



# REBUS CLUB NEWS

*April 2022*

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Welcome to Rebus Club News, and I start this edition on Anzac Day. When Covid took hold of our lives a lifetime ago our Neighbourhood Watch Group adopted the idea of standing by our letterboxes to observe the annual Dawn Service. In those dark times it was a way of not only honouring our heroes, but also bonding with our neighbours, albeit at a safe distance. This morning the group was smaller, and we stood closer together as we paid our respects to the fallen. The emphasis was back where it belongs as, so far, we are survivors, and the need for each other's company is not quite as desperate as it was two years ago. Afterwards, as we chatted over hot coffee and homemade Anzac biscuits, some were keen for our new tradition to continue – but who knows. For as long as Anzac Day is commemorated, **we will remember them.**



## REBUS WAIHEKE ISLAND



Last month's Wine Group gathering at **Passage Rock Vineyard**, Waiheke Island.

*Tania Sweet, Newsletter Editor.*



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## REBUS CLUB OF RIVERSIDE HAMILTON

On Thursday, March 17th, an enthusiastic group of us were up very early for the 6am trip to Auckland on the Te Huia, Hamilton to Auckland train. On arrival at the Strand station, in Auckland, it was a pleasant walk to the Waiheke Ferry Terminal. The weather was perfect for walking the "**Sculpture on the Gulf**" trail, which wound around the headlands, up and down the hills with glorious coastal views. The sculptures were amazing, this is just one of them. Thank you for a wonderful day, Colleen.

*Steve O'Sullivan, Bulletin Editor.*



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## THAMES BONANZA CLUB

**April Guest Speakers:** Our Guest Speakers for this meeting are Jane and Doug Ashby. They have a permit from the Department of Conservation to hold native lizards and geckos. They have spent 30 years educating school children in the region about lizards and will bring examples with them to our meeting.

*Gary Meek, Newsletter Editor.*

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**Beer is now cheaper than gas. Drink- don't drive.**

## REBUS CLUB OREWA



### **April Guest Speaker:**

Squadron Leader **Liesl Armitage**, Royal NZ Air Force.

She will be speaking on her life and career in the RNZAF

*Maureen Grigg, Bulletin Editor.*



*"It keeps me from looking at my phone every two seconds."*

## REBUS CLUB OF FOXTON

**APRIL 19TH Meeting:** "Antiques". Please bring along any 'old' items. Our guest speaker is **Christine Regan** from Bulls, and she will discuss and talk about your 'treasures'. She needs your bits 'n bobs to make this work.

**MAY, Friday 11<sup>th</sup>.** We are staying close to home and travelling to Waitare Beach. A short meander through the forest or on a path to '**Middle Earth Garden**' and '**Middle Earth Play-ground**'. We don't expect you to play on the community-built equipment but it's great to see what communities are doing. Bring along a small ornament to pop in their Fairy Garden if you like. Then off to **OLLIES BAR AND EATERIE** for lunch which is on the corner just before going down to the beach.

*Dereley Barry, Newsletter Editor.*

## WEST AUCKLAND MEN'S REBUS CLUB



On Wednesday 30 March we had a Coffee Morning at Esquires, The Boundary, Henderson. Seven members and 2 wives, plus 5 members of Waitakere Combined Rebus, attended.

*John Mihaljevic, Newsletter Editor.*



## TAURANGA CENTRAL LADIES' REBUS CLUB



Sue Knightly with **Guest Speaker, Alf Weston**, who with help of his wife **Cherie** spoke about his career as a set and costume designer for opera, professional and amateur theatre, television, and a gown for Miss New Zealand 1980. Video clips, set models and beautiful costumes added to this most interesting day.

Sets and costumes must be perfect for the time-period and for the part, including corsetry and underwear, (although in La Cage au Folles the drag queens would shave their legs but not their underarms or chests). Tricks for distressed clothing included gravy browning, Marmite, a cheese grater, dirt, and perspiration.

*Margaret Douglas, Newsletter Editor.*

## WARKWORTH MEN'S REBUS CLUB



**The Coffee Gatherings** have proved to be a good time together without many restrictions. The last one on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April at Sheepworld (photo right) saw 18 members with wives/partners meet together. Gary Diprose from Springboard (who have owned Sheepworld for 5 months) gave a short explanation about the work the Charity is doing with the development of young people. Left, coffee at Snell's Beach in March.



*Submitted by Ron Smalley.*

*Thank you for your contribution, and welcome to Rebus Club News – good to know what is going on in one of our most northerly clubs. I hope we will hear from you on a regular basis. Ed.*

## TAUPO MOANA REBUS CLUB

**Annual Mini Golf:** On an overcast but mild day, 29 members tackled the golf course, which proved tricky and challenging for all. There were 5 Hole-in-one scored, Graeme R scoring a real trick shot on No. 6 hole for his. Afterwards players made their way across the road to the Suncourt Bistro for afternoon tea - lovely freshly baked scones with jam and cream.

