

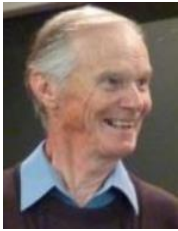


REBUS CLUB NEWS

July 2024

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Hello, and welcome to the July edition of Rebus Club News – soggy gardens, cooler nights, washing dried indoors, electric blankets, woolly socks, trees dripping with citrus fruit – but some glorious sunny days in between. The different seasons have their own purpose, and the variety of scenery and weather give us plenty to talk about, good and bad. However, Rebus does *not* have a dormant season, we just adjust, and as you will read in the following pages, many of our clubs have been indulging in winter culinary enjoyment, aka mid-winter luncheons. These social gatherings are not only to feed our bodies, but also to stimulate our minds, as we congregate, mix and mingle, meet new people, and generally have a jolly good time. These social gatherings are especially valuable to those folk living alone.



It is with great sadness that I advise you of the recent passing of **Nigel Dougan**, former Treasurer of Rebus NZ Inc. Nigel's health had been deteriorating for some time, and he resigned from his position on the Board at the 2024 AGM. A kind and gentle man, with an amazing sense of humour and wit, Nigel leaves behind his dear wife, Mary, and daughter, Claire. He will be sorely missed by many - the Rebus Board and his own club, Combined Rebus Club of Paraparaumu Beach.

Paul Wilkinson, who assists Rebus NZ with tech issues, has recently joined **digital seniors** as a coach. They hold free one-on-one sessions with seniors who bring their devices to a hub (library etc) for help with problems e.g. emails, online shopping etc. There are several hubs around the country, check <https://digitalseniors.co.nz/> for all the locations. I think this could be useful for some of our members who struggle with technology. Sounds a great idea to me.

Well, that's enough from me for now, so pour yourself a mug of something warming, and get ready for the monthly catchup of all things Rebus from around NZ.

REBUS CLUB OREWA



Our Guest Speaker was **Sheryl Takayama** a nutritionist who spoke to us on how to eat well and feel better, such as having your main meal at lunchtime and cutting down on carbohydrates.

Our Club Speaker was **Nelson Young** who spoke of his hometown, Waihi, where he lived for 60 years. His parents were schoolteachers. 100 years ago, Waihi was bigger than Tauranga. He gave us an insight into the Waihi Gold Mining industry and the history of the town.

Maureen Grigg, Bulletin Editor.



TAUPO MOANA REBUS CLUB



Over two dozen members visited the **Wairakei Terraces** recently for a guided tour of their beautiful grounds. We spent a good hour viewing the geothermal and Māori cultural attractions of the Terraces, which are man-made and hark back to the world renowned Pink and White Terraces that were destroyed in the Tarawera Eruption of the late 1800s. Māori carvings, man-made geysers and mineral rich thermal hot pools were all presented to us by our knowledgeable guide,

Joe, who was one of the Māori carvers who worked on the displays in the early 2000s when the Wairakei Terraces first opened to the public. Afterwards we enjoyed afternoon tea in their onsite café.

Christine Bailey, Bulletin Editor.

AVONDALE LADIES' REBUS CLUB

Speakers: The two representatives from **Ronald Mac Donald House** provided an insight into the wonderful work that the charity does.

Barbara Douglas, Newsletter Editor.

A table, a chair, a bowl of fruit and a violin; what else does a man need to be happy? Albert Einstein.

REBUS CLUB OF KHANDALLAH



The **Midwinter Lunch at the Royal Wellington Golf Club** at Heretaunga was attended by 58 people, on a perfect winter's day. With great food and good company in that charming venue, the lunch was enjoyed by all. Delightful a capella singing from the **Warblers** added a special festive flourish.

Sharon Major, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF RIVERSIDE HAMILTON



It was with great pride that I was able to host our **30th Anniversary Luncheon** last month. We had a wonderful turnout from past and present club members. **George Tregidga**, Past Chairman of Rebus New Zealand, presented the club with a framed **Certificate of Attainment** to mark the occasion.

