



REBUS CLUB of HIBISCUS COAST

February 2022

Mailing Address – 37 Beauvoir Ave, Matakatia, AK 0930

Affiliated to Rebus NZ Incorporated

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Where you will find Fun, Friendship and Conviviality.

Committee and key roles

President:	Phil Martell	424 7733
Past President:	Julian Joy	426 3453
Treasurer:	Bryan Wentworth	424 0373
Bulletin:	Garth Dutton	428 3673
Door Prizes:	Fergus Small*	027 264 1366
Speakers	Julian Joy	426 3453
	David Gatland	428 7260
Website:	Les Wistrand	428 7564
Rebus NZ Liaison:	Graeme McIntosh*	424 7115
Photography:	Graeme McIntosh*	424 7115

Vice President:	Garth Dutton	428 3673
Secretary:	Paul Robinson	424 8176
Membership:	Phil Martell	424 7733
Trips & Events:	Steve Waller	558 8454
Welfare/Transport:	Murray Paterson	424 1027
	Kim Hanna*	424 0350
Kitchen Supply:	Bill Dowds*	428 5924
	Mike Peake*	428 4413
Database:	Phil Martell	424 7733
Presentation/IT	Paul Wilkinson*	0272342705

* Non-committee

Meetings held at Bridge Club, Edith Hopper Park, Ladies Mile, Manly – first Tuesday of each month.

OUR NEXT MEETING AND AGM DUE TO BE HELD ON TUES 1st March 2022 AT 9.30AM

Guest speaker Winsbury White “The life of W.O. Bently”

Introduced by Pieter Hopkins and thanked by Eddy Masters

President’s Message



This is the last time I write for the Bulletin from this side of the editorial safety net. All things being equal, I will take this Bulletin Editor task away from Garth who, again all things being equal, will take on greater things for the Club. I am referring to the fact that our upcoming meeting will start with our AGM and then progress to our first Club meeting for the new year under its new leadership. I have more to say about this complete process in my Annual Report to the AGM which has been circulated along with the other documents you need.

The role-over of responsibilities for the running of our Club is an important aspect of the organisation and management and it is the variation that comes with these changes that keeps us going forward. Despite the difficulties that we have been experiencing from Covid, I feel confident that we are in good shape to head into another year. As I have referred to before, if you think you can take your part in contributing to the running of the Club, then please put your name forward – ‘Variation is indeed the spice of life’!

We have had three functions over the last month – The Bowls plus BBQ lunch, the Summer BBQ and the Classic Car Museum visit. All of these were highly successful and were a strong



indicator to me that we are ready for socialisation. I can only hope that the restrictions that currently come with our country’s Covid management can be steadily reduced so that we can get back to our usual degree of confidence in getting out of our houses and off out for fun! I am pleased to be able to say that the Bridge Club, the provider of our meeting venue, is returning the kitchen to it’s rental features so the extra trouble we had to go to last month does not need to be repeated.

So, friends make sure you come along to our next meeting and play your part in making our Club the continuing success it can be for all of us, about which full details have or will be circulated. Let us all step up with enthusiasm to overcome the difficulties that Covid has caused.

Best regards

Phil Martell

Welfare:



Kim and I have not been swept off our feet with welfare issues this last month with no new concerns having been reported to us. That is great news. We know that many of you will be concerned about the current situation with Omicron so just do what **you** are comfortable with.

Please if you know of anyone who is struggling contact one of us.

Murray Paterson and Kim Hanna

Ph: 09 424 1027

Ph: 09 424 0350

Trips/Events:



A busy time for activities after a prolonged quiet period due to Covid and the festive season saw us fit in our annual

bowls day at the Manly



Bowling club on the 27th of January.

This was followed by the annual picnic at Wenderholm on 15th February, where we were treated to the best of surf (Graeme McIntosh and Bill Anderson) and turf (Garth Dutton and David Gatland). This being accompanied fresh bread rolls by Barbara Clift and excellent salads. For

those of us who hadn't had enough a classic car trip to Hamilton on the 16th February finished a busy week.

UPCOMING TRIPS:

April (date to be announced) Car Mystery Tour. We are planning on holding our annual Own Car Mystery Tour during the latter half of the month. The trip will be available to all - if you don't have a car or don't wish to drive, we will arrange car sharing, so do not be put off.

For those that haven't participated in this previously the trip goes as follows:

We use our own cars (car sharing is encouraged as it allows more observers allowing the driver to concentrate on the road).

You *hopefully* follow route directions looking out for and recording clues as you go.

The team with the most correct clues wins a bottle of wine (to be drunk at home, not on the way home!).

