



# REBUS CLUB NEWS

*May 2024*

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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 Mount Maunganui. **Omanu Rebus Club**, the hosts, compiled a varied programme for delegates, showcasing their special part of the country. Thank you, Omanu, your efforts were greatly appreciated.

New **Chairman, Garth Dutton**, was handed the Chain of Office from George Tregidga, and **Stephen Becket** from Warkworth Men's Rebus Club, was welcomed to the Board. **John McCall** from Pukenu Rebus Club has subsequently offered his services to the Board, and will be the new Treasurer, taking over from Nigel Dougan who retires due to ill health. (Who will ever forget Nigel's MCing performance at the Taupo AGM?) **Steve O'Sullivan** from Rebus Club Cambridge/Rebus Club of Riverside Hamilton has offered to be the Rebus Club News Editor when his two current presidencies expire next March. See photos of the AGM on page 9.



**And now, a special message to all female members.** Looking ahead to the 2025 AGM when I retire from the Board, and Sue Eckworth's two-year-term finishes, that will leave the Board without any female representation whatsoever, unless we have some new ladies on the Board. The female perspective on some matters is very important. Over 60% of Rebus members are female, and your views need to be aired at Board level. The job is not onerous

– Board Meetings are held by Zoom approximately every two months, for about 1.5 hours. Please give this your serious consideration – **Rebus needs you!**

And that gentle appeal is enough from me for one month – now on to the good stuff – your news.

## REBUS CLUB OF HAMILTON



At the April meeting two new members were inducted: Helen Burnie (L) introduced new members **Donna Malcolm and Alison Finnigan**, shown with Karen Devoy, President (R).  
*Kath Kenrick, Bulletin Editor.*

**People will forget what you said, people will forget what you did,  
but people will never forget how you made them feel.** Maya Angelou.

## FITZHERBERT REBUS CLUB INC.



was won by Bill Fletcher - ask him about his trip!

### Visit to the Feilding Flying Club, Taonui Airfield.

Nine years ago we visited the airfield and had arranged a lucky draw for two rides in the club's Technam aircraft. So, in March 2024, it was thought "yes" why not another visit? **Stan Hyde, FFC President**, welcomed everyone and invited visitors to enjoy tea or coffee while he outlined the history of the club, before visiting three hangars to view various aircraft. Seventeen had bought lucky draw tickets for a trial flight in one of the Club's Technam aircraft which covered the cost of the trial flight, but only eight were there for the draw, which

*Allain Scott.*

**A rich person has many treasures: a wise person treasures many friends.**

**"If you stumble, make it part of the dance."** Anon

## AVONDALE LADIES' REBUS CLUB



Today's intended speaker was unavailable so instead of learning about cook books we were entertained with a very interesting and well-presented talk on the volcanoes of Auckland presented by **Dr. Bruce Hayward**, geologist, marine ecologist and author. Thanks, Bruce for filling in at such short notice.

*Barbara Douglas, Newsletter Editor.*

(L) "The Good Old Days."

## COMBINED REBUS CLUB OF PARAPARAUMU BEACH INC.

A pleasant trip to Porirua by eighteen members at the beginning of April. **Aspiring Walls**, a family-owned New Zealand company, has been manufacturing high quality wallpaper for over 50 years. **The owner, Neil MacDonald**, gave us a very informative tour of his premises. Wallpapers aren't what they used to be. In fact, the



modern papers can be dry stripped and re-used on another wall! Neil explained that the premises are too large for his company, so there are a number of other businesses sharing the premises. Around the corner and you find bus stop shelters being manufactured.

Following our tour, we went to **Pataka Art and Museum**, where we enjoyed lunch. *Gill Nash.*

**Grandparents Raising Grandchildren** was the topic for our **Main Speakers, Kathy Proctor and Cecilee Donovan** in May. They gave an inspiring talk on the challenges of raising grandchildren. *Steve Hutchison, Bulletin Editor.*



## REBUS CLUB CAMBRIDGE



Last month, President Steve presented **Ann Maclure** with a framed **Certificate of Appreciation**. Ann has been a club member for over 10 years, and has served in many positions on the committee. Lately she has arranged catering for all club meetings, ploughman's lunch and the Christmas luncheons.

