



# REBUS CLUB NEWS

January 2022

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**A Happy New Year** to you all – don't the years flash by? It seems only a few years ago we were welcoming in the new Millennium, with the associated anxiety about the Y2K computer virus. Twenty-two years on we are battling a virus of a very different nature, one that can hit any of us if we are not prepared to the max. So, keep up the good work we have all become accustomed to – our protection is in our own hands now that Omicron is loose in the country.

Rebus NZ Inc. is delighted to announce a newcomer to the Rebus family. The **Waikanae Combined Rebus Club Inc.** (formerly a Probus Club), is now a fully-fledged affiliate. Many of its members will be known to other Rebus Club members in that part of the country. Welcome to you all, and what an exciting way for us all to start the New Year.

Rebus Club News enjoys articles from clubs right around the country, and the simplest way to send your contributions is to add my email address (in blue at the top of this edition) to your own club's newsletter/bulletin circulation list, then I can select which items to include in the next edition, and hopefully provide a variety for your enjoyment. When the finished product of Rebus Club News is emailed to club officers, it is intended for circulation to the entire membership – ah, the wonders of technology. Alternatively, just send me an email with your news, hopefully accompanied by a photograph if possible. We are all still children at heart – we love the pictures! So, it's time to make yourself a drink, and join me as we travel the country to catch up with your news.

## COMBINED REBUS CLUB OF PARAPARAUMU BEACH INC.



**Ken Belt** was inducted at the November meeting. Ken was a guest speaker at our club a few years ago, talking about lighthouses around New Zealand. Welcome Ken.

The Bookies (right) doing a roaring trade on Melbourne Cup Day.



**Steve Hutchison**, our **10-minute Speaker**, brought us up to date on all matters pertaining to computer security, and our **Main Speaker** for the November meeting was **Ross Calman**, who told us about the life and times of his distant relative **Te Rauparaha**.

**Christmas lunch at Anzil** was one of the very best. Nobody I have spoken to who was there could find fault. As a committee, we were very pleased with both the turnout and the quality of the experience. What we will do next time though, is negotiate the price of a glass of wine! *Steve Hutchison, Presidential Scribe.*

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## THAMES BONANZA CLUB

**November Meeting.** Our thanks to **Robin Plummer** for his presentation on his solo walk along “**The English Way**” to Santiago de Compostela, in northern Spain. This was no mean feat physically, with the potential threats from the wild pigs etc. in that area. I simply took the train when travelling across Spain.

An added surprise was the **Member's Talk** from Barby Barclay. I never expected that she had spent part of her life in Papua New Guinea.

**Christmas Dinner – Thursday 16 December 2021**, held in the **Thames Golf Club Lounge**. In addition, we had the pleasure of sharing a 60<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary celebration with 2 of our members. *Gary Meek, Newsletter Editor.*

**Some people enjoy eating snails. Perhaps they do not like fast food.**

## TAURANGA CENTRAL LADIES' REBUS CLUB



**David Love** stepped in at short notice with some very amusing and fascinating incidents from his time in RAF Intelligence and close protection of the Royal Family (except Princess Diana). Prince Charles, Princess Margaret, Princess Anne (who was a "delight"), the Queen and Prince Philip were among those he remembers for very different reasons.

In Germany he was involved in nuclear weapons security, in Hong Kong as Counterintelligence Far East security. He attended international conferences and meetings regarding world safety.

After a holiday in New Zealand, he, and Wynn (our valued member) came to live in Tauranga. David was a founding member of Classic Flyers and is now a Regional Councillor responsible for Civil Defence for the Bay of Plenty and Risk and Assurance.

*Margaret Douglas, President.*

## REBUS CLUB OF FOXTON



**CHEESE MAKING** with Leonie Patterson, Levin in November. What a great day. Thank you, Leonie and Mike, for your hospitality. We thoroughly enjoyed our cheese making day. Left, Leonie showing us how it's done.