President Bill welcomed all and thanked the members for taking part in the fun afternoon, then he announced the prize winners: Graeme and Imm (a first for her). This was a most enjoyable afternoon outing for April.



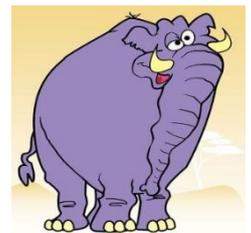
*Christine Bailey, Newsletter Editor.*

## RED BEACH LADIES' REBUS CLUB

**THOUGHT FOR THE MONTH:** Humour is an essential coping tool for surviving rough times. Shared laughter gives us strength in adversity and can help us feel more in control when the future looks uncertain. And laughter literally makes us stronger. Recent studies have found that a good laugh can boost our dopamine levels and even shore up our immune systems. So, jokes can actually do a lot of good.

As there's not been much for sale on supermarket shelves recently, yesterday one shopper decided to improvise. Dinner that night was a risotto made with some mushrooms they had foraged locally. Not only was it delicious but soon after a Welsh male voice choir of purple elephants showed up and sang the whole of Meatloaf's Bat Out of Hell album, accompanied by a spectacular light show!

*Bobbie Wakenell, Newsletter Editor.*



## REBUS CLUB OF MT HOBSON



Left: **New President Pierce Brown.**

Right: Guest Speaker for March – **Paul Moon.**

Topic: **"Hate speech and free speech in New Zealand"**. Paul gave us an excellent and thought-provoking talk on the problems of defining hate speech and the benefits of free speech. There is no definition of hate speech, and the Prime Minister's comment that "I will know it



when I see it" is not encouraging, when it is proposed that hate speech will be a criminal offence that could result in three years in jail.

*Chris de Boer, Newsletter Editor.*

**Growing old is something you do if you're lucky. Groucho Marx**

## REBUS CLUB OF DEVONPORT INC.



On 4<sup>th</sup> April Rebus Chairman, Graeme McIntosh, presented a **Certificate of Attainment** to retiring **President, Charles Digby**, celebrating the club's 35 years of service to the senior citizens of Devonport. Charles has been a very active club member for 20 years.

**Easter Picnic Cancelled.** It was disappointing that after three fine sunny days, Easter Monday should dawn with

the sound of rain on the roof and wind in the trees. However, two brave committee members arrived at the site to repel any keen picnickers. Although happy to be in the rain and wind, the seagulls left with empty stomachs as the visitors did not take any food. We will picnic here sometime in the future.



*David Thomson and Helen Chalmers.*

## WAIKANAE MILLENNIUM REBUS CLUB



**WINE APPRECIATION GROUP:** Until we are able to meet again, continue practising in your own home until further notice, all I can say is, "keep practising".



**BANQUET AT THAI MARINA, Paraparaumu, 23rd MARCH 2022.**

The Committee recommended to members at the AGM that we hold our **Dineout** and **Outing** activities on alternate months. This was agreed to, and we will hold a Dineout in April and an Outing in May.

*David Goggin, Newsletter Editor.*

## REBUS CLUB OF PALMERSTON NORTH

At our April meeting Club member **Oline Ball** told us of growing up on a farm near Norsewood, east of the Ruahine Range in the Tararua District. This area was settled in the 1870s by Scandinavian migrants, among them Oline's Norwegian great-grandparents. The dairy and sheep farm passed down to Oline's father who worked closely with Massey Agricultural College and the Department of Agriculture to develop modern farming practices.

Guest speaker **Orphee Mickalad**, a Palmerston North City Councillor, arrived in NZ in 2008 as a refugee from the civil war in the Republic of Congo. The family chose to live in Palmerston North where Orphee eventually graduated from Massey University with an MA degree in law and politics.

A group of us recently visited **Merchiston Homestead** (photo) near Rata in the Rangitikei. We toured this 34-roomed Category 1 historic place, an architectural gem built 1905-08 by John & Edith Hammond using native timbers.



*Dean Halford, Newsletter Editor.*

## WOMEN'S REBUS CLUB OF WAIKANAE



Here we welcome new member Jill Gray (right) with her sister Janet Robertson.

**Affiliation:** Hello, I am Dorothy Le Prou, Treasurer of Women's Rebus Club of Waikanae. Today I sent the form and deposited the affiliation fees for our club. I would like to say how much easier the process was compared to last year. (I had trouble with the scanning but this year with the jot form it was so straightforward). Many thanks. Yet another plus for us changing from Probus. *Dorothy le Prou, and Mary Paddock, Newsletter Editor.*

## SOUTH WAIRARAPA REBUS CLUB

The March meeting heard from **Guest Speaker Dr Richard Dodd**, a club member who spent much of his astronomical career in New Zealand, including serving as Director of Carter Observatory, Wellington. In the course of 40 minutes, Richard took us from the earliest known astronomical computer, the **Antikythera Mechanism**, thought to date from 205 BC to the very latest astronomical mechanism, the James Webb Space Telescope, launched into solar orbit on Christmas day 2021.