Above: **Past Presidents of Riverside Rebus Club**, L to R: Rob Thompson, Kevin O'Keefe, Bevan Bradding, Edwin Clarke, Susan Seath, Carol Collier, Gerald Bailey, Dave Hoskin, Steve O'Sullivan.

Steve O'Sullivan, Presidential Scribe.

WAITAKERE COMBINED REBUS CLUB

Last month Foundation member **Gordon Kay**, passed away. In the past he was the club's trips organiser. It was always a pleasure to see him and Zita at our monthly meetings.

Recently we visited the **Warkworth Museum**, stopping off at **Orewa** for lunch on the way home. A trip to **Totara Gardens** was our mid-year outing, followed by lunch at **Parkhouse Restaurant**. Most of our outings we join together with our local men's club, it is great to catch up with them and their partners.

Phyllis Greenland, Secretary.

When the debate is lost, slander becomes the tool of the losers. Socrates.

REBUS CLUB OF GULF HARBOUR



Guest Speaker in July was **Garry Phillips, NZ Society of Genealogists.**

Genealogy is now becoming known as Family History. He said, "We find dead people, and we re-

connect families". But it is also addictive. **Club Speaker** was **John Lee** who gave us his life story as a vet. After the meeting 38 members celebrated **Mid-Winter** with a buffet lunch at **Hello Manly**, organised by Nancy Hewertson, and we aired our new flag!



J. McIntosh, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF CAMBRIDGE

Seniors' Forum. Mayor **Susan O'Regan** is considering introducing the Seniors' Forum which used to meet 3 or four times a year alternating between Cambridge and Te Awamutu. The purpose was to enable discussion and communication between members of the senior community and council.

Coffee Club Catch-up: In June we had two coffee club catch-ups, with a wonderful turnout at each. Every month, on the first Friday of the month, we meet up at **Clementine's Café**, on Peake Road, almost opposite the velodrome. The café has a large assortment of food and wonderful coffee!

Steve O'Sullivan, Editor.



REBUS CLUB OF HAMILTON

We had a great turn out for our **Mid-Winter Christmas Lunch at the Workingmen's Club.**

17 of us visited **Over the Moon in Putaruru.** During the 45-minute presentation we tested some of their medal-winning cheese selection, including those made from buffalo, sheep, goat and cow milks which makes this cheese maker quite unique by world standards. Most of us left with goodies from the shop before heading to our lunch venue at the **Cabbage Tree Café in Tirau.**

Kath Kenrick, Bulletin Editor.



REBUS CLUB OF PETONE



Jane de Waal, outgoing President, presents **Caryl McKay**, the new President, with the presidential chain.

John McCrystal gave a very interesting talk about his book **Worse Things Happen at Sea.** He is a freelance writer and had a radio show with Graham Hill 7 years ago. He was persuaded to turn his stories into a book which focused on shipwrecks around the world. 12 books were sold at the meeting.

Sharyn Bowen.



No person has ever gone blind by looking on the bright side of life.

REBUS CLUB OF FOXTON



TEN PIN BOWLING: Eight Foxtton Rebus members had a great day bowling for 2 hours in a ‘ruthless’ competition at Bowlarama in Palmerston North. We discovered that it’s a very dangerous sport with 2 of our members trying to face plant up the alley behind their ball while another missed her footing due to the flappy bowling shoe, which resulted in an ambulance call out next day and a suspected broken wrist. However it was a severe sprain but very painful. Despite these diversions, we had a great time, a great lunch and great camaraderie. ***We look forward to a re-match in the near future.***

Dereley Barry, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS WAIHEKE ISLAND

Mini Speaker: Ireni Esler spoke about her time in **The Shetland Islands**. The Shetlands speak a different language from Scotland and are physically closer to Norway. She was there from 2010-2020 and fell in love with the islands. There are no trees and the road closes for a plane to land. There is a vast sky and huge North Sea. Ireni applied and got the job as manager for Children & Family Services. The people are a very friendly, welcoming and hospitable community. The Shetlands consists of 100 islands of which 16 are inhabited with a population of 23,000. As the community is so small everyone multi-tasks. They receive 1 pound sterling for every barrel of oil sold from the North Sea, which is used for community facilities, which are excellent. Ireni handed around knitted gloves, scarves and hats with beautiful patterns hand-knitted by Islanders. Oil is cheap, there is no unemployment.