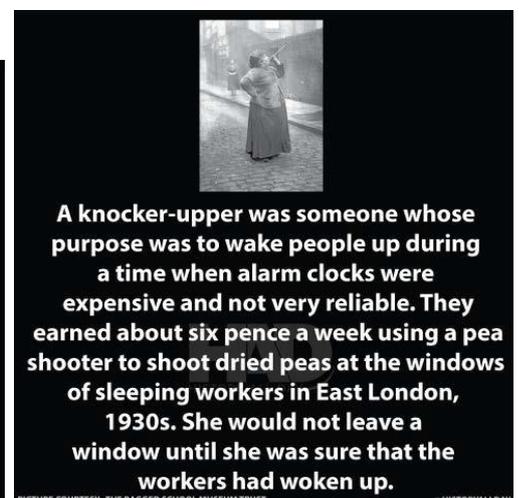
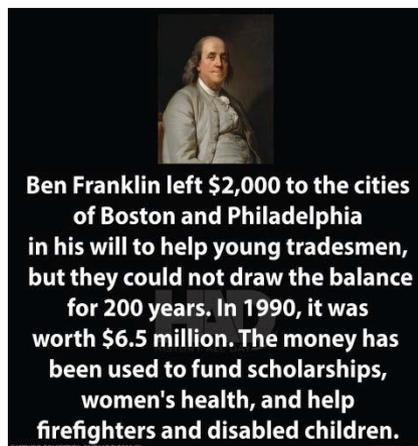
**Merchiston Homestead Visit.** We had lunch at **Moo Maa Café & Design Store** near Rata and then on to the Homestead by 1.30. A lovely long tree-lined driveway led to a very imposing homestead, which spans back 5 generations. **Hosts Richard and Vicki** guided us on our tour. Some of us even dared climb up onto the roof look-out!! Here we are by the Baroque Fountain, the centre attraction at the Christchurch International Exhibition 1905-1906.

*Dereley Barry, Newsletter Editor.*

**DID YOU KNOW? 11% of people are left-handed.**  
**On your birthday you share it with 9 million other people.**  
**Dragonflies have 6 legs but can't walk.**

## REBUS WAIHEKE ISLAND

*Thanks to Tania for these "Mind Bogglers".*



*Tania Sweet, Newsletter Editor.*

**"I don't care what people think of me. Mosquitos find me attractive!"**

## REBUS CLUB OF MOUNT HOBSON

Considering the restrictions on the numbers of people and social distancing required for an indoor gathering the Committee decided that there was no alternative but to cancel the Xmas lunch. However, the intention is to hold the lunch on **March 15th, 2022, at the Remuera Golf Club** subject to any Covid restrictions. Planning is underway to make this a special and enjoyable occasion which will be subsidized by the Club. Meanwhile, new members approved in August but not yet inducted, are waiting in the wings: David McLister, Peter Nelson, and Geoff Witcher. Good things are worth waiting for, gentlemen.

*Chris de Boer, Newsletter Editor.*

## REBUS CLUB OREWA

2021 was a different sort of Christmas for some:



*Maureen Grigg, Bulletin Editor.*

## REBUS CLUB OF RIVERSIDE HAMILTON



**Tramping Group:** We completed our last trip for the year in perfect weather. While one group did the climb to the Waihi Beach lookout, others had a leisurely walk around the reservoir and down to the beach, where the Pohutukawa's were in flower. One tree with yellow flowers was of particular interest. Lunch was at the RSA, complete with Christmas crackers, and was enjoyed by all.

*Steve O'Sullivan, Bulletin Editor.*

## CAMBRIDGE MEN'S REBUS CLUB



The Club meeting on 19 January 2022 was well-supported by 51 members and guests despite being during the holiday season. **Colin Pierce** gave us a most interesting account of his early years in Whangarei, and the hardships suffered by his family when his father failed to return from the war. He shared his experiences in marketing – including the promotion of NZ's first defence of the America's Cup - and concluded with an outline of his involvement with a charity formed to assist those with disabilities.

