



REBUS CLUB NEWS

August 2021

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Lockdown - here we go again! Unfortunately, we are getting used to it by now, but that dratted virus insists on moving the goalposts every time. Do you get the feeling we are constantly playing catchup? Most of our generation lead comparatively structured lives, and we were brought up to obey the rules. It is bad enough fighting the enemy from outside, without from within!! But I feel for the younger families, perhaps self-employed but not essential workers, trying to work from home, home schooling, juggling the bills, and trying to keep the household sane. Hopefully, one day, we will be able to look back to this era and tell unbelievable stories to upcoming generations, just as some of us who have a good memory can look back to the food rationing, shortages, bombing raids and upheaval of WWII. We survived then to tell the tale, and we can do it again if everyone plays their part and behaves responsibly, but I am not holding my breath.

I am already missing the weekly Mah Jong get-togethers and the chats at Club Day, and for some older folk Rebus meetings are an important way of keeping in touch with one another. Is your committee one of those who have formed a telephone tree, where the total membership is split up among the committee members? They then contact all the names on their list each week, and the lists are rotated so a different person calls you each week. Just a thought, our Club did it last year, and it was greatly appreciated. At this stage – Day 8 – we have no idea how long this situation will last. So many club arrangements have had to be cancelled, but there is still plenty of reading this month, so join me with a cuppa, or your favourite tipple, and let's take a whirlwind trip around the country to see what has been happening in our Rebus family.

REBUS CLUB OF RIVERSIDE HAMILTON



Last month, twenty Club members paid a visit to a robotic farm near Morrinsville, where they learnt how technology has impacted on dairy farming in recent years. No more rounding up the dairy herd at milking time; the cows decide when to proceed to the shed - namely, when they're hungry. Each cow takes herself into position in one of the stalls, (they observe a strict "pecking order"), whereupon her teats are washed, before the cups are automatically attached. Each cow has a collar containing its data, which includes a calculation of the amount of feed to which she is entitled that day. When she has consumed her entitlement, the cups detach themselves automatically, the gate in front of the cow opens, and she goes off to a pre-determined paddock, then another cow takes her place. In the event of an emergency, the farmer is alerted but otherwise, the whole process can take place without human intervention.

Steve O'Sullivan, *Bulletin Editor.*

REBUS CLUB CAMBRIDGE

Our **July Meeting Speaker** was Tim Ross from C&R Developments. Tim gave us a very entertaining and informative talk about this Cambridge family-owned business with 60 years' experience. Civil earthworks and bulk earthmoving projects completed to date include major roading and subdivisions, reclamations, dams, water irrigation channels, marinas, water storage, landfills, stream diversions, as well as mining.

Our **10 Minute Speaker** was Margaret Carver who spoke about how, in the middle of the pandemic, they managed to bring family back to New Zealand from Papua New Guinea. What a mission! Steve O'Sullivan, *Newsletter Editor.*

"Chocolate is the answer. Who cares what the question is."

OMANU REBUS CLUB



34 of our members attended the **Oak Tree Restaurant** in Greerton on Wednesday 28 July for our Mid-Year Lunch.

Although cold outside, we all enjoyed the warmth and lovely selection of food and desserts inside.

Music Group



In our little group, photo right, we take turns to host the meeting. The hostess chooses the music, which makes for a good variety. We listen to classical and semi classical music, and may start with a concert, followed by shorter pieces. Sometimes we have a short video from YouTube. When we have coffee/tea the music is more as a background, so that we can check that our voice boxes are in working order. That gives us time for putting the world right! *Adrienne Wilson, Newsletter Editor.*

“Without music, life would be a mistake.” Nietzsche, philosopher, and composer.

REBUS CLUB OREWА

At last month's meeting we had a team representing the **Orewa Life Saving Club** as our main speakers. Gwenda Holster-Dowler introduced President John Chapman, Zane Taylor, and Andrea May. John talked about the history of the club, the different important activities they promote, the coaching of different teams, but mostly dwelt on the redevelopment of the new club house. The plans and artist's impression were shown, and the new building will probably be the most important building in Orewa on a prime position of our beach. The frustrations and delay of this club house must have been intolerable for the club's planning committee. The future and safety of this development depends on the people of Orewa.



