



REBUS CLUB NEWS

October 2021

*[Email:rebusclubnews@gmail.com](mailto:rebusclubnews@gmail.com)

Welcome to the October edition of Rebus Club News, and I hope the last four weeks have not been too hard on you. Hopefully there is some light at the end of the tunnel as summer and the festive season approach. I am starting work on this edition during Labour Weekend, a time many of us devote to our gardens, but here in Auckland, garden centres are closed, and the likes of Mitre 10 are selling only building supplies. I tried ordering online but was told there is a 4-6 week waiting list for deliveries. What a year this has been, and here in Auckland this weekend has seen the worst Labour Weekend weather I can remember. Of course, it is no use moaning, it is what it is, and we must make the best of it. I feel for those folk living alone in retirement villages who are not permitted any visitors – if you are one of those, I hope this month's Club News will help to cheer you up. If you are living independently, and you know someone without transport in a village, how about picking up the phone for a friendly chat, maybe on a regular basis – your call could make a world of difference in these difficult times.

During this month I sent out an invitation to the Clubs we seldom or never hear from, as a gentle reminder that we would love to include their news each month. I have to say my inbox is not overflowing from new contributors, but I hope you enjoy this month's edition.

HOKOWHITU REBUS CLUB INC.



President Bette Bretherton writes: "One bright spot of Lockdown for me - I have mastered the art of making edible muffins!!! It's only taken me forty years since coming to New Zealand to master making these."

Plans for our **Christmas Luncheon** are well in hand. The price will be \$35 per person. This year your committee has decided that any member who has a partner who is not a member, may invite them to the Luncheon if they so wish.

Joan Letts, Newsletter Editor.

OMANU REBUS CLUB

This Club has an impressive selection of interest groups: Birthday Coffee Morning, Knitters and Friends, Music Group, History Group, Travel Group, Computer Capers, RSA Film, Walking Group, and Wine and Dine Group. Something for everybody.

November: Papamoa Garden Circle: Once again we have been invited to join the garden club with their planned trip on **Wednesday 24th November** to Matamata and Tirau. The cost of \$50 per person includes morning tea and lunch as well as entry to the gardens selected. This promises to be a great day out! *Adrienne Wilson, Newsletter Editor.*

REBUS WAIHEKE ISLAND

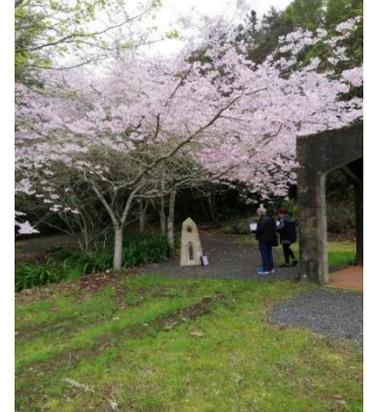


Thank you to *Tania Sweet, Newsletter Editor.* Members around NZ will be interested to see these photos – A Tui eating peach blossom by Gail, Jane's garden snap, and Godwits on Blackpool Beach by Jennie. Beautiful, thank you.

REBUS CLUB OF HAMILTON: SCULPTURE PARK AND WAITAKARURU ARBORETUM DAY TRIP

by Kaye Wallis

A small group visited the Sculpture Park at Waitakaruru Arboretum. We had a personal tour provided by our hosts Dorothy and John Wakeling. The enthusiasm from this couple was evident as they described the work they have put into the development of this quarry site. John was a most delightful host showing us plantations and tree species and talking of the work that Wintec students and Bunnings are engaged with them in upgrading the park. We had a 2km walk around the site and saw the replanting of 3.5 hectares that is underway with a mixture of native trees, including their planting of trees and shrubs to recreate an Asian forest. This was followed by a most enjoyable lunch at Zenders.



THAMES BONANZA CLUB

We are delighted to advise our members that we will have an October meeting, under Level 2 conditions, Covid permitting. We look forward to socialising together again.

Guest Speakers

Our Guest Speakers for this meeting are the Head Boy, Bradley Sayer, and the Head Girl, Ka-in Kim, of Thames High School. In attendance will be the Senior Deputy Principal, Maria Baird. *Gary Meek, Newsletter Editor.*

REBUS CLUB OREWA



The Book Chat Group: Unfortunately, our September meeting was cancelled. Now we look forward to our next meeting, dependent on lockdown level. Many books have been read and the group now wants to share and hear all about them.