Tania Sweet, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF WHANGAMATA



Our meeting on Wednesday 17 July was the **Mid-Winter Dinner** at the Whangamata Club. Twenty-eight people attended and we had a lovely meal and a pleasant evening.

Thank you to all those who turned up in Black and White for our Mid - Winter Dinner evening. Didn’t we all look smart?. A huge thanks to Chris and Mike who took charge of setting up the balloons and tables. Such a lovely social evening. Also, thanks to the Whangamata Club staff who excelled themselves with the food and wonderful service.

Leyden Baker, Newsletter Editor.

MT ALBERT LADIES’ REBUS CLUB

What a superb birthday party we had last month. A lively crowd, a beautiful cake, a delicious morning tea and speakers – two amazing women from our local community – **Lynley Stone and Janet von Randow, President and Secretary**, respectively, of **Mt Albert Historical Society**. Lynley gave an overview of the work of the Society and gave examples of many fascinating projects underway, including photographing Mt Albert homes. She said, “Your story is Mt Albert history” and urged us to collect our own stories, or write short memoirs to capture memories. “Detail is what gives colour to history – who, what, where, when, and how. What did you see, hear, smell, taste, touch?” Lynley gave us a handout on a guide to writing memories.

Anne McKenzie President.

Right: Nellie McFarlane cuts the cake.



RED BEACH LADIES’ REBUS CLUB

It was with regret the committee made the decision to cancel the planned bus trip to **Crystal Mountain** following disappointing numbers. We may take another look at this trip next summer.

A small group went to see the movie **42nd Street** last week, with lunch beforehand at Artie’s Café. It was very long, almost 2½ hrs, but thoroughly enjoyable, toe tapping stuff with familiar songs and music only seniors like us would remember!

Bobbie Wakenell, Newsletter Editor.

I fear the day that technology will surpass our human interaction.

The world will have a generation of idiots. Albert Einstein.

THAMES BONANZA REBUS CLUB



A great **Mid Winter Lunch** in lieu of a guest speaker in June. Fabulous roast dinner and dessert followed by coffee and cake (photo of lavish dessert and cakes) Exciting spot prizes and raffle and a quick trip down memory



lane of 1950 hit songs. Name of song called out and audience had to guess who sang it. Lots of fun as such names as Elvis, Little Richard, Pat Boone, Everley Bros, Chubby Checker, Nat King Cole, Louis Armstrong, The Platters were called out amongst a lot of fun and laughter. Another successful Rebus Day.

Murray Newby, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF MANAWATU

JULY'S LUNCH: Our Mid-Winter Lunch on July 3rd saw a good turnout and a happy time at the Manawatu Golf Club Café. Our thanks to Ruth Hodgson for organising this.

Margie Comrie, Newsletter Editor.



Birthdays are good for you. Studies show that people who have the most of them live the longest.

WEST AUCKLAND MEN'S REBUS CLUB



Our midwinter gathering at **Parkhouse Restaurant** proved to be an excellent choice. Approximately 40 members from Waitakere Combined Rebus and West Auckland Men's Rebus graced the occasion, surpassing the expectations of our trips and outings organiser, Ian Smith.



TOTARA WATERS GARDEN. A hidden gem nestled on the upper Waitemata Harbour, this 2-acre property is a testament to the meticulous care and hands-on dedication of its owners, **Peter and Jocelyn Coyle**. The garden, which began its transformation in 1999, is a verdant paradise, boasting over 25 varieties of Palms, along with an extensive collection of Bromeliads and Succulents.

Vince Middeldorp, Secretary.

REBUS CLUB OF FEILDING



We have pleasure in introducing **Mary Wealleans**, our **President** for this year, pictured with IPP Merlyn Norman. **Guest Speaker, Nicky Hart** CEO of Feilding Health spoke to our group in June. Four Doctors' surgeries joined forces to form **Feilding Health Care** to provide a sustainable model for GP services in Feilding. The services have increased to provide a blood clinic, radiology, women's health clinics, and community groups meet in the Cleverly Wing, where you can get you flu jab or Covid booster.



