citizens for exercise at no cost. The facility is well used. We watched the New Zealand women's team training and reaching speeds of 70km! The Racing Bikes cost \$60,000 each. Lunch at the inhouse Cafe completed a very enjoyable day.



Murray Newby.

I am saddened to tell you that **Eric Clarke** (of Eric's Cinema) passed away on 10 April 2024, aged 91. For 10 years, members of the Rebus Clubs of Palmerston North, Feilding, Foxton and Fitzherbert have enjoyed viewing a wide selection of films from Eric's huge collection. Sadly, with Eric's passing, these enjoyable outings have come to an end. His home theatre reflected Eric's lifelong career as a projectionist in the UK and New Zealand, with photos, posters and other memorabilia of the film industry.

Eric was a generous man, the entry donations collected at his shows were all given to **St John**. In 1997, he received a **QSM** for his services to the community in this way. He loved to talk and held firm views on many things. He had a great sense of humour, and will be greatly missed.

Dean Halford, on behalf of Eric's many patrons.

WEST AUCKLAND MEN'S REBUS CLUB

The **Jane Gifford**, the last fully rigged sailing scow in existence, was built in 1908. In 2005, she was transported by road to **Warkworth**, where she underwent a meticulous restoration by volunteers and paid workers. They rebuilt her as close as possible to her original appearance. She was fitted with two reconditioned Gardiner diesel motors, manufactured in Manchester in 1958, and was re-launched at Warkworth in 2009. On Wednesday, March 13th, we joined Waitakere Combined Rebus on a memorable journey down the **Mahurangi River to the Mahurangi Harbour** aboard the Jane Gifford. We passed the derelict **Wilson Cement Works**, established by Nathaniel Wilson in 1878, and **Morrison's Orchards**, established by Edward Morrison in 1873. It was New Zealand's largest producer of fruit and fruit trees until the 1920s, when an alleged fire blight led to the destruction of most of the plantation.



Vince Middeldorp, Secretary.

REBUS CLUB OF PETONE



Graham Nelson presented **Jane** with a bouquet of flowers, thanking her for the great job she has done as **President** for the last 2 years. We have certainly enjoyed her leadership and she will be hard to replace. Thank you, Jane.

Lunch at Shelley Bay. About 16 members attended. It was a beautiful day, and the food was great.

Sharyn Bowen.



REBUS CLUB OF MANAWATU

APRIL SPEAKER: **Chris Pullen** from local **G20 Orthotics** overcame technical hitches to emphasise the importance of foot care. He opened our eyes to the complexity and technology that goes into keeping those with disabilities moving on their own legs and feet. He urged us to ensure we keep an eye on foot conditions such as tinea and ulcers, especially crucial for diabetics. He stressed the importance of proper measurements when selecting practical shoes and orthotics.

Margie Comrie.

Wife: "You are financially irresponsible".

Husband to himself: "Wait till she hears I've won the Nigerian Lottery".

Just once, I want the prompt for Username and Password to say, "Close enough."

WAIKANA E MILLENNIUM REBUS CLUB INC.



The **Bike Group** are enjoying each other's company at the **Lock Up**. Thanks to Dave Funnell and Walter Brock, we have had many adventures around Waikanae, Peka

Peka, and Paraparaumu and of course sharing lively conversations at our Coffee stops. *David Goggin, Newsletter Editor.*



BANQUET AT THAI MARINA – 14 MARCH.

REBUS CLUB OF GULF HARBOUR



At the April meeting, **President Ken Daniels** inducted three new members. Welcome to the Club, **Dorte, Rita and Sarah**.

(R) Club Speaker was **Judi Lee** who gave us a picture of her life; being raised on a farm, her love of horses, becoming a veterinarian, and her varied career including working for the NZ Government.



Guest Speaker was **Tasman Dowling**, a beekeeper/apiarist, who received instruction from a nearby beekeeper, when he was a young boy. In 2008 he started his business during the Manuka honey boom, with 5 hives. There is one Queen to a hive, and the bottom two boxes are brood boxes. He is currently selling 2 tons of live bees to Canada, and specialising in raising Queens. His honey production concentrates on Manuka, Pohutukawa, Pennyroyal and Clover types. Orchardists rent beehives for pollination; avocado orchards use about 500 hives. Kiwifruit growers also rent beehives, which are moved at night. The 80,000 bees in each hive will scout the area, visiting every flower, and mathematically working out distances between pollen sites. The most productive time is November to January, when an average of 69 tons of honey are harvested. Varroa bee mite

arrived in 2001 from China and costs about \$40,000 to treat and control. All honey is tested for American Foul Brood virus. Queens live about 8 years, and can lay 2,000 eggs per day. Worker bees are also female. Drones are males, used for breeding only.