A group of members visited the **Cornerstone Alpaca Farm** at Gordonton, where they listened to a presentation from the wonderful Lieb, then got out to meet and feed the Alpacas.

Photos: Liz Webb and Davide Pini.



*Steve O'Sullivan, Presidential, Scribe.*

## TAUPO MOANA REBUS CLUB

After having to call off several earlier attempts at visiting the Siberian Huskies we had a perfect afternoon to see these beautiful animals earlier this month. Steve and Taniya are just down the road at Broadlands and gave us a fascinating insight into owning and building your whole lifestyle around a seventeen strong group of pure-bred Siberian Racing Huskies. They are classified as working animals and need to race regularly, either round their purpose-built track or in the neighbouring forests. We were given a demonstration of them high tailing it round their track with Steve at the reins, and then given the opportunity to get up close and personal in a specially built fenced off enclosure where these beautiful animals mixed and mingled with us, just like normal family pets. After a cup of tea and a biscuit we ended our two-hour visit – a magical experience. *Christine Bailey, Bulletin Editor.*





## REBUS CLUB OREWA



Guest Speakers at our April meeting were **Jill and Georgie** from the **Hibiscus Coast Citizens Advice Bureau**. The CAB was set up in New Zealand in 1970 to help immigrants settle in New Zealand, giving them advice on how to get help with any problems they had. They brought along with them many information brochures for us to take home, ranging from writing wills, consumer information, where to find a Justice of the Peace and more. An interesting question was asked by a member, "How do I identify myself to the banks etc. if my passport has expired and I have no drivers licence." This is something the CAB can help you with. *Maureen Grigg, Bulletin Editor.*

## REBUS CLUB OF RIVERSIDE HAMILTON



It was my great pleasure at the last club meeting to present **Life Membership to Gerald Bailey**, a long serving member of the Riverside Rebus Club.

Two new members were introduced to the



club last meeting: A warm welcome to **Shirley Williams and Michele Church**.

*Steve O'Sullivan, President.*

## REBUS WAIHEKE ISLAND



**Wine Group:** For their April meet the wine tasters enjoyed an Italian-themed wine-tasting and quiz session at **Judi and Ross Barrett's** lovely house in Te Whau. A great event enjoyed by all, but particularly by **Team Veneto**, comprising **Grant McCrostie, Mary Webb, Marsaile & Norman Walkinton**, who won the quiz,

and for their brilliance received a *pesce al cioccolato* \* each.

\* *chocolate fish.*

*Tania Sweet, Newsletter Editor.*



## RED BEACH LADIES' REBUS CLUB



Last month's **Guest Speaker, Optometrist Dennis Oliver**, provided excellent advice on maintaining good eye health followed by a lively question time from members keen to learn more.

We extend a warm welcome to Lyn Fraser who was inducted into the club last month, pictured at right with President Lorraine.

*Bobbie Wakenell, Newsletter Editor.*



**I had a rose named after me and I was very flattered.  
But I wasn't pleased to read the description in the catalogue -  
"No good in a bed, but fine against a wall" Eleanor Roosevelt.**

**I don't make jokes. I just watch the government and report the facts. Will Rogers.**

## REBUS CLUB OF FEILDING



Our Speaker in April was **Helen Worboys, Mayor of the Manawatu District**. Helen gave a PowerPoint slide show informing us of what's going on in and around Feilding.

The extension of **Turners Road** will be completed in stages. **Ohakea Air Base** is the largest in NZ, which is great for our District, with 230 new Families moved into the area. The new residential area **Maewa** will have 1700 new homes. In Feilding they are developing residential accommodation close to town. The new **Library** may be open in July. Growth is good but it must be managed, e.g. more people on the roads. Police are lobbying for a bigger police presence in Feilding. Pictured, Jane Ward who introduced Helen. *Lyn Jensen.*