They also have a paramedic on site.

Lyn Jensen, Newsletter Editor.

WAIKANAE MILLENNIUM REBUS CLUB INC.



25th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

At the Club meeting on 2nd July, we celebrated 25 years of Fellowship, Friendship and Fun, as members of Probus and then Rebus. Activities included the Cutting the Cake ceremony; Presentation of Certificates to nine Foundation Members; a lineup of Past Presidents and Presentation of a 25-year Certificate of Attainment from Rebus New Zealand. A catered Afternoon Tea was enjoyed rounding off the celebratory proceedings. Photo above: **Past Presidents: From left:** Chris Jackson 2020, Shirley Clarke ex Combined, Don Smith 2017, Hugh Scott 2015, Beryl Graham 2007, Cathy Mitchell 2022, Janet Scott 2012, David Goggin 2009, William van Gaalen 1st Sec., Joan Farrow 2020, Chris Lehen 2011, Shirley Goggin 2014, Rosemary Wells 21016, Heather Freeman 2010, Bill Stormer 2013, Liz Thevenard 2024, Bruce Scott 2023.

David Goggin, Newsletter Editor.

SOUTH WAIRARAPA REBUS CLUB

It is a SW Rebus Club tradition to use our twice annual lunches together to donate non-perishable food items to the local food bank. We had invited **Rev May Croft**, right, who leads the organisation, to nominate a volunteer to be our guest at our Matariki Lunch, to speak about the work of *Social Crust*, the food bank service in the area south of Masterton. **Anne Firmin**, a long-time Martinborough personality, was well known to quite a number of members and she and they enjoyed the opportunity to catch up. She was a good choice. We all left the lunch much better informed about this essential service. Anne was thanked by the president and left after the function with her car loaded with all the goodies members had donated.

David Woodhams, Newsletter Editor.



REBUS CLUB OF MT HOBSON



Guest Speaker for June was Tim O'Connor, Headmaster Auckland Grammar; subject: "Secondary Education, including Curriculum and Charter Schools"

On Thursday 11 June, 9 members of Mt. Hobson Rebus enjoyed the hospitality of **Auckland Watercare** services in the Hunua ranges. This was a somewhat



disappointing turnout, but the small number afforded extra opportunity to see elements of the dams that were not normally available to larger groups. This included a tunnel visit beneath the Huia reservoir. All five Waitakere dams would fit into the largest Hunua Dam!

Pat Alley, Newsletter Editor.

"In Style" are clothes that still fit.

Talk to yourself. There are times when you need expert advice.

Whatever you do, always give 100% - unless it's giving blood!

REBUS CLUB OF PALMERSTON NORTH



History is fascinating! **Pru Prim** from the local museum **Te Manawa** brought to our last club meeting a large box of items related to dancing. She is Coordinator of **Museum in a Box**, a programme in which she takes out boxes with themed contents for display and discussion at meetings. Local dances were significant community events for which people dressed up “to their nines” to enjoy the music and company of others. Pru entertained and engaged us in bringing back many memories of dancing, particularly from the WW 2 era and after, until the demise of the dance hall due to the advent of extended pub hours, large-screen movie theatres, TV and coffee bars in the late 1960s.

Bob Isles, our **Club Speaker**, presented a slideshow of houses and commercial buildings which he had built or renovated during his career.

A recent visit to **Serena Mercer’s** glass art studio was much enjoyed by a group of us who marvelled at the colourful designs of her work. (Photo left). Some vowed a return visit to participate in one of Serena’s art classes. A good lunch followed at the

Hilltop Café.

Dean Halford, Newsletter Editor.