Friday Walkers: I am sure you have all been out walking and keeping fit. We are unable to give a firm date to start our Friday morning walks, with lockdown levels as they stand. Contact Norma Parker. *Maureen Grigg, Bulletin Editor.*

REBUS CLUB OF MT HOBSON

What does one put in a newsletter when club meetings are prohibited? *Chris de Boer, Newsletter Editor,* gave a detailed account of a recent trip to Ireland and England, returning a hire car full of petrol when there was a national shortage, dealing with proof of vaccinations, airlines, and queues of all sorts. Then MIQ in Auckland, exercise routines and unpalatable food delivered in paper bags!! *Thank you, Chris, certainly an eye-opener. Ed.*

Why is the man who invests all your money called a broker?

WEST AUCKLAND MEN'S REBUS CLUB

Old school voice recognition

"I reside at a pleasant retirement village, Henderson," writes Eric Strickett. "Walking into reception I noticed a couple signing in, having purchased an apartment. The wife had her back to me but I recognised her voice from some 70 years ago – from the secondary school we both attended, Otāhuhu Technical High School. I said: "Hello Pauline!" She spun around and said! "Hello Eric!" How did we recognise each other? We had never met again in more than 70 years. I remembered we were both in the cast of *Iolanthe*, a Gilbert and Sullivan opera at the old Orpheus theatre, Otāhuhu. Our music and drama teachers had no problems with female volunteers for the chorus but could not get any boys. So a decision was made to ask the lads in the lower 6th form to volunteer. The incentive was, we got to kiss our girl partners in the grand finale! We were allowed to choose our partners but had to be of the same height. We did not get on to kissing rehearsal until act 3, the correct way to kiss was demonstrated, then one by one we were checked, having seen some rather amorous kissing in films. The pupil who played the Lord High Executioner later became famous, the late Max Cryer. So we all had a great time with our youthful vigour and enthusiasm, played to packed houses every performance! I forgot to say, Pauline had a lovely high clear voice, always right on key!"

Member Eric Strickett is a regular contributor to the Sideswipe column in the New Zealand Herald.

John Mihaljevic,
Newsletter Editor.

PUKENAMU REBUS CLUB INC. WANGANUI

Helping Out at Planting Time

Kevin and I owned Turakina Orchards from 1980 till 2000, growing and selling apples and pears. Then we diversified into stone fruit and vegetable growing for sale in our road-side shop.



To help with the vegetable planting Kevin purchased an automated vege planter, where someone sat on the back of a tractor with big trays of cell plants. On either side of the machine rubber cups came around and you inserted the plant, the cups went around and automatically dug the hole, inserted the plant, and covered it up. A very good system but you had to be "onto it" and work rather quickly, inserting plants left, then right etc. etc. Usually, my mother did this job while Kevin drove the tractor. One day I took over from Mum and after a slow start I thought "I've got this" and the system was speeded up. After a little while I happened to look back and thought – hey something's wrong here. I had put the cell plants the wrong way up in the planter and they were all in the ground upside down – yes, leafy side in the soil and the roots sticking up in the air. Of course, we had to retrieve them all and start again. It's a wonder I didn't get the sack. *Kathleen O'Sullivan.*

REBUS CLUB OF RIVERSIDE HAMILTON

Chew'n'Chat at the Hamilton Gardens Café is continuing to prove a great success. Joe Barrett arranges with the Café to reserve several tables for members, and they are all filled! Table service quick and cheerful, and the fare is well-received. Chew'n'Chat is a major Club social activity, and all members are encouraged to give it a go – catch up with old friends, make new friends.

Tramping Group: We will travel to Kopu crossing over the new bridge and meet Frances at the historic Kopu Bridge. There, a lady from the **Kopu Bridge Restoration Trust** will tell us the history of the bridge and open the barriers so we can walk across it. It is suggested we make a gold coin donation to the Restoration Trust as a thank you. From here we will continue into Thames where a walkabout is planned, with a fish and chips lunch at the wharf a possibility. *Steve O'Sullivan, Bulletin Editor.*

REBUS CLUB CAMBRIDGE

BE LEVELHEADED!