Maureen Grigg, Bulletin Editor.

TAUPO MOANA REBUS CLUB



19th Birthday Celebrations. On Thursday 15th July over 55 members gathered at the Sun Court Hotel, to celebrate, the Club's 19th Birthday. On entry we were each given two tickets, one for a complimentary drink the other for a lucky draw. We all enjoyed a delicious lunch and after the main course our birthday cake was presented, all 19 candles burning brightly. Our oldest member, Tony Beard, was given the honour to blow out the candles, which he did very well, and then cut the cake as we all sang Happy Birthday to Rebus.

A delicious chocolate brownie, with tea or coffee was served as dessert followed by a piece of Birthday cake. Gwynneth Burton was the delighted winner of the lucky draw, a beautiful presentation basket of goodies. *Christine Bailey, Bulletin Editor.*

“There are two things more difficult than making a speech: climbing a wall which is leaning toward you and kissing a girl who is leaning away from you” Winston Churchill

KHANDALLAH REBUS CLUB

The July speaker was David Hutton who has been consulting in several Pacific Island countries for the last 18 years, mostly on State-owned Enterprises. He talked about Kiribati and his work there with a focus on the shipyard in the capital, Tarawa. Illustrated with many photos David explained why having a working shipyard was essential for a country with 20 widespread inhabited islands needing safe ferry services and an economy dependent upon fishing.

The shipyard was very rundown and financially insolvent. His photos showed the rusty damaged slipway and examples of failed boat construction. When the only slipway failed, ships and ferries had to sail to Fiji for repairs. His consulting team set up a private sector concession contract with international experts to fix the broken slipway and build a new, larger one. Many problems, including major damage to the shipyard from cyclone Pam, required renegotiation before the deal settled.



Heather Nelson, Newsletter Editor.

THAMES BONANZA CLUB

Our Guest Speaker was Christine Gill from Osteoporosis New Zealand. Her visual presentation on osteoporosis, and bone & muscle structure, was very informative. She stressed the importance of good diet and exercise, from when we were young, and for our current age group. The high incidence of broken bones and falls in our age group is disturbing. She was notably concerned about the lack of physical outdoor activity by many youngsters in the age group of our own grandchildren. I felt tired knowing that she had been to the gym and driven from Auckland to Thames before arriving around 9.15am.

Gary Meek, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF FOXTON



New member John McConaghy was inducted into Rebus of Foxton by Committee member Logan Wilson at our last monthly meeting. Welcome to our club John.

FUN MYSTERY CAR 'TOUR/RALLY', 11th August.

Rally point, Trafalgar Street Foxton Beach by 10.20am. First carload on its way 10.30am with their sheet of instructions. Can carpooling allowed - more fun and prevents domestic fall out!!! Organised on the day. The event concluded back at Barrys' house, followed by a shared lunch.



Dereley Barry, Newsletter Editor.

Editor's Note: I have reported this in the past tense, assuming the rally went ahead as planned. Ed.

REBUS CLUB OF MILSON INC.



Some of our members enjoyed a morning playing Ten Pin Bowling.

July Coffee morning at the Golf Club.

Margaret Broderick, Secretary.



RED BEACH LADIES' REBUS CLUB



Photo left: President Trish was delighted to induct three new members last month and extended a very warm welcome to Vera Bainbridge, Carol Johnston and Judy Forbes. Great to see our membership growing these past few months.

MID WINTER LUNCHEON Photo right: Members enjoying our Mid-Winter Luncheon at Hello Manly last month.

Bobbie Wakenell, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS WAIHEKE ISLAND



Our Mid-Winter Lunch held at The Batch Winery was a great success.