## WEST AUCKLAND MEN'S REBUS CLUB

**Charles Nicholls** addressed his fellow members with a fact-filled description of the history of **The Alhambra**. "It is more than just a building; it reflects both the light and shadow of humanity. In 2016, my wife Helen and I visited The Alhambra, a monument of Islamic architecture, which stands atop a hill. Its strategic location suggests it was used for defence. In winter, the surrounding hills would be blanketed in snow, providing a vital resource to the hot climate - water. The invaders of 711 were not purely Arab. The Moors nearly captured half of France before their defeat and retreat. Had they been successful, most of Europe might now be Arab, Muslim, or Moorish. The Moorish invasion of Granada and their interaction with other inhabitants and religions has had a lasting effect on modern-day culture, politics, and society in Spain. Before the birth of Christ, the region was occupied by the Celts, Phoenicians, and Romans. After the fall of the Roman Empire, it was the Christians who took over. The Moors invaded because they saw it as a desirable territory and had conquered large parts of it by 714. The initial invasion was led by a man named Tariq in 711, sent by the Caliph of Damascus to recover estates taken by King Roderic, the Visigoth King who ruled from Toledo. Spain today faces numerous issues, with the Basques wanting to be separatists and people in Valencia and Barcelona often talking about secession from Spain. They struggle with defining what it means to be Spanish." *Vince Middeldorp, Secretary. (This is a brief precis of a seven-page account. Fascinating! Ed.)*



## REBUS CLUB OF KHANDALLAH



**New President, Judy Whiteside**, thanked outgoing President, **Nick Lambrechtsen** for the efficiency, kindness, wisdom and calmness with which he led our meetings and committee meetings.



New member **Barb Allen** was inducted into the Club, and **GUEST SPEAKER: Stephen Opie**, CEO, Age Concern Wellington Region, addressed us with a talk entitled "Good relationships keep us happier and healthier." *Sharon Major, Editor.*

## REBUS CLUB OF MANAWATU

**MAY SPEAKER: John Edwards** described the project using coconut husks from Tonga to treat wastewater. The team of students led by **John and Nicola Brown** have tested different kinds of husks, how long these needed to soak in the reactor, and what nutrients were left after treatment. The project could benefit Tonga where, although flush toilets are in widespread use, there's no sewage treatment plant and septic tanks are often not maintained properly. Next, the team hopes to test the system in Tonga. *Margie Comrie, Newsletter Editor.*



**If you do read the newspaper, you are misinformed.** Mark Twain.



## REBUS CLUB OF FOXTON

**Matts Kitchen @ Foxton Hotel:** A superb turnout for our Foxton Rebus dinner outing. We enjoyed an excellent evening with tasty meals and by pre-ordering - quick service! Great prices too. Thanks Denise for organising this.

*Dereley Barry, Newsletter Editor.*



## REBUS CLUB OF PALMERSTON NORTH

**Jim Walker** was again our **Club Speaker** at the May meeting. He enthused about a local production of the stage show **Matilda** in which his granddaughter played a leading role. The high standard of performances, costumes and props showed what talent there is in the local community.

Our **Guest Speaker, George Dempster** from the **Arohanui Hospice** in Palmerston North, spoke about his life and career leading up to his present position as spiritual and bereavement pastor at the hospice. He then gave an insight into his work there and said it was a privilege to give "wrap-around care to those who are going on their journey to the end of life."

On a recent outing, a number of our members enjoyed a visit to **Brenda Rae's garden** (thanks to Sue Eckworth for the photo) on Muhunua East Road near Levin, followed by lunch at the **Salt & Pepper Café**, Ohau, known for its excellent food.



*Dean Halford, Newsletter Editor.*

## THAMES BONANZA REBUS CLUB

Recently we had an interesting and intriguing presentation on the history of **Bottles**. **Brian and Arthur** had been collecting bottles for many years and had a magnificent display. The amount of history in every type of bottle was quite amazing. The medicine bottles from early America and the potions and remedies from those days are not very different from what we get on the internet with all the modern-day miracle healers. We spent about 3/4 of an hour talking and asking questions about bottles. The beauty of our generation, and Clubs, is we get great enjoyment from any subject imaginable.