Woke up this morning filled with verse,
About the deadly Covid curse.
The strongest ploy so it won't get worse
Is to make two visits to the "Pfizer" nurse.
Take sound advice and don't be vague,
We all must help to quell this plague.
Best keep your distance – wear your mask,
That's not too great a plea to ask.

Think of your neighbours – remain in your bubble.
Keep two metres apart to stay out of trouble.
We Cambridge people have made wise choices,
You'll know who we are, by our "Muffled voices."



Steve O'Sullivan, Newsletter Editor.

TAUPO MOANA REBUS CLUB

"When a flashlight grows dim or quits working, do you just throw it away? Of course not. You change the batteries.

When a person messes up or finds themselves in a dark place, do you cast them aside? Of course not. You help them change their batteries. Some need AA . . . Attention and Affection; some need AAA . . . Attention, Affection and Acceptance; some need C . . . Compassion; some need D . . . Direction. And if they still don't seem to shine, simply sit with them quietly and share your light."

Christine Bailey, Bulletin Editor.

**Life is fortified by many friendships:
To love and be loved is the greatest happiness of existence.**

REBUS CLUB OF PETONE

Even at level 2 lunch venues are no problem and we are still able to hold our Lunch Club, October's lunch will be at K Sing, 192 Jackson Street, Petone. It is so good to be able to get out and see each other. To come along give Jennifer a call.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH: It will be good to be able to celebrate Christmas together at Te Marua Golf Club. As always, partners and friends are welcome to come with us. If you require a lift, let us know and we will arrange it for you. The cost will be \$35.

Valerie Wenk, Bulletin Editor.

"There is a major difference between intelligence and stupidity. Intelligence has its limits." Albert Einstein.

REBUS CLUB OF PALMERSTON NORTH



At our October club meeting, we welcomed **Maureen Thompson** as a new member. Two speakers gave very interesting talks: Member, **Milton Pedley**, entertained us with humour and thoughtful reflection about his life experiences. **Killian de Lacey**, our Guest Speaker, enlightened us (the inside story!) about her 28 years as a nun, followed by 30 years of nursing after having left the Order.

Members from our Rebus Club and the Mid-City Probus Club had lunch together at the Manawatu Golf Club. A good way to meet others with common interests and share experiences over an excellent meal. Several of us visited the museum at Palmerston North Hospital recently (masks on) to view the tools and practices of the medical profession over the last 130 years. Lunch at Cravings Café finished an enjoyable outing. *Dean Halford, President.*

TAURANGA CENTRAL LADIES' REBUS CLUB

Fancy an overseas holiday? - if we ever get to go again!

We know where we will end up if our ticket says **LAX** or **SYD** or even **AKL**. But what about **DIE** or **BRR** or **COW**?

DIE = Arrachart Airport, Madagascar. Created before the Second World War as Camp Arrachart, a French military and civilian air facility, the airport was named after Ludovic Arrachart, a French aviator and pioneer of intercontinental flying, who made one of the first postal flights between France and Madagascar. **BRR** = Barra, Scotland is an island in the Outer Hebrides, and the second southernmost inhabited island. The island is named after Saint Finbarr of Cork. **COW** = Coquimbo, Chile. Coquimbo is a port city, commune, and capital of the Elqui Province, located on the Pan-American Highway. The area was originally occupied by indigenous people, who used it as a settlement and for fishing purposes. (Not a lot of people know that, Margaret. Ed.)



Margaret Douglas, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF FOXTON

October Meeting, NEW FORMAT.

Must wear a mask to Boat Club.

At 9.45am on arrival a cuppa and socializing.

Once we have had our cuppa, we are requested to stay seated. Comfort call will be between activities.

SPEAKER for this month is from the Stroke Foundation.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS REPLACEMENT FOR DECEMBER. *

Could you please supply personal items e.g., shampoo, soap, body wash, toothpaste, brush etc. which will be donated to likes of Lonsdale residents. (e.g., \$5 value).

Dereley Barry, Newsletter Editor.

**Editor's note: I have noticed recently that the "Secret Santa" is becoming a thing of the past. It seems most of us would rather donate an item to a truly worthy cause, such as Women's Refuge or a local charity.*

SOUTH WAIRARAPA REBUS CLUB - VACCINATION VIBES

At its meeting this week, your committee discussed the thorny issue of COVID19 vaccination and how we, a caring community, are going to respond in coming times, when vaccination becomes our final line of defence. We are of an age said to be more at risk than younger others and we each need to have confidence that a South Wairarapa Rebus Club meeting is a safe environment.