WARKWORTH MEN’S REBUS CLUB



On the 3rd July we held our traditional **Mid-Winter Lunch** at the **Warkworth RSA** where we were well fed and listened to an amusing and entertaining talk from one of our local constabulary, **Senior Constable Katie Hawkins**. She regaled us with stories of her many years in the Force and gave us a run-down on the local policing situation for our area. We were relieved to hear that our town has probably the lowest crime rate in the country and that most misbehaviour is from a relatively few miscreants who are treated to a no-nonsense police attitude. A most enjoyable lunch was had by all.

Stephen Becket, President.

REBUS CLUB OF HIBISCUS COAST

John Simons welcomed **Glen, Amanda, and Natalie from O Mahurangi – Penlink**. Glen and Amanda spoke to a drone fly-over video of the project to date. There are 4 bridges underway, with 113 machines on site including 27 earthmoving machines, and 120 staff. From the motorway the route follows the Ara Weiti Road. The Weiti bridge will have 2 piers for which the piles are 47m deep. It will be NZ’s first extra-dosed bridge using balanced cantilever hybrid box girders plus cable stays during the build process. Murray Patterson thanked the OM-P team and presented Amanda with a bottle of wine. Right: The Ramblers at Te Atatu Peninsula, getting their weekly exercise.



Earl Brookbanks, Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF MILSON INC.



Isaac Henderson gave us a very interesting talk about **Drones** – and how they are now being used to create light shows – which he suggested may replace fireworks in the future.

Margaret Broderick, Secretary.

Your people skills are just fine. It’s your tolerance for idiots that needs work.

**The biggest lie you tell yourself is,
“I don’t need to write that down, I’ll remember it.”**

HOKOWHITU REBUS CLUB INC.



The **Guest Speaker** at our July meeting was **Steve Parsons**. Steve owned **House of Travel**, Palmerston North, for many years. He developed Parkinson's disease in recent years and his talk was about his journey through this hard condition. His strength and determination in facing these challenges is inspirational, and I think others in our club felt the same. Steve was introduced to Club members by his friend, **John McNamara**.

Members enjoyed our **Mid-Winter Lunch at The Verdict** in the Square. The day was fine and sunny, and our upstairs venue overlooked the Square. It was wonderful to share fellowship with other members over a delicious meal.



Joan Letts, Newsletter Editor.

PAPANUI REBUS CLUB

At the July meeting **Siân Bliss** shared her adventures on a cruise ship on the Nile. She also climbed over 400 steps inside the great pyramid of Khufu (also known as Cheops) to the now empty Pharaoh's tomb - quite a feat!

Our **Main Speaker** was **Debbie Soper from Harcourts**. We learnt how to get our houses ready for market, especially things that are required as a result of the earthquakes. She also told us how the market was performing and different ways to sell your house.

26 Members enjoyed lunch in the spacious **Tap Room of the Richmond Club** (The Borough). Obviously, the photographer was on strike (or just forgot) so we only have one photo – thanks to these 3 for posing for me!



Linda Barnes, President.

PUKENAMU REBUS CLUB INC.

Guest Speakers: Bevan Chilcott, Gary Stevenson, Gerry Gregan from the Men's Shed, a community-based organisation that has a vital role in supporting men's health, both mentally and physically. Rather than working alone in your home shed, you can work on your project with like-minded men around you. It might be woodwork, metalwork, upholstery, furniture restoration, coffin making or your own personal project. They don't charge for community projects e.g. members have recently made a tactile wall for the visually impaired. 20-25 men meet twice weekly.



dessert – well – magnifico!

Lunch in July - 22 members met at **The Cobb** beside the Whanganui River, on one of those magnificent sunny winter days when there was no wind! We made ourselves at home at one long table and two smaller tables in their sunny room with big windows overlooking the bridge and city. The meals were substantial and the apple crumble

Text/pics, Helen Goldfinch, Newsletter Editor.

CAMBRIDGE MEN'S REBUS CLUB



HAPPY 35TH BIRTHDAY! Around 62 members attended the July meeting to celebrate the 35th birthday of the Club. **Guests of Honour** were all the available past presidents of the Club. **Current President Alan Wellington** presented the **Certificate of Attainment** from Rebus NZ to the earliest-serving past president, **Ralph McCraw** (2004 – 2005). The "Christmas in



June" luncheon at **Irresistablue Café** was attended by 51 members and guests. The food was abundant and excellent, and Lisa Lorrell entertained with her delightful singing.