Mini Speaker – Joe Bell. In 1998 Joe was approached to rescue and refurbish a 'Russian lady' about to be released from detention in London! She was a 10-ton Zil 131 Russian communications truck formerly owned by Saddam Hussein. She was moved to RAF Hack Green where a special aircraft hangar was built for her restoration. Joe then spoke of the War and Peace show held annually in June in Kent where 4,000 privately owned military vehicles meet with 1500 traders from all over Europe. Many are loaned to film companies. *Tania Sweet, Newsletter Editor.*

WEST AUCKLAND MEN'S REBUS CLUB



Friday 30 July saw 24 members and significant others enjoy a most pleasant Coffee Morning at **Waitakere Gardens, Henderson**, as guests of Metlifecare.

Resident Sales Manager Amanda McCullough (left) hosted the event, then took those interested on a tour of the village.



John Mihaljevic, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF PETONE



Alison Roberts (left) was inducted at our July meeting. Welcome, Alison.

Robin Lye of **Hearing NZ** told us what it is like to have lived with deafness for most of her life and how to adjust to hearing aids.

Valerie Wenk, Bulletin Editor.



TAURANGA CENTRAL LADIES' REBUS CLUB

JUNE MEETING - 30th BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AND LUNCH



President Sharon with Rick Elliott.



Anne O'Connor & Delia French.



Mimi Hung and Lixin Chen,
performing a Fan Dance.

Rick Elliott, Past President of the Omanu Rebus club and current Rebus NZ Board Member presented Sharon Frost with a handsome Certificate of Attainment.

Margaret Douglas, Newsletter Editor.

WAIKANAE MILLENNIUM REBUS CLUB INC.



Dot and Brian Geary were inducted at the August meeting by President Chris Jackson.

At our August meeting, we heard from **Guest Speaker**, Dr Paul Livingstone. Paul explained how his team managed to virtually eradicate bovine TB from New Zealand and the notable contribution this has had in averting significant threats to New Zealand's meat and dairy industry. Another great story of persistency and achievement.

David Goggin, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF MT HOBSON



July Guest Speaker – David Seymour.

David covered a range of topics including Covid/MIQ, housing, law and order and economics. He sees his role as a politician as representing the views and aspirations of people and taking them to Wellington, so he was keen to hear our views.

Housing is a major issue. Our future depends on being a property-owning democracy and the key is supply of housing. Law and order is critical. We are a public-spirited nation, but the Government must be even handed. David then answered a range of questions on He Puapua, charter schools and the increasing use of Aotearoa.

Chris de Boer, Newsletter Editor.

'Sport is not the most important thing right now, preserving human life is. This Olympic flame will be the light at the end of this tunnel.' Thomas Bach, IOC President 2021.

I am well trained to hear if my wine is not breathing properly, and if not, to give it mouth to mouth resuscitation. Gary Meek, Thames Bonanza Club.

MOUNT ALBERT LADIES' REBUS CLUB

On 11 August, 22 of our ladies enjoyed a visit to Highwic House in Newmarket, Auckland. Highwic was built in 1862 in the American Carpenter Gothic style for Alfred Buckland who had extensive business interests in Auckland and beyond. This large beautiful old home is now under the care of Heritage New Zealand. We began with a talk on the history of the house and the Buckland family. We were then able to wander through the house to see how a wealthy family in the 1800s lived. Five surviving acres of garden surround the house. Although the tennis court, croquet lawn and glasshouses have gone many splendid large trees and gardens remain. We completed the day with a roast lunch at the New Lynn R.S.A.



Diane Dorreen and Anne McKenzie.

PUKENAMU REBUS CLUB INC, WANGANUI



Club Speaker Fred Verschoor talked about his homeland that he left as a 16-year-old. He explained that dykes, windmills, and tulips all associated with The Netherlands had very different origins; dykes were used by Romanians, windmills came from Greece and tulips from Turkey. In the Netherlands dykes were built because the whole country is below sea level (Nether meaning below), windmills are mainly used as pumps to pump out the water and the country is the largest exporter of tulips/flowers. He also explained that **The Netherlands** is the name of the country, Holland is a province and Zeeland is a group of small islands. Abel Tasman gave New Zealand its name as it was also a group of islands.