J. McIntosh, Newsletter Editor.

SOUTH WAIRARAPA REBUS CLUB

Members attending the March meeting had their minds stretched by new member and **Guest Speaker, Richard Hall**, the **Director of Stonehenge Aotearoa**. Speaking to his fascinating PowerPoint presentation, ***Myths and Legends of History***, he challenged many of our pre-conceived notions about historical figures, names, words, and annual celebrations and how they have changed through many centuries. "Virgin" originally meant a high-status woman. Once upon a time "pagan" meant peasant and a "villain" was a village dweller. He also gave examples of the historical movement from predominantly female deities to male deities and religious leaders. The biblical Queen of Sheba was typically depicted by European artists as white-skinned rather than dark-skinned. Christianity got Christmas and submitted to other changes after it became the state religion of the Roman Empire during the early fourth century. Originally, Romans celebrated the birth of Mithra, their sun god, on 25 December. Easter originated as an ancient pagan (peasant) celebration of the spring equinox. The Celtic goddess Brigid, Irish deity of wisdom and healing, could not be rooted out of Irish culture so she was turned into a Christian and adopted as the Catholic Saint Brigid. Richard's presentation proved thoroughly entertaining and informative, and we were left questioning our understanding of the history we thought we knew so well!

David Woodhams, Newsletter Editor.

**I decided to stop calling the bathroom "John" and renamed it "Jim".
I feel so much better saying I went to the Jim this morning.**

REBUS CLUB OF PALMERSTON NORTH



At our April meeting **Tony Nicholls** was inducted as a member. A warm welcome, Tony. **Club Speaker** was **Jim Walker** who related experiences that he and his wife Wendy had in a group touring the UK and Europe to see the 2007 Rugby World Cup matches. A hectic but entertaining time.

Guest Speaker, Allain Scott gave us a fascinating presentation with photos on Palmerston North's old buildings, railway and bridges. (Photo: PN Railway Station & Yards 1906.) Allain finished her much-appreciated talk with memories of fashion and life as we age. *Dean Halford, Newsletter Editor.*

**Integrity without knowledge is weak and useless,
and knowledge without integrity is dangerous and dreadful.** Dr. Samuel Johnson (1709 - 1784)

RED BEACH LADIES' REBUS CLUB



It was very special having young **Dylan** speaking at last month's meeting about his rare heart condition, along with **Rebus NZ Deputy Chairman, Garth Dutton**, who is currently visiting clubs throughout the Auckland region and encouraging members to join their committee. *Bobbie Wakenell, Newsletter Editor.*

Left: Our March Guest Speakers – **Garth Dutton with Dylan Wakenell.**

REBUS CLUB OF UPPER HUTT INC.

The **Guest Speaker was Bill Tito**, who describes himself as both a **Book Repair Specialist** and a **Surgeon General to Literature**. Bill showed us examples of some of his work which included bibles, an atlas, and a dictionary. He said himself, he is not cheap, but the work he does is outstanding.



Bill was thanked by Lesley Christie.



Alex Attewell, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF WHANGAMATA

Our AGM took place at the meeting on 17th April. In her **President's Report**, **Kay** noted that we had had a smooth transition from **leaving PROBUS and joining REBUS**. All of the current committee agreed to serve for another year and Mike, the Treasurer reported on the healthy state of our finances.

In order to attract new members an attractive A4 Poster has been produced.

Leyden Baker, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF WANGANUI

We were privileged to have **Lindsay Stockbridge** speak to us about his experience with **Macular Degeneration** and how he became aware of this condition, the lifestyle changes and the treatment he now receives. Macular Degeneration affects approximately 1 in 7 New Zealanders, over 50 years of age. An 'AMSLER' chart is available, which can indicate this condition.

Tony Clark entertained us with stories about his winemaking, whilst also giving us a little history into winemaking in NZ, and how advanced we are now with our production of quality wines.



We are planning an **Auction** to help toward costs of our upcoming **Anniversary**: We welcome unwanted Xmas gifts, ornaments, wine, crystal, etc. but no damaged goods please.

Paerau Taylor, Newsletter Editor.

Bread is like the sun, it rises in the yeast and sets on the waist !

REBUS CLUB OF FEILDING



Our **Guest Speaker** was **Lila Bosman**. She is a Clinical Psychologist and spoke on her personal experience of settling in a new country. Born and raised in South Africa she was headhunted for a position in NZ in 2019.

Brain Drain is a global phenomenon. Human Capital flight is different from being a refugee. People like familiarity and having a sense of home and there is an emotional impact. There are 10,000 people leaving South Africa each year. She set about discovering and getting to know herself in a different environment.

Lyn Jensen, Secretary/Editor.

WOMEN'S REBUS CLUB OF WAIKANAE



When our invited Speaker succumbed to Covid, a lively meeting took place with input from various members on many topics as Plan B.

Bev Chappell then entertained us with readings from the extraordinary diaries of two great-uncles who survived the horrors of World War 1 as part of the New Zealand and Australian forces (ANZACs) fighting for Britain at Gallipoli. Written in the trenches, it was enthralling and very moving.