Nigel Salter.

REBUS CLUB OF WANGANUI

40th Anniversary, Wednesday 26th June 2024, St Johns Club. A milestone celebrated. We are truly honoured to still have with us our dear friend and founding member, Mr Bryan Dean, who was one of the men responsible for the formation of our Probus/Rebus Club in 1984.



From Left: Bryan Dean with Certificate of Attainment. Life Members Bryan and Paerau cut the birthday cake. President Jim and The Committee. A few of the happy revellers.

Paerau Taylor, Newsletter Editor.

REBUS CLUB OF UPPER HUTT INC.

The Guest Speaker was Emerita Professor, Jan Jordan, from Victoria University of Wellington and topic was **Speaking Truth, Seeking Justice**. Jan was the first woman criminology lecturer at Victoria in 1989 and appointed a professor before retiring from teaching in 2020 and becoming an emerita professor. Her research has focused on how women's lives and the justice system intersect, and as a result she has been able to help bring about change in the attitudes and responses of Police to female victims of sexual assault. Jan also spoke about her journey from apparent failure to successful academic.

Alex Attewell, Newsletter Editor.

COMBINED REBUS CLUB OF PARAPARAUMU BEACH INC.

NIGEL DOUGAN, RIP. The news of his passing came through just prior to our last meeting. A minute's silence was observed to honour Nigel. I really do feel like I've lost a great friend.

A survey of members on possible venues saw us retain **Anzil** as our venue for this year's lunch. The food was, as usual, quite fantastic with Ham, Chicken and Beef being the meat choices. They are always so accommodating and open to negotiation on price. Mary again ran an interesting quiz and all who attended enjoyed themselves. Our July trip to the **Otaki Museum**, with lunch at **Salt and Pepper** and a little wine tasting at **Ohau Gravels** on the way home was a great success. We ended up with 18 members on the day, car-pooling to get around.

Steve Hutchison, Bulletin Editor.



And that's a wrap – as they say in the movie business. What a bumper issue this has been. To save you counting, there are 33 contributions this month, (almost 69%), and a big “thank you” to all of you for your news. Some clubs, somewhere, will have learnt something from your efforts.

Beware of Scams! How many times have you heard or read that phrase? Well, those sneaky, thieving blighters are still at it. At our last club meeting, a member stood up and told us he had had \$40,000 stolen from his bank account. How the scammers found his PIN number and phone number remains a mystery. But the thieves rang him, saying they were a friend of a friend, and talking about nothing in particular, just to keep his phone occupied so that the bank could not call him to ask if he had authorised the withdrawal of \$40,000. Fortunately, the thieves were apprehended, and the cash retrieved.

Only this morning my husband received an email, supposedly from our local Club's President, asking if he was available. He replied “yes”. This was followed by a further email from the scammers asking him to go and buy some Apple gift cards on the President's behalf - then the penny dropped. These scammers are not very clever, but they fool enough folk to make a living.

It is not my place to teach email/computer etiquette to all Rebus members, but if **you** are responsible for sending out bulk emails to your membership or group, instead of putting a string of names in the “TO” or “CC” (**Carbon Copy**) box, please consider instead, putting that list of names in the “BCC” box. (**Blind Carbon Copy**.) Then the email address of your contacts are not laid bare for the world to see, and helps prevent spammers from harvesting addresses, and viruses from being propagated. Conversely, if you are just one of a host of recipients on the list, please do not “Reply to all” unless it is necessary – you are just compounding the problem.

If this is all gobbledygook to you, PLEASE don't worry, but ask somebody to explain it to you. Unfortunately, that friendly little computer which helps you to keep in touch with friends and family, can also let in your enemies, who are all too keen to rob you of your savings and identity.

So, till next month, keep warm, stay healthy, and enjoy watching those wonderful fit athletes competing at the Olympic Games. Oh, to have that energy again!!! If you have queries about any content in this issue, please email me.



Jean,
Editor, Rebus Club News.