Helen Goldfinch, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF PALMERSTON NORTH

The guest speaker at our August Club meeting was **Isaac Henderson from the Massey University School of Aviation**. He presented a very interesting history of airships and their current resurgence in a variety of applications and services.



Outing: A group of our members drove to Porirua recently for a conducted tour of the **NZ Police Museum**. A very informative talk and set of displays covering most aspects of police work since 1886 kept us fully occupied until lunch, joining with some 220 recruits, other trainees, and staff in the Police College.

Two senior students from Awatapu College will speak at our September Club meeting about their aspirations and preparations for the future. We recommend this practice to other clubs – it is refreshing to engage with young adults in this way.

Dean Halford, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF UPPER HUTT INC.

The August meeting was unable to be held because the country is in lockdown.

Interest Groups: The function and operation of the various interest groups has been something of a mystery to those not involved. A document that explains what they do has been put together and will be given to new members when they are inducted.

Interest groups are a great opportunity to socialise and to get to know other members much more readily than at a general meeting. Other clubs have groups such as photography, walking, mah-jong, discussion, scrabble and rummikub for example. Anyone who is willing to start and run a group, contact Lesley Christie. *Alex Attwell, Editor.*

"Those who teach shall also learn and those that learn shall also teach".

SOUTH WAIRARAPA REBUS CLUB

The **Guest Speaker** at our 28 May meeting was retired media personality **Ian Johnstone** who discussed a few of his experiences in NZBC, TV 1 and TVNZ during the last third of last century. Topics ranged from the political to documentaries, local and international, to Crimewatch. Ian was the first to interview Robert Muldoon on TV as the new Prime Minister in 1975 and moderated his last TV debate as PM with David Lange in the run up to the 1984 election.

Mid-Winter Luncheon: Twenty-five members of the Club celebrated the passage of the 2021 solstice on 25 June at Peppers Parehua in Martinborough, the fourth time we have dined there. Entertainment was home-made: community and solo singing of some older popular songs, led by your editor, taking members on a musical tour of some of the dark places of his soul.

On 30 July 10 members and 3 guests travelled by car to **Te Papa Tongarewa**. After the tour, several of us paid extra (with Gold Card discounts) to explore the current visiting exhibition: "**Surrealist Art: Masterpieces from Museum Boijmans Van Beuningen**". *Thanks to Newsletter Ed. David Woodhams for re-establishing lines of communication. Ed.*



REBUS CLUB OF HIBISCUS COAST (This item was accidentally omitted from our July edition).

In July the club's Trip Convenor, Steve ran another great activity with his **Car Mystery Tour**. 26 members and partners enrolled and set out in 7 cars on a rather grey day but full of boisterous enthusiasm, clip boards and driving gloves at the ready. The route and the clues to be found were well set up and imaginatively compiled by Steve and Tessa with



morning tea provided by them at Sanders Reserve after steering clear of Paremōremo! Lunch, sometime later was at The Riverhead Tavern and an excellent meal was enjoyed in convivial company with plenty of fun and



laughter! Inhabitants of the neighbourhoods we drove through could have been forgiven in thinking that there were three times as many cars, as numerous 'U' turns were carried out.

Garth Dutton, Bulletin Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF GULF HARBOUR



Our **Guest Speaker was Riley Bell**, an experienced RNZAF and retired Air New Zealand Captain, who shared his experiences in his talk "**Getting to know Southeast Asia from the air.**" Starting with his arrival in Singapore his talk covered Nepal, Thailand, Vietnam, Laos and Borneo among other places. He started flying the functional but strangely striking Bristol 170 Freighter, nick-named "the truck" which was a far cry from the Boeing 787 Dreamliner when he retired. A truly interesting speech and an even more interesting career.