The largest relic (left) and a modern reconstruction of the front panel of the Antikythera mechanism. (right).



*David Woodhams, Newsletter Editor.*

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## WAITAKERE COMBINED REBUS CLUB



The club has been busy these last few months. In March we were able to elect our new officers for the following year. Our entertainment for this month was the **Laughing Policeman**, a very enjoyable time with lots of laughs and stories of his time in the police force, both in NZ and the United Kingdom.

In April we invited **Janice Chandler** to talk to us about her travels through Libya and surrounding countries. Janice brought a variety of costumes she had collected and told us stories of the local customs.

*Phyl Greenland, Secretary.*

**If you are sweating whilst putting petrol in your car,  
feeling sick when paying for it, you have got the carownervirus.**

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## WAIKANAE COMBINED REBUS CLUB

Our membership for 2022 stands at 66. We had a number of guests at our April meeting, so hope we can boost our numbers. Hopefully attendance will improve as we all get used to living with the "new normal".

At the April meeting our **5-minute speaker** extolled the adventures she and a fellow committee member had in earlier years. Probably part of their miss-spent youth! **Guest speakers** were investment managers from **Forsyth Barr Ltd** in Paraparaumu, giving advice to members on financial matters.

*Clive Palmer, Newsletter Editor.*

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## REBUS CLUB OF GULF HARBOUR



Our club is almost back to normal with the popular **Mah Jong** group starting up again; plans are afoot for the **Dining Out** group in early May; and the **Ramblers** continue to enjoy exercise and socialization every Monday morning. We have inducted 4 more new members this month. (Photos: new committee (L), new members (centre), speaker (R)).

At the April Club Meeting the **Guest Speaker, Ian Dunwoodie** gave us a most interesting talk with photos of his extensive travels and various countries where he has worked. Gulf Harbour Yacht Club has invited interested members to a quiz night Friday 22 April including dinner.

*Pamela Warner, Secretary.*

**If you think you are too small to make a difference, try sleeping with a mosquito.** Dalai Lama

## REBUS CLUB OF MILSON INC.



**We welcome Kaye Castell as our new President.**

Denis Healy handing over the President's Chain to Kaye, our new President.

**"Happiness is something that comes into our lives through a door we don't remember leaving open."**

*Margaret Broderick, Secretary.*

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## OMANU REBUS CLUB



On Thursday the 21 April, fifteen of our members spent an enjoyable evening out at **Zeytin in Mt Maunganui**. Come and join us Thursday 26 May at **Osteria**. You will enjoy good company and good food.

**MAY: Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May 10 am. PETANQUE.** Come and try your hand at Petanque – coaching will be given to all novices, but most of all, join us for some fun and good company. Afterwards, retire for coffee and a full post-mortem of play!  
*Rose Coutts, Secretary.*

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## COMBINED REBUS CLUB OF PARAPARAUMU BEACH INC.



**New member Ken Belt** was our 10-minute speaker, taking us through the years he spent at sea on a variety of ships, plying both national and international waters as an engineer.

**Film Group:** The film for March was “**The Duke**” with Jim Broadbent and Helen Mirren, two treasured actors ensuring its

success. Lunch was in the garden at **The Front Room**.



*Steve Hutchison, Bulletin Editor.*

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## REBUS CLUB OF UPPER HUTT INC.



**Short Talk:** Vernon presented a very interesting talk on the history of the **Forth Bridge in Scotland**. The bridge was the first major structure in Britain to be made of steel instead of iron. It is of cantilever construction and is just over 2.5 kilometres in length and made with 53,000 tonnes of steel and 6.5 million rivets. At the peak of its construction about 4600 men were employed and there were 63 deaths. A logbook of accidents and sickness had 26,000 entries. Construction began in 1882 and the bridge opened to rail traffic in 1890. Nowadays some 200 trains travel over

the bridge every day. The heaviest freight train is now set at 1420 tonnes.

*Alex Attewell, Newsletter Editor.*

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## KOWHAI REBUS CLUB OF BETHLEHEM



**Tony's Tales:** At the May meeting in 2021 we were facing the situation of the Club closing. Now 12 months later we have survived, the membership is at 70 members, and we open the May meeting with the Annual Meeting, postponed by U-No-What and leading to another year enjoying membership of the Kowhai Rebus Club of Bethlehem and whatever it might bring.

