

Steering a safe course



through our retirement years

REBUS NZ INCORPORATED

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10 June 2016.

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Dear Club Officers,

NEWSLETTER NO 13.

It is now 6 months since REBUS was born. We believe now is the time to check the score card by measuring our performance against the commitments made in the **PLEDGE** sent to all Clubs considering their affiliation options.

To refresh everyone's memory, here is what we undertook to do:

- **Arrange "fit to travel" insurance.**
Done! Details and documentation can be downloaded from our website.
- **Put in place \$10m Public Liability insurance.**
Done! Copy of Certificate of currency available on our website.
- **Arrange access to Rebus designed regalia.**
Designs now completed for primary items and orders being taken for early delivery.
- **Provide regular Newsletters.**
This is Newsletter No 13 – we have managed almost 2 per month
- **Promptly respond to all communications 24/7.**
All letters, emails or phone messages attended on same or next day – no exceptions.
- **Create a functional REBUS website with access to documents, Newsletters etc.**
Miraculously achieved in just 37 days. Continues to be regularly updated. Voted very user friendly and achieving excellent traffic volumes.
- **Encourage participation in local associations regardless of affiliation choices.**
One of the two formal associations has agreed to accept members regardless of affiliation choice. More work to do.
- **Seek additional members for the REBUS Committee.**
Three additional members appointed, Wellington, Canterbury and Auckland City.

We believe that our score card should receive high marks – **but you must be the judge.**

To affiliate or not – that is the question some Clubs are asking themselves. Going it alone, by spurning any accrediting organization, has some attraction for Clubs who may well feel disillusioned by the fragmentation currently being experienced throughout NZ. However, we have pointed out previously that two benefits are immediately forfeited – Public Liability Insurance and access to the “Fit to travel” type of Insurance cover.

REBUS offers an option which allows you to retain your own identity by continuing to use the Probus name - until the lawful owner of the trade-mark rights inevitably asserts its prerogative to enforce the return to accreditation by PSPL – or face legal action if the name isn’t changed. **REBUS** is a name that will **not need to be changed** and any Club who has come on board as an Independent Affiliate can immediately adopt the **REBUS** name without having to wait the outcome of a poll among Clubs who have adopted an “interim” name.

To illustrate that option, we show below, a copy of a **Certificate of Accreditation** which is issued to a Club seeking a relationship with **REBUS** on that basis. **All for \$2 per member!** If your Club is going through a period of indecision, we earnestly recommend a visit to the **REBUS** website www.rebus.nz to view all the benefits which are available to a Club which chooses for the meantime to apply for Independent Associate status.



Individual Club Websites. Maintaining membership levels – let alone increasing them and finding persons willing to take office, is a challenge for a number of Clubs these days. A steady flow of new members is critical to the future of any of our clubs which by their very nature, suffer attrition in a variety of ways, ill health, relocation or death being just some.

A website can be a useful tool to have in the box for the attraction of new members with reference to the site name included in any local media publicity. However, the presumed cost and concern about the ability for someone to manage such a site, can be a deterrent. **REBUS** is currently experimenting with a free website-builder software which enables anyone with only modest computer skills to set up a relatively simple site for their Club, to which can be added photos of club activities, promotional material, copies of Club Newsletters and an email response form. All up cost to go live and purchase a domain name, appears to be less than \$150 per annum. **REBUS** affiliated Clubs are being invited to take advantage of this low cost method of increasing their local exposure.

Email addresses. If the address we are using for contact with your Club is in need up updating, please let us know and we will make the necessary changes.

That’s all for now, best wishes from

The REBUS Team