In the words of Robbie Burns "The best laid plans of mice and men often go awry" and so it was when Covid yet again interfered with our arrangements. The plan to visit the Classic Car Museum in Hamilton was postponed at the last minute - Oh well, something to look forward to another day. Even our special Interest groups Dining, CBD Explorers, Mah Jong and Ramblers are on hold but will surely return. *Peter Odendaal.*

FITZHERBERT REBUS CLUB INC.



The Club's 24th birthday was celebrated in style in August. President Owen Fawcett and Life Member Pat Goodwin cut the cake after Chris Daykin was welcomed as a new member. Due to illness our guest entertainer was unable to attend our birthday celebrations, so our thanks go to Pam and Owen Fawcett for organising an alternative. They started with Pass the Parcel game based on the history of the Fitzherbert Rebus Club. This caused much hilarity as the parcels were passed left or right. A

quiz on the Club followed and tested our knowledge. People also spoke, when asked, on their time at the Club from foundation members to new members.

Bev Wallace, Secretary.



REBUS CLUB OF HIBISCUS COAST

Visit to Chelsea Sugar Refining Company. 32 of our members boarded a bus on the 17 August to head off for a guided tour of the Chelsea Works. This turned out to be the last day before the plunge into Level 4 at midnight that evening. Fortunately, the site did not subsequently feature as "one of interest". We thoroughly enjoyed the tour having been split into two groups which alternated between an excellent lunch and the tour itself. Steps were comfortably navigated by most of us, and the train was an easy way of viewing the extensive buildings and plant. This is a relatively low-cost event for local Clubs, is highly recommended and can even be considered for car-pooling.



Garth Dutton, Bulletin Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF HAMILTON

What a great meeting we had last month. Thank you all for your participation. We had **Ailsa and Gavin Petrie** present their Reflection Speech on their trip to the South of the South, with a great photo presentation and very interesting commentary. Our main speaker was **Dwight Egelhof of Craigs Investment Partners**. He gave us insight into what they do and how they could help us achieve our retirement financial goals.

We have 22 members who expressed interest in the proposed defibrillator training. Many thanks for your commitment. The Committee thought it would be beneficial to include CPR training and are planning a separate day for this.

Kaye Wallis, Bulletin Editor.

COMBINED REBUS CLUB OF PARAPARAUMU BEACH INC.

Last month we enjoyed a **10-minute talk by Keith Dreyer and Robyn Janse**, recounting to us their recent three-day trip to Auckland. Escorted by the **Operatunity Travel Club**, the highlight was an evening at the theatre to see "The Lion King". The Travel Club arm of Operatunity is one of the biggest and most successful in New Zealand, reflected by significant fulltime staff numbers needed to run the whole operation. A tour of their H.Q. also featured in the itinerary and splendid dining experiences meant it was 5-stars all the way.

We welcomed **Darren Gray as our Guest Speaker**. He works for Kapiti Coast District Council in the area of animal control and, in particular, "Pet Emergencies". However, his address to us was primarily about his work with the Animal Evacuation New Zealand Trust, a charitable organisation set up to help animals at times of national emergency. The Trust's work extends beyond our shores and its volunteers have spent a lot of time in recent years helping in the rescue of wildlife during the Australian bushfires. Thanks to the work of Darren and his Animal Evac NZ colleagues, there have been many stories of animals returned to full health. They look to the public for financial support and who could deny their work is deserving of our support?

Steve Hutchison, Presidential Scribe.

REBUS CLUB OF WANGANUI

LOWER SOUTH ISLAND RAIL 9 Day TOUR IN WINTER.