*Murray Newby, Editor.*



**The only difference between a taxman and a taxidermist  
Is that the taxidermist leaves the skin.** Mark Twain.

## REBUS CLUB OF GULF HARBOUR

**Guest Speaker, Michael Sanders, President of Centrestage Orewa**, provided an entertaining and informative May address. Centrestage is owned by a Trust, and the theatre seats 205. This year it is putting on 6 productions and has 4 full-time staff. It costs \$14,000 per month just to keep the doors open. He pointed to the costs of the rites to produce shows, mentioning that **Les Misérables** had cost \$18,000. It is always a gamble that ticket sales will exceed operational overheads. A description of the audition process ahead of any production is particularly interesting, and subsequent rehearsals can take 3-4 months. One show had 20 costume changes per actor, and opening night is always nerve racking. Michael did a millinery course in London in 2019 to assist his costume design ability. Theatre has been his passion for 50 years.



**Club Speaker was Alister Fookes**, whose life since the age of nine, has been involved in farming, and farming products, until he and Gill recently retired to the Hibiscus Coast.



*J. McIntosh, Newsletter Editor.*

As President of the Levin Ladies' Rebus Club, I would like to say thank you for all the one liners you insert in your newsletter. At the end of each meeting I like to read something to our members as a parting shot for the meeting. They all enjoy these, so I now look for your little bits of nonsense. Thank you. Good to have a laugh. Lorraine Boorer.

Thank you, Jean, for all your wonderful work as the Rebus News editor. Keeping us all in touch with the activities of the other Rebus Clubs means that we are "not alone" out there, but we are one big family. Good wishes for whatever you do next. Cheers, Helen Goldfinch, Newsletter Editor, Pukemaru Rebus Club.

#### **WAIKANAE MILLENNIUM REBUS CLUB**

On Thursday 18th April 24 members travelled to Sanson to visit the **Woolshed Café** and took an audio-controlled walk through 7 houses from yesteryear; each from a different era, beginning in 1860 and ending in 1960. The houses have been restored to their original form and furnished to reflect the fashions and decor of the time. On the journey home we detoured to Lewis Farms where members enjoyed real fruit ice creams and purchased punnets of strawberries.



Instead of having a guest speaker we held a Debate at our May meeting - the contestants were pupils from **Paraparaumu College(left)** and **Kapiti College (right)**. Both teams had strong arguments with Kapiti winning the **Evans Thomas Trophy**.

Our intrepid **Cycling Group** enjoyed their coffee break at **Te Horo Café**, then

proceeded to ride home in very wet weather, via the Marycrest Underpass, right.

*David Goggin, Newsletter Editor.*



#### **REBUS CLUB OF UPPER HUTT INC.**

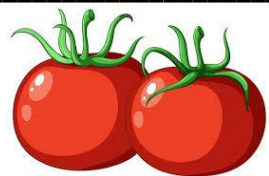
The **Guest Speaker was Lance Lukin** who joined the **Mission to Seafarers** after retiring from almost twenty years serving as a Chaplain in the **NZ Defence Force**. Lance explained the work of the organisation in ensuring the safety and wellbeing of ship crews, from mental health to food and pay. It was clear that there are major areas of concern, and that treatment of crew varies greatly depending on where shipping companies are registered and where crew were recruited. He pointed out that while plane crashes are likely to be front page news, few people realized that a ship sinks every two days somewhere in the world and is hardly likely to become news.

*Alex Attewell, Newsletter Editor.*



#### **SOUTH WAIRARAPA REBUS CLUB**

**Martin Connelly, Mayor of the South Wairarapa District Council**, was **Guest Speaker** in April, and he feels that Wairarapa is doing very well. He noted that Wairarapa population is growing older faster than the rest of NZ because of the numbers retiring here. We are quite dependent on immigrants for support of older folk. The new Dark Skies Reserve will be a continuing attraction to the 80% of the world's population who never see stars at home. He noted that the four smaller towns are doing well due to their various local functions and events that attract visitors. Classic car and cycle tours are seen regularly. Martinborough has the Jazz Festival, the Chamber Music Festival and two popular fairs; Greytown has a Mid-Winter festival and an Apple Harvest Festival; Featherston has a Book Town and Karukatea Festival that brings in 8-9000 visitors; Carterton celebrates the summer and winter solstices and Matariki at Stonehenge and has a Yule Festival. Masterton has Wings Over Wairarapa, also the Golden Shears. However, local government is "well and truly busted." The quality requirement of water supplied to homes, and wastewater disposal are very expensive. *David Woodhams.*



**SIBERIAN TOMATO UPDATE:** The seeds germinated in a few days, were potted on, and sold on the Sales Table for \$3 each. The supplier was confident that they will thrive in NZ winter conditions above 2 degrees. **However**, Rebus Past Chairman, George Tregidga, who was a commercial tomato grower, advises that pollination may be a problem, due to a lack of bumblebees in winter. He suggests gently tapping the flowers to assist this process.