**Guest Speakers:** Alf & Cherie Weston, Costume Designers. *Lisa Sutherland, Newsletter Editor.*

## FITZHERBERT REBUS CLUB INC.



**Allain's message: Celebrating Mother's Day: A family raised well by a mother is one of the great wonders of the world.**

**Last month:** Dr Cynric Temple-Camp a pathologist and author enthralled us all when he spoke about his work in forensic pathology. This work involves telling the story of the patient - how and when he or she died. The time of death is critical, especially in homicide cases. Who knew a bush fly could be helpful? Cynric has written two books; *The Cause of Death*, and *The Quick and the Dead*. Proceeds from their sales go to the Rescue Helicopter.

**Speaker:** David Lanham, Chief Executive Officer, Palmerston North Airport Ltd.

*Allain Scott, President.*

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## REBUS CLUB OF WANGANUI



**April Outing, Friday 22nd April, to "Bushy Park"**

The 89-hectare **Bushy Park** Tarapurui Forest is a Forest & Bird Project. It is a rare example of North Island temperate lowland forest.

**Bushy Park** Homestead is an Edwardian-era homestead registered as a Category I heritage building by Heritage **New Zealand**.

*Paerau Taylor, Newsletter Editor.*

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## REBUS CLUB OF HAMILTON

The trip to Waiheke was a fantastic success and a credit to Susan who juggled COVID delays, cancelled bookings and weather concerns to make it happen. The end result was a memorable experience of wine tasting, olive oil tasting and zip lining over beautiful native bush with stunning views of Waiheke coastlines and Auckland city. Thirteen happy travellers shared great food, brilliant weather, fun and laughter.



**We can all now recommend Waiheke.**

*Kaye Wallis, Bulletin Editor.*

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## REBUS CLUB OF HIBISCUS COAST

The Rebus club of Hibiscus Coast and the relatively newly formed Rebus Club of Gulf Harbour are finding more areas where a shared involvement as near neighbours makes sense. The process has a natural 'footing' with overlapping membership, Gulf Harbour being a mixed club and Hibiscus a men's club, apart of course from these types of activity.

We share a regular weekly Ramblers group, a Classic Cars group and a Dining Out group. A bus trip is planned for May to visit the new Hundertwasser Centre in Whangarei.

Collaboration between both clubs makes it easier to fill the bus and keeps down costs, and both executive groups share information. We recommend such sharing of ideas to other clubs.



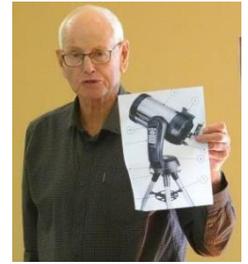
*Phil Martell, Bulletin Editor.*

**The whiter my hair becomes, the more ready people are to believe what I say.** Bertrand Russell

## PUKENAMU REBUS CLUB INC. WANGANUI



**Club Speaker, Pauline Shaw** told us about her involvement as a Remedial Therapist after the Christchurch earthquake and during the earthquake recovery period. She was, and still is, very interested to learn that “your mind can’t comprehend just what is happening during such a traumatic event.”



**Guest Speaker, John Carson** has always been mildly interested in astronomy. In early 2007, Comet McNaught was the brightest comet visible from Earth for the past 40 years, triggering his interest. He bought a telescope and became keen

on observing daytime sunspots. John demonstrated that the moon is locked to the earth by tidal gravity by using two discs representing the earth and moon.

*Helen Goldfinch, Newsletter Editor.*

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## REBUS CLUB OF KHANDALLAH



**Garden Group:** Twelve members had a very enjoyable trip to Silverstream this month. The **Gillies Garden** was a real treat. We entered a beautiful garden setting, wandering gently uphill through a meandering path and woodland area to emerge into a space showcasing a **Chapman Taylor** cottage. This had extensions added to it which merged



beautifully with the original house. We were given a tour of both the extensive garden and the cottage, with its amazing contemporary art on the walls of every room.

*Viv Forrest and Sharon Major, Newsletter Editor.*

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And on that note, this edition of Rebus Club News draws to a close. Thank you all for your contributions, but especially news from some clubs we hear from all too rarely – glad to have you on board. As with most things, the more you put in, the more you will get out of it.

There is no doubt that this dratted virus is causing many in our age bracket to be extra cautious, especially when attending gatherings – I know I am. And reading through many of your newsletters it seems some clubs are feeling the pinch a bit, whether it is with attendance at meetings, or finding members to hold office, or even serve on committee. Membership rejuvenation is a constant necessity.

This month I am suggesting “May is Membership Month”, where members bring a friend/neighbour to club day, and maybe, hopefully, increase membership. I know it is rather short notice now at the end of April, but how about “June/July is Joining Month”?

Last month my suggestion was for single chaps to pal up and form a Romeos group, but I have had no feedback - yet.

Kind regards to you all, stay well and stay safe.



*Jean,*

*Editor, Rebus Club News.*