This slightly dirty DXC3483, (diesel electric locomotive,) was selected from the Christchurch depot for a special passenger train, to head southward to Invercargill, on Tuesday the 17th of August 2021, picking up passengers after an overnight stay at the "Novotel" in Christchurch. However, as fast, and enjoyable as the experience was travelling across the Canterbury plains, Oamaru was as far as it got. (Oamaru welcome photo right). Likewise for all the 71 travellers, mainly Aucklanders. After one night in Oamaru, COVID struck and lockdown loomed, 48 hours to get home. All passengers were bussed back to the start line, Christchurch, and there waited up to five hours for flights home. There were two Rebus members amongst this sad lot who got back to Wanganui at 10.00pm Wednesday night. It was a long way to go for three days, but on reflection it was one of those experiences that life throws at you every now and again. It was certainly an enjoyable train ride.
Brian Mosen.



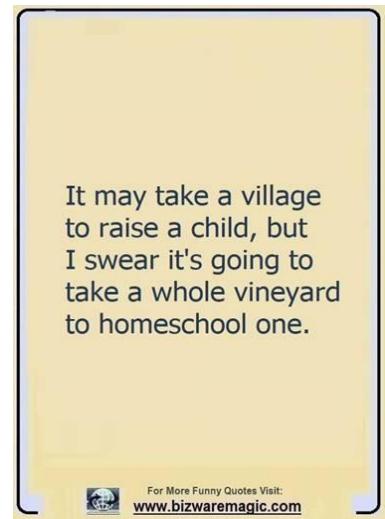
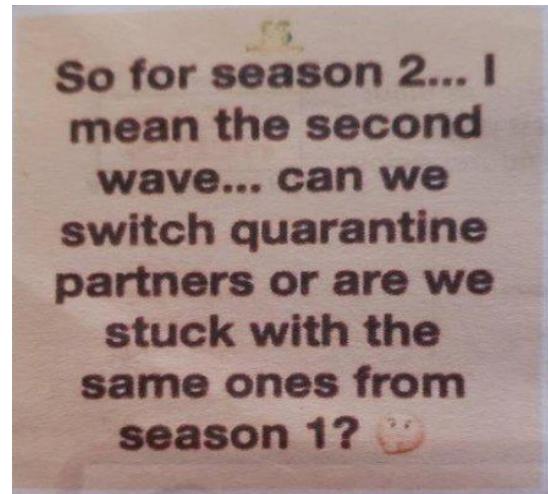
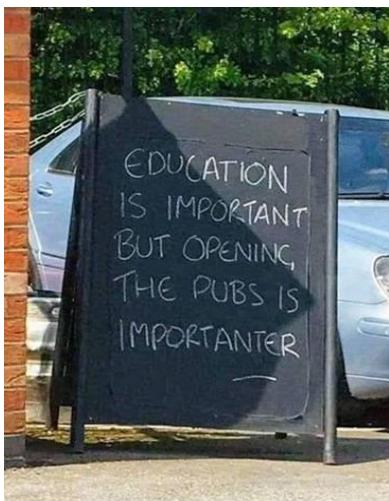
And thus ends the August edition of Rebus Club News, a little bit different this time because of the catchup with a couple of wayward contributions, and [funnies on the following page.](#)

I suppose lockdown is an opportunity not to be missed, to get some jobs done at home. It depends on your priorities, mine tend to lead me to the kitchen, (I have got as far as picking the Seville oranges for marmalade), but my husband is miffed because he is not allowed to go fishing. I had an email today from a friend who says she is going to spring-clean the house, room by room, then remodel the garden!!! It probably doesn't matter what you achieve, if you can look back in six months' time and say "I read 10 books/I wrote a book/I walked every day/I mended the deck/I knitted a jumper for the dog/I painted the spare room" etc. etc. I am not going to spout facts and figures about this virus, I leave that to the "Jacinda & Ashley Show", but it really is a nasty one this time, so please, stay safe, stay warm, and I look forward to being with you again next month.



Jean (Editor, Rebus Club News)

* If you need a good laugh in Level 4 Lockdown, just click on this link. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pi0_Ps5c08I Then tap to turn on sound.



First day back at school after lockdown 😢😢伟大复兴



Many thanks to West Auckland Men's Rebus Club for this bunch of funnies – it does us good to have a good chuckle now and then.