Watch this space! **Ed.**



## **REBUS CLUB OF WANGANUI**

**May Guest Speaker was Dr Tony Frith.** Tony has taken an interest in **Graffiti** and how this culture has spread around the world. The Artistic and the Rubbish. He presented a slideshow featuring Graffiti in the English city of Bristol, the hometown of renowned and celebrated graffiti artist **"Banksy"**. He even featured some graffiti from our own city. Many of the artists from around the world started their journey to fame from graffiti. It is pleasing to see that many a building can feature beautiful murals, while others are mainly defaced with scrawl. Certainly an interesting subject.

**WELCOME to Rebus Wanganui:** Sheila Pacitto, Susan Cocker, Lesley Wills, Robert Wills, Susan Crawford, and Kath Whale.

*Paerau Taylor, Newsletter Editor.*

## **REBUS CLUB OF HIBISCUS COAST**

Our **Guest Speaker was John Small**, who joined **The Department of Corrections** in 1989, initially thinking of a 2-year stint before moving on. He studied, and eventually became a specialist instructor, in "Controlled Restraint" in which 3 x staff can control a prisoner and keep the facility managed. His current role is as **Residential Manager at Auckland Prison, Paremoremo**, the only maximum-security facility in NZ. During his career he has also filled roles as Prison Director at Auckland Women's Prison and Deputy Prison Director at Pare. He talked about the new facilities at Pare – how many prisoners are held in each block and how the system works. He described the behaviour of those who are incarcerated there – mainly those who are "the worst of the worst". He also talked about how they "mix and mingle" the various gang members to ensure no single gang becomes dominant in the prison. He closed by noting that "while some prisoners will remain inside for the rest of their life, most are going to be released".

Right: the **Ramblers** in Fanshawe Street, Auckland City, 13 May.



*Earl Brookbanks, Editor.*

## **WARKWORTH MEN'S REBUS CLUB**

For the last few months, we have been trying to capture **Mr. Rob Lees, the Warkworth Butcher**, to come to our meeting so that we could present him with a **Certificate of Appreciation**. The Warkworth Butcher, a Nationally Award-Winning butcher, has been providing us our raffle-prize meat-packs for some years at 'mates rates'. Recognising the contribution these businesses do for us is important. It not only gives them recognition and thanks, but raises our club's profile as well! After not being able to drag him to our meeting, our President went to his shop, but Rob wasn't there so the certificate was presented to one of his staff.

*Stephen*

*Becket.*



**"I'm not old. I've just been young for a very, very, verrry long time."** Judi Dench.

## **CAMBRIDGE MEN'S REBUS CLUB**

Around 51 members attended the May meeting, at which **Lieutenant Commander Greg Liddy** gave an enthralling account of his career in the Navy, coupled with his observations of global defence systems.

The members visited the Alpaca farm – an enjoyable outing for all.

*Nigel Salter.*



**To me, "drink responsibly" means don't spill it.**

## **REBUS CLUB OF WHANGAMATA**

The Speaker at our May meeting **Thomas Capdevielle** from the **Coromandel Chocolate Shop**, who spent four years studying in a prestigious chocolate academy in Southwest France and worked with renowned French chocolate makers. He climbed the ladder step by step learning from the very best and gaining valuable experience. After leading the kitchen of **Honest Chocolate** in the North Island he recently opened the **Coromandel Chocolate Shop** in Whangamata. The company sources its cacao beans from their plantation on the remote island of **Malekula on the Vanuatu Archipelago**. In the small village of **Pinalum** the plantation has cacao trees that are 30-35 years old. After the beans are fermented and dried on the plantation they are shipped to New Zealand. Here in their Whangamata chocolate kitchen, they take pride in making chocolate the old-fashioned way.