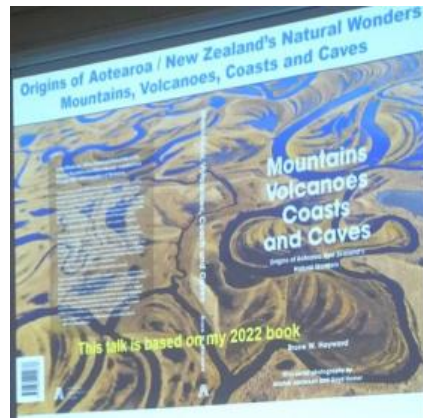
Mary Paddock, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF HIBISCUS COAST

Club Speaker was **Graeme Barlow**, who amused us with his adventures on his "OE", and a brief career as a pool hustler in London. Returning to NZ, he worked for **D J Reid** who specialised in electronic and electrical components, spending some years in Hongkong. He retired early to buy, do up, and resell homes, before retirement.

Our **Guest Speaker** was **Dr Bruce Hayward** who gave a very interesting discourse on the geological stages of New Zealand starting from when NZ separated from Gondwana 85 – 50 million years ago, through the "instantaneous" events that have shaped NZ. His talk was accompanied by descriptive pictures of geological features, most of which can be viewed in his recent book "**Mountains, Volcanoes, Coasts and Caves**".

On Thursday 11th the club ran a **Car Mystery Tour** enjoyed by 30 members/guests. Steve and Tessa provided a 99-questionnaire for us to complete during the 4-hour trip. We finished at **The Botanic Café** for lunch and prize-giving, Ray Davis winning with 95 correct answers.



Earl Brookbanks, Bulletin Editor.

KOWHAI REBUS CLUB OF BETHLEHEM



KATIKATI OUTING – THE FOOD BOWL OF PLENTY.

AN EXHIBITION INSPIRED BY FLAVOURS OF PLENTY FESTIVAL APRIL '24.

Members were impressed with the effect and hours put in by the Katikati Museum Staff organizing these exhibitions - amazing.

Exhibits were Mossop Honey, Zespri, Hellena Vanilla, Kings Seeds, The Cider Factorie, Te Puke Truffles, Basecamp Salami, Avocados Darling Group, Bee NZ Ltd, Chez Moi Chocolates, Mills Reef Wines, Mt Eliza Cheese, Viridis Grove Olive Oil, Wilderkin Spirits – Vodka, Strawberries & Strawberry plants for NZ.

All strawberries supplied in New Zealand come from 'Strawberry Plants for NZ.' Afterwards, the group had lunch in Café Nineteen, Katikati Golf Club.

(L). The first Kiwifruit grader.

Marie Mabey, Newsletter Editor.



President Maree welcomed the members, nine visitors, and read the names of members with birthdays in April. Welcomed from Wairere Rebus were **Jo Power and Sally Brotherston**. **Club Speaker, Heather Burney** spoke about genealogy. She is turning every aspect of her research into interesting stories so that they won't be lost. Everyone can be good caretakers, e.g. write the names and details on the backs of photographs. **Guest Speaker, Mary-Ann Ewing** talked about her family's two-week ski trip in Japan. It's the best place in the world to ski and to experience an onsen (spa). Travel every-where is by train. No-one speaks English, and they always felt safe. Photo: Lindsay Stockbridge.

Helen Goldfinch, Newsletter Editor.

And that brings the April edition to a close. I know some contributions will "miss the bus" this month – my apologies, as distribution has been a few days earlier than usual. However, those who feel they have missed out will be the first cabs off the rank in May. There are only 24 hours in a day, and our calendar up to the second week in May is chock-a-block, hence the change. And we are supposed to be retired! I don't know how we ever had time to go to work.

I am looking forward to our trip to Mount Maunganui and the AGM, as well as catching up with Rebus folk I meet just once a year. Omanu Rebus Club has organised a very exciting programme for attendees. Thank you, Omanu. It looks as though May will be a bumper issue.

As mentioned in my introduction, we are very happy to welcome the **Rebus Club of Papanui Christchurch** to the Rebus Family. They stuck to their decision for change and we commend you for your tenacity. Two other clubs trying to make the same move buckled under the pressure of misinformation. We hope to hear from Papanui in the coming months, and Rebus Club News will share news of their escapades in the South Island. They join the southern contingent of Milton, Stoke-Tahunanui and Motueka Rebus Clubs.

Best wishes, and till next month, keep warm, and enjoy the sunny days.



Jean,

Editor, Rebus Club News.

We shall miss your very interesting and amusing repartee ! Thanks for the hours, weeks and years that you have generously given to the members of Rebus Clubs!! To quote a 'famous person', in the coming years you will be able to get "most of your exercise from shaking your head in disbelief. " If you had one failing ? It could have been 'doing the Job ' far too well !! Warm regards and many thanks, Peter (Warkworth Men's Rebus Club.)

Hello Jean,

I will miss writing to you as Editor of *Club News*. Yours has been a highly notable contribution to the success of Rebus NZ. The monthly edition of *Club News* links members together in a way that nothing else can. We have all benefitted from your editorial expertise with the stamp of your own warmth of character. Thank you ever so much and best wishes for the future. Dean Halford, Rebus Club of Palmerston North.