What we can hope for is that all our members are fully vaccinated (VV), wash their hands, scan PR codes, keep warm and follow whatever rules of social behaviour become necessary in the new era.

Your committee agreed that we should aim to achieve the very best we can so that we all can meet and socialise with real confidence that our personal safety is not at risk. We know that some people, perhaps some members, will not get vaccinated (UV). How do we even know whether we have any UV members? Do we have the right to ask? So, maybe the Government should mandate inspection of vaccination passports as a prerequisite for entry into all indoor public gatherings of more than say 20 people.

The easy way out for the committee and the club is for every member to be VV and your committee members (all of us VVs) encourage any UV member to get VV'd ASAP.

David Woodhams, Newsletter Editor.

WAIKANAE MILLENNIUM REBUS CLUB INC.



32 members enjoyed a tasty lunch at the Fisherman's Table at Paekakariki in September. Our first Dine out after Lockdown.

Kath, did you keep all that scrumptious sundae for yourself?

David Goggin, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF DEVONPORT INC.

Our committee has been busy phoning our single members to have a chat and ask if they require anything.

At our last meeting in August our Guest Speaker was **Commander Fiona Jameson**, who had just been appointed as **Captain of the HMNZS Otago**. She told us of the process she had to go through to achieve her aim and how she had been determined to gain the experience and pass the examinations required, including a Bachelor's degree. Fiona has had a very interesting life, including how she was treated by some of the overseas male commanders who would not take instructions or listen to anything she had to say, unless it was from a male seaman under her control! She met Prince William in the Falklands.



Charles Digby, President.

The way I see it if you want a rainbow, you've got to put up with the rain. Dolly Parton

HASTINGS REBUS CLUB INC.

Our guest speaker this month is OUR CLUB MEMBER Tony Lyndon to speak about the racing industry. Very appropriate as it is Melbourne Cup Day, and we will also have our usual Cup Sweepstake costing \$2 per horse.

Our August speaker was Elaine Atkinson aged 55, who spoke about her very long battle with injuries caused by excessive drinking, starting at the age of 14 years when she became a party girl favouring a screwdriver (vodka and orange). She suffered blackouts more frequently and had heartburn and terrific pain in her oesophagus but never thought she had a drinking problem because she only drank socially. Turning 40 she threw a big party and thought it was great when actually it was chaos. Two days later she was admitted to Hospital with a severely burned oesophagus caused by repeated vomiting. It was wrecking her home life.

“That day I googled where to get HELP and that Friday night instead of going to the pub I went to my first support group meeting for alcoholics. To my surprise there were lots of lovely women there. I have started supporting others in the group to get sober, and found I love it. I quit my job, moved from my Auckland home to Hawkes Bay and opened my own rehab centre for drugs and alcohol addiction. Ocean Hills Detox and Rehabilitation is a small boutique facility. We take up to 4 people at a time. So far, we have helped 40 people, and to see how well they are now, just makes my heart sing.”

Good to hear from you Pres. Leon Davidson – inspiring story.

REBUS CLUB OF UPPER HUTT INC.

President Lesley Christie presented **John Campbell** with a Life Membership Certificate in recognition of the work he has undertaken for the Club as Secretary, Vice President, President, and arranger of speakers. He was Vice President and President in the turbulent transition from Probus South Pacific to Rebus NZ.



The Guest Speaker was **Graeme Talbot** who was born in Featherston and educated in Upper Hutt. He graduated from the Royal Military College in Duntroon as a Lieutenant and had a 38-year career in the New Zealand Army retiring in 1997 at the rank of Brigadier. He spoke on his experiences visiting Bosnia during the Balkan troubles in the 1990's focussing on the ethnic cleansing carried out by the Serbs and its effect on the infrastructure and people.



Alex Attewell, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF GULF HARBOUR

Another month has passed with little Club activity; however, we have run a photographic competition titled “**What did you do in the Lockdown?**” Entries from our Club’s Papparazzi have been posted to our Club website and can be viewed at <https://www.rebus-gulpharbour.nz/> We will arrange a special presentation at our first Club meeting, along the lines of the “Oscars” but perhaps more modest. Something to anticipate!