*Leyden Baker, Newsletter Editor.*

## STOKE-TAHUNANUI LADIES' REBUS CLUB



In April we celebrated our 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, and a special function was held. Photo (L) **President Pam Lockyer** and **Secretary Judy Codyre**, just prior to cutting the Birthday Cake. Photo (R) President Pam was presented with a Certificate of Attainment from Rebus NZ Inc. by **Sheila Pollitt**, a Foundation Member, and Past President, several times.

## WOMEN'S REBUS CLUB OF WAIKANAE



**May Speaker was Janice Swan:** who informed, entertained, and maintained our interest with an excellent presentation on the origin and need for her **Sortout Service** in today's world. The focus is on offering personalised, practical help with decluttering, downsizing and estate clearance. Operating throughout the **Greater Wellington Region** since 2019, Janice and her team work with you to make your space the way you want it, get ready for a new home or give extra help when it is needed the most. Outlining ways to declutter and downsize, Janice advised to start small and early, plan and set goals, clear one cupboard, space or room at a time. Remember that items are not your person – they trigger memories to hold in your heart and mind. When family say, "Sorry Mum and Dad we don't want your stuff!" share the story that turns the possession into a treasure worth keeping. A thought to ponder, **"When you choose to collect experiences, rather than things, you never ever run out of storage space"**.

*Mary Paddock, Newsletter Editor.*

## PUKENAMU REBUS CLUB INC.



**MAY OUTING:** A group of 19, including guests from **Wanganui Rebus**, settled in for a trip to **Tarata Fishaway Lodge** that is nestled in the back of Taihape. Heading north, we turned off just past **The Wool Shed**, (amid many mutterings that perhaps we could visit there on the way back). As we drove into the back country, vast expanses of farmland spread before us and the sheer majesty of the cliffs had us gasping in awe at nature's influence. We lunched at **Tarata** on a lovely cottage pies, and feijoa muffins. Afterwards, some bravely went in a buggy down a rough track, beside centuries old trees, to the river. The sheer size of everything made us feel very insignificant

(P.S. we did visit the Wool Shed). Report, Barbara Young; photo, Lindsay Stockbridge.

*Helen Goldfinch, Editor.*

## NEW – REBUS HATS (APPAREL)



To promote the **Rebus** brand, a range of apparel has been designed and approved by the Rebus NZ Inc. Board. A link below will allow access to the supplier's website to enable ORDERS. On entering the site, you will see that the current range is limited

to peak caps, bucket hats and visors at this stage. We will extend this range in due course. The price first displayed excludes GST and shipping. It is therefore recommended that **purchases should be in batches of at least 10**, which can be a combination of any of the 3 items. Delivered price will be approximately \$20 per item when ordered in lots of 10, whereas a single item will be approximately \$30. Here is the link: <https://www.rebus.nz/apparel>



And that brings to a close the May edition of Rebus Club News – twenty-eight contributions, and what a variety. There are some hidden gems to visit in this beautiful country, and many of you are sniffing them out – thanks for sharing them with the Rebus Family. One such gem was a visit to Kevin McCardle’s wood sculpturing studio in Bethlehem as part of the Rebus AGM activities, which left us all gobsmacked. Below are photos showing what we got up to in Mount Maunganui. The actual AGM was only a small part of the proceedings, and delegates enjoyed each other's company during interesting trips and dinners. If you have not been to a Rebus NZ Inc. AGM before, I encourage you to consider attending the next one, 2025, in Palmerston North. I hope to see you there! Till then, keep warm, keep safe, and keep sending me your news – it is eagerly awaited by members all around the country.



*Jean, Editor, Rebus Club News.*

## REBUS NZ INC. AGM 2024, MOUNT MAUNGANUI



Above left, the **AGM**.  
Right, Delegates enjoyed trips to the **Port of Tauranga** and **Kevin McCardle’s wood sculpture studio** in Bethlehem.



Left, visit to **Classic Flyers Museum**, and right, **“The Elms” Historical Missionary House**.



**And the Saturday Night Dinner at Club Mount Maunganui. Thank you, Omanu, for your planning and hospitality.**