**Guest speaker was our own Past President Neil Bridgland**, (right) who gave his impressions of life in Cambridge, and its willingness to support community projects. He provided an interesting – and sometimes humorous - outline of the services provided by the Cambridge Community Patrol, of which he is the Chair.



*Nigel Salter.*

**Life is like a camera. Just focus on what's important. Capture the good times. Develop from the negatives and if things don't turn out - take another shot.**

WAIKANAE MILLENNIUM REBUS CLUB INC.

## **CHRISTMAS PARTY and DINNER**

**Relish Café, 2 December 2021**



The Golden Oldies Moviemakers have started their new film this month.

*David Goggin, Newsletter Editor.*

### **TAUPO MOANA REBUS CLUB**

It was billed as the Best Entertainment in Town and **Xmas Lunch at the Taupo Bowling Club** on Wednesday 8th December. 66 members attended, and the festive fare was lovely, roast ham and lamb with a selection of hot vegetables and new potatoes, desserts of sticky date pudding, pavlova, cream, and fresh fruit salad. The caterers did



well. Unfortunately, Father Christmas forgot to book an MIQ spot, but our very own compere Shona had invited Mother Christmas to appear in his place. The sleigh arrived by remote control but lacking the all-important Reindeer. Luckily Rebus was selling surplus Reindeer. Mother Christmas quickly determined her choice for a great team.

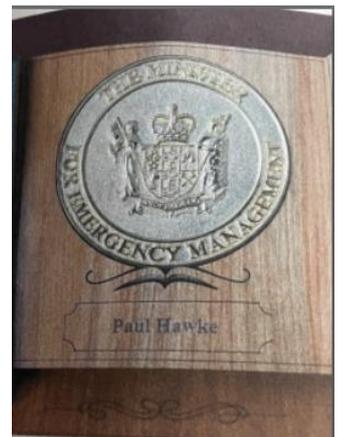


Surprise, surprise, the available herd of eight just fitted the bill. Our sincere thanks go to the planners and the Committee for a great luncheon with splendid entertainment.

*Susan Blackman.*

### **HASTINGS REBUS CLUB**

Our Past President has received an outstanding award – the **former Civil Defence Emergency Management Officer** was among those recognised by Acting Minister for Emergency Management, Kris Faafoi, at an award ceremony in Wellington. **Paul Hawke** (40-years' service) was one of the two people being awarded. Paul has made an invaluable contribution to Emergency Management not only in his area of Hastings/Havelock but across New Zealand. He attended several significant disasters including Thames-Coromandel floods (1981), Te Aroha floods (1985), BOP earthquake (1987), Cyclone Bola (1988,) Ruapehu Eruptions (1995-1996), and the Lower North Island floods (2004). Paul assisted the former Ministry of Civil Defence, including the development of the Civil Defence School and its Courses, the development of the Rescue Manual, and training of rescue teams - the predecessor of today's USAR. On Club days, Paul steps in at short notice to give us a riveting talk about his many experiences and is a very valuable member of our Club.



*Leon Davidson.*

### **RIVER CITY REBUS CLUB, WANGANUI**

We had an excellent turn out of members for the **Christmas Function** – great company and food. January's Speaker is Dale King – "History, Thistle Sweet Shop".

*Jonathan Seagers.*

**"Remember, Today is the Tomorrow you worried about Yesterday - and all is well."**

## WEST AUCKLAND MEN'S REBUS CLUB



We continued our recent series of Coffee Mornings at **The Falls Bistro, Henderson**, on Friday 10 December. Eleven members, plus 2 wives, attended. This was in lieu of our regular monthly meeting. Normal service will be resumed this month, with a meeting in New Lynn on 14 January. Ray Stoddart, a fellow inmate at Waitakere Gardens and a gang prospect, also attended. Ray is seated at the head of the table on the right, in earnest conversation with Andrew Geddes. Enjoyable as Coffee Mornings are, they are no substitute for proper monthly meetings. *John Milhaljevic.*

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## WAIKANAĒ COMBINED REBUS CLUB INC.