Our Club life is sorely missed, and we look forward to being back to business as usual. Fortunately, our Club’s telephone tree keeps us all in touch with one another and has certainly been well appreciated. It is a small thing but being able to regularly talk to a wide range of members may not provide the same companionship, but certainly maintains the collegiality of our Club.

Peter Odendaal, Secretary.

COMBINED REBUS CLUB OF PARAPARAUMU BEACH INC.



The ‘other’ wine tasting event.

The Club’s wine tasting event scheduled for Wednesday, 29 September unfortunately had to be postponed due to Covid-19 restrictions. However, not to be denied, the Aburoc Place sub-cluster did meet. Neighbours Janis and Vaughan Howarth, and Joy and Tony Silke, met to catch up with each other’s news, share some nibbles and enjoy a glass or four. Both couples provided a white wine and a red wine and thankfully they were all different, so the tasting was varied. After tasting each wine, and in between the chatter, the wines were

given a score out of 10. The results were: Forrest Sauvignon Blanc 2018, 7/10: Wairau River Chardonnay 2020, 8/10: Thornbury Merlot 2019, 8/10: The Black Pig McLaren Valley Shiraz 2017, 9/10.

The observant amongst you will note that the scores got higher as the afternoon progressed. However, we all maintain that the scores were accurate and not at all influenced by previous consumption. Well, that's our story and we're sticking to it!!

Steve Hutchison, Presidential Scribe.

REBUS CLUB OF WANGANUI

OCTOBER Club Outing, Bus trip to Foxton Tuesday 12th October. A great day enjoyed by all.



Christmas Dinner, Sunday 21st November 2021, "Caroline's Boatshed." We have booked the private Garden at "Caroline's" so we can arrive early to socialize with a few drinks, dinner will be served at approximately 5.30 pm.

Paerau Taylor, Newsletter Editor.

RED BEACH LADIES' REBUS CLUB



Recently we made special cake deliveries to two club members who reached milestone birthdays during September and October while Auckland was in lockdown; **Doreen Vaughan** who turned 90 on the 22nd and a belated one for **Marion Sell** who turned 80 on 27th September. Of course we were careful to observe all safety rules – wearing masks and keeping two metres apart! Congratulations to you and our other October ladies. We sincerely hope you managed to celebrate with some members of your family and/or friends who are in your bubble!

Bobbie Wakenell, Newsletter Editor.



REBUS CLUB OF HIBISCUS COAST

Trips/Events:

Remember the days when every month we'd meet,
Listen to interesting speakers and each other greet.
Remember the days when we'd go on a trip
Then have a meal and a drink to sip.
Remember museums, factories, car tour,
Marine reserves, sculpture trails and so much more.
Remember BBQ picnics in the sun,

Club lunches. bowling and having fun.
Remember talking over biscuits and tea,
Putting the world to right jokingly.
Remember life as we know it. Will it ever be the same?
Be strong, have faith and try to keep sane!

We were disappointed not to be able to put on the bowling day as planned. Be assured we will re-schedule this popular fun event as soon as we possibly can. Let's hope the Christmas lunch can go ahead as planned. We all need something to look forward to.

Garth Dutton, Bulletin Editor; Poem by Steve Waller, Trips Convenor.

CAMBRIDGE MEN'S REBUS CLUB

We have not managed to hold a meeting due to the lockdowns. A range of guest speakers and functions have been cancelled, as obviously our members well-being is of paramount importance. Here's hoping for a safe return to "normality" in the not too distant future.

Nigel Salter, Newsletter Editor. (Amen to that. Ed.)

I'm not lazy – I'm in energy saving mode.

FITZHERBERT REBUS CLUB INC.

Last Club Day **Tangi Utikere** gave us a very interesting insight into his rise to becoming a Member of Parliament. He is a true Palmerstonian having grown up and been educated at Freyberg High and Massey University. He has put back his learning into the community via teaching, the justice system, Council and now as M.P. He appears to have a genuine wish to help people and solve problems no matter what political views are held.

Christmas Function on 8th December 2021 at the Chalet, Centennial Drive, Palmerston North. Members to arrive from 11.45am. Put your name on the board if you wish to attend. The COST has been discounted from Club Funds to \$30 per person.

Bev Wallis, Secretary.

OTUMOETAI MEN'S REBUS CLUB



We had a trip recently to the **Kiwi Bus** manufacturing facility at Tauriko with Guide, Craig Carr. The bus (left) was the very first made by Kiwi in the mid-1980s as a school bus in Reporoa. After the Work & Safety induction, we were taken on a tour showing the manufacture of a bus, most of which are now battery powered. The factory produces a double decker bus every 12 days and is working on an order of 33 buses from Wellington, which will take 18 months to complete. They also make single level buses. Recruitment of staff is their hardest task and are always looking for tradesmen – around 140 are employed. They prefer apprentices, to teach them the manufacture of buses themselves. Our

thanks go to Craig and Kiwi Bus Co. for this tour opportunity.

Peter Kennerley.

KOWHAI REBUS CLUB OF BETHLEHEM

I was at the Citizens when Manager Joanne announced that our meetings could resume, I breathed a large sigh of relief. I had been thinking that if the lockdown goes on the irreparable damage to organisations and businesses in Tauranga, and to clubs like ours specifically. November is our 11th birthday, so the usual rules apply, Free admission and a large Birthday Cake. While most of us are past 11 years the metal is steel, the flower is Tulip, and the gemstone is Turquoise. Your call.

Lisa Sutherland, Newsletter Editor.

WOMEN'S REBUS CLUB OF WAIKANAE

Mountains to Sea – Allison Chappell: Travelling with Tranzit on a five-day bus tour with 37 of us in our own “bubble” was a most enjoyable fun time. Despite the cooler temperatures in late September, signs of Spring were everywhere – picture-perfect rows of cherry blossom trees and clumps of daffodils. The mountains remained shrouded in cloud, but the Waikato paddocks were lush, and we loved the river cruises and bush walks, admired the Huka Falls and the silica terraces at Orakei Korako, watched the Aratiatia Dam emptying and filling, surfies riding the waves at Raglan and skiers on the slopes of Whakapapa ski field. With very few group travellers, due to Covid restrictions, we were especially warmly welcomed at fascinating Waitomo Caves and the re-constructed Hobbiton movie-set. With comfortable overnight stays at Taupo, Raglan and Chateau Tongariro (where the sleety snow cleared enough to allow a quick Sky Waka gondola trip), friendly companions and good food this was a great break from routine!

Mary Paddock, Newsletter Editor.



This has been a bumper issue despite the Covid restrictions. My thanks to regular contributors, and those who accepted my recent invitation to participate. It's only eight weeks to Christmas - will we be having family? Will I make a pudding and cake? We are still in limbo, and Covid numbers are steadily increasing, so please be very careful, all of you. Our generation are Rules readers and obeyers, but we can still get caught by the carelessness of others. Until next month's get-together, stay safe and enjoy the beauty of Spring.

Jean, Editor – Rebus Club News.



"It's a special hearing aid. It filters out criticism and amplifies compliments."

*Hello Jean, thank you for all the good work you do in producing a very interesting and much anticipated newsletter each month. You have a massive job, sorting through all our regional newsletters every month and you create a masterpiece every time. With kind regards, Mary Paddock.

*Thanks Jean, very well put together and I agree with you—the affiliated Clubs have been doing well in this pandemic slow-down. Cheers, Gary Kerkin.

*Congratulations on producing a colourful, interest-filled newsletter every month! One of the few that entertains from start to finish. Keep up the wonderful work. Cheers, Joy McLeod.

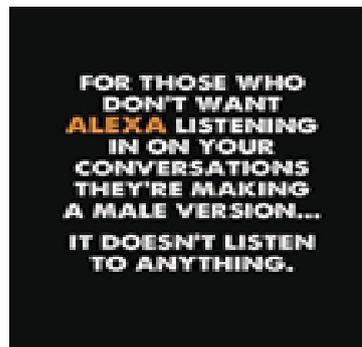
* Thank you so much for the work you put in for the wonderful Newsletter you send out. Bev Wallace.



At our age, what would you rather have, Parkinson's or Alzheimer's?

Parkinson's. Better to spill half an ounce of scotch than to forget where you keep the bottle.

A funny young fellow named Perkins
Was terribly fond of small gherkins.
One day after tea
He ate ninety-three
And pickled his internal workings.



Notice from the Association of Psychiatrists

Dear citizens,
During the quarantine it is considered normal to talk to your plants and pets.
Kindly contact us only if they reply.

Thank you



A Committee
is a collection of the unfit,
chosen by the incompetent,
from among the unwilling,
to do the unnecessary.