*As mentioned in my introduction, Rebus is delighted to welcome Waikanae Combined Rebus Club Inc. as our newest affiliate. By way of introduction the photo left is of President Clive Palmer, who writes:*

*"We look forward to our association with you. Our first Club meeting of 2022 is on February 8 which will be a special occasion when we acknowledge a continuation of our community group under a new banner. We don't currently have a photo of our full committee but will attend to this in due course. In the meantime, I attach a photo of myself and hope that will meet your approval for the January newsletter. On that score I am also editor of our Club newsletter and look forward to contributing to your monthly edition with news of our local activities."*

*Clive Palmer, President & Newsletter Editor.*

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## REBUS CLUB OF PALMERSTON NORTH



Our December 2021 meeting was fun: Most people wore a hat to give the meeting 'character', with prizes awarded in several categories. **'Christmas tree'** was a winner (see photo). We also had a general knowledge quiz with NZ flavour to sharpen up the mind. **Club member Jim Walker** told us of his varied career in the Manawatu, including factory work, scrub cutting, dairy farming, banking, taxi driving, café and corner store ownership. No holding Jim back.

Christmas Lunch on 15 December was at the magnificent **Wharerata Function Centre** set in beautiful grounds at Massey University. The food was delicious, and the piano music provided by our own maestro Milton Pedley was much enjoyed. One of Palmerston North's significant historic buildings, Wharerata was built in 1901 for retired farmer Arthur Edward Russell and his wife Ethel, designed by Charles Natusch, and built of native timbers.



*Dean Halford, President.*

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## SOUTH WAIRARAPA REBUS CLUB



### FROM THE DOG BOX

The man who smiles when things go wrong has thought of someone to blame it on. If we are to survive, we must have ideas, vision, and courage. These things are rarely produced by committees. Everything that matters in our intellectual and moral life begins with individuals confronting their own minds and consciences in rooms by themselves.

"To get something done, a committee should consist of no more than three people, two of whom are absent" -- Robert Copeland. *David Woodhams, Editor.*

## KOWHAI REBUS CLUB OF BETHLEHEM



**New Members:** Vivienne Wilton, Gillian Jenkins, Zheng Vargis, President Tony Hopkinson, and Renee Hill.

Our **Christmas Dinner** in December was a great success and weren't those Highland dancers a treat?



*Lisa Sutherland, Newsletter Editor.*

**Be like a postage stamp and stick to one thing until you get there.**

## REBUS CLUB OF GULF HARBOUR



What better way to end off our year than with **Christmas Lunch** at "Hello Manly" attended by 32 Club members. The Buffet was outstanding.

January commenced with a visit to the wonderful **Michelangelo Exhibition** in the city by our CBD Explorers Group. Being able to view a reproduction of the ceiling of the Sistine Chapel so close and at leisure was special.

This was followed later in the month by a **BBQ at Shakespear Regional Park** attended by 40 Club members. Our **Monday Rambles** continue every week followed by a social coffee and a sticky bun.



*Peter Odendaal, Secretary.*

## REBUS CLUB OF UPPER HUTT INC.



The **Guest Speaker** was yours truly and the talk was entitled "**Not All Blood and Guts**". The intention was to show some of the other aspects of a Police Photographer's work.

I did hear some comments that some of the crime scene work might have been of interest. The difficulty is finding what is acceptable to the greatest number of members. Maybe next time.



Photo above, Aurora Cave Rescue Exercise, and (right) Speed Camera Work.

*Alex Attewell, Newsletter Editor.*

## REBUS CLUB OF WANGANUI



**JANUARY OUTING, Radio Museum, Wednesday 19th January.**

A great outing. A delightful couple hosting our group and sharing their amazing collection.

Many a nostalgic memory and a few laughs. We could all relate to one of these.

*Paerau Taylor, Newsletter Editor.*



## WOMEN'S REBUS CLUB OF WAIKANAE



Above are just five of our winners.

Thirty-eight ladies attended our **Christmas Lunch in December** which was held at **ANZIL in Lindale**. We had an extensive menu including venison, lamb and ham-on-the-bone and many different salads and hot vegetables. Dessert was either tiramisu or cheesecake followed by tea or coffee. We were very well looked after by the staff and the whole experience was a lovely prelude to the Christmas celebrations. The committee assembled around 20 prizes for the lucky number winners.

*Mary Paddock, Newsletter Editor.*

## HOKOWHITU REBUS CLUB INC.

WELCOME to our two new members, **Ian and Barbara Kennard**. Here they are with President Bette. They were introduced by Rex Easton at our Christmas Meeting. What a super **Christmas Function** we all enjoyed at **The Chalet**, a lovely venue, especially so on that beautiful sunny December lunchtime. The food was delicious, the mood was so convivial – everyone had a festive head piece - and the table decorations were great. Our entertainment was different and very entertaining. Father Xmas was let down by the absence of the Christmas Fairy. She had had trouble in MIQ after coming from the North Pole. He felt everyone was having a lovely time.



*Bette Bretherton, President.*

## REBUS CLUB OF HIBISCUS COAST

The annual bowls outing at the Manly Bowling Club was held on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> of January in bright sunshine with a little breeze across the rink which made things interesting! Twenty-eight members and wives enjoyed the outing and the BBQ lunch that followed. President Phil Martell sacrificed the bowling to run the BBQ, and other members' wives chipped in to provide a good spread. There weren't any winners on the day except good quality social time together. We appreciated the hospitality of the Bowling Club under the current Covid 19 status.

*Garth Dutton, Bulletin Editor.*



## PUKENAMU REBUS CLUB INC. WANGANUI



The **Christmas/Birthday Lunch** was well supported and enjoyed by 63 members. The committee is grateful to those businesses who donated vouchers for the raffles - they were very much appreciated by all the winners. **Colin Clancy and Mary Harrison** cut the cake.



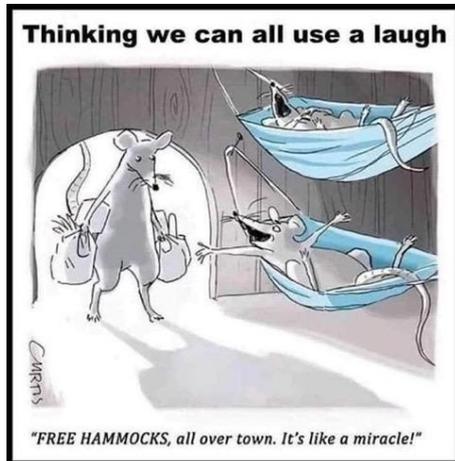
*Helen Goldfinch, Newsletter Editor.*

## OMANU REBUS CLUB

### February Speaker: WALKING WITH MOAS.

Les Cheyne is an amateur explorer and archaeologist. In his earlier years he was a keen hunter of moa bones and artefacts. Over the years he has researched and collected a vast amount of information concerning the history and culture of the moa hunters. His talk traces this history and where they fit into his understanding of older cultures which inhabited New Zealand over many centuries. He has samples of moa bones to show the audience and encourages plenty of questions.

*Graeme Wilson, President.*



And that ends the first edition of Rebus Club News for 2022. Our hopes had been high for an improvement in Covid restrictions, mandatory and voluntary, but as the virus keeps mutating, what next? I know that sounds very negative but, make of it what you will – we can either ignore it or learn to avoid it. Some clubs are still unable to hold a meeting for the willing, because of their venue's restrictions, and that is hitting our enthusiasm hard. I know I think twice about selecting the company I keep, which is a shame, but for most of us the self-preservation instinct is strong.

On a brighter note, we have been enjoying wonderful weather this summer, and for some of us it is "that time of year" when the preserving pan and collection of jars come out of hibernation – I have made Apricot & Passionfruit Jam and Tomato Chutney so far, and it is still January. However, a good rain would be very welcome here on the Hibiscus Coast. So, until next month, stay well and stay safe.



*Jean - Editor,  
Rebus Club News.*