We finish the tour at our lunch destination. After lunch you receive the answers to the clues, which normally results in some debate, and swearing at those who devised them (namely Tessa and I). Please keep your abuse to me. I am normally standing by the door while I provide the answers! Please do not throw anything in my direction unless it is money.

More details will be announced when we have them.

May 25th Hundertwasser Arts Centre, Whangarei. A joint trip with Rebus Gulf Harbour Club.

This venue is a new attraction which has just opened. It is designed to incorporate all the quirky features of Hundertwasser architecture and houses examples of his work as well as other displays.

We will travel by coach to Whangarei Town Basin where the centre is located. There is a lot to do at the Town Basin, as well as visiting the Arts Centre. There are restaurants, cafes, shops, galleries, marina and, if you want to walk off your lunch, there is a short level sculpture trail. As there are so many venue choices, we are leaving you to choose your own lunch venue or take your own picnic if you prefer to sit and watch the boats.

Steve Waller

Treasurer's Report:



Once again there is little to report over the past month. The Bank account holding well – balance at \$5,350, after payment of all accounts. With all of the Covid stuff, I forgot to go to the gym this week. That's three years in a row now!

Also see with the AGM papers, separately distributed, the annual financial report.

Bryan Wentworth

Membership and 'Our People'

It has been a difficult year for attracting new members to join. Your Club has been working on several ideas to help with recruiting. We finished the year with seventy-eight members, down a bit on other years, but again, I am confident that once we get into full swing interest will again flow. In the meantime, look around amongst the people you encounter and sow the seeds!

If you have had a change in your personal contact details, please send the relevant changes to our club email. hibiscusrebus@gmail.com

Phil Martell

Speaker's Corner

Fascinating to hear Brian Mullan's challenging journey from the farm in Ireland to leading the global service provider, Inmarsat, and beyond. This is a quote from an American website:

"Brian Mullan, General Manager of Maritime and Aeronautical Safety Services, Inmarsat states, "The majority of air traffic services authorities are reluctant to allow any system not covered by SARPs to be used by air traffic control communications. Inmarsat provides all satellite flight deck communications in the oceanic regions which includes 80 per cent of the world's wide-bodied fleet (trans-oceanic aircraft) and virtually every business aircraft."

Brian continues, "The only alternative to satellite communications is high frequency radio, which can be susceptible to atmospheric disturbance. This often interrupts communications and can mean loss of contact. In addition, VHF and HF radio are broadcast systems and can be susceptible to eavesdropping. Inmarsat satellite

communications offer a much more secure communications path."

Brian Mullan concludes, "It is imperative that crew are able to keep in contact with the dispatchers and the air traffic control staff 100 per cent of the time. In an emergency situation on board an aircraft, crew want to be absolutely safe in the knowledge that they can contact ground crew. All Inmarsat communication systems deliver two critical things to all users; absolute performance and absolute confidence. Inmarsat's track record, heritage and continued investment and innovation ensure that all aircraft users will have a totally satisfied user experience."

A brilliant presentation by Brian, full of good Irish humour.

Bryan Wentworth was justifiably whimsical in his reminiscences of his time in Hong Kong – many of you will have experienced a taste of the 'expat lifestyle' there – and now be very sad at what mainland China has imposed recently. Following the Climate Change discussion that we have been having – Graeme Wake has summarised the following:

"Climate Change Gases.

Recent articles in the Newsletter addressed the debate as to what are the most significant greenhouse gases. In the first article John Rofe had pointed out that water vapour is a big factor but crucially he failed to observe that it is a **symptom** of the problem not a primary **cause**, which I tried to point out. The cause is mostly of course carbon-based gases: Carbon Dioxide (half-life = 120 years approx.) and Methane (half-life = 12 years), but also not forgetting Nitrous Oxide. Water vapour lasts, at most, only a few days with rapid turnover (thank goodness, we need rain). So, the problem is very integrated and only understood at a complex systems level. These reveal "tipping points", of no return: at which we are now dangerously close. Similarly with epidemic models for COVID. My comments in the last newsletter, mostly came from my fellow science colleague, Dave Lowe. His recent award-winning book is listed below

Dave Lowe

*Author of 'The Alarmist: Fifty Years Measuring Climate Change' Victoria University Press
2021: <https://vup.victoria.ac.nz/the-alarmist/>*

He and another fellow NZ Scientist, Martin Manning, were two key members in the large

panel headed by ex-US Vice-President Al Gore which won the Nobel Peace prize for Climate Change work in 2007. Dave's book is highly readable and not too technical. He has also appeared in a recent world-wide Netflix documentary "Pioneers".

By Graeme Wake.

Pieter Hopkins will introduce our Guest Speaker for March – Winsbury White – whose topic is: "The Life of W.O. Bently". This is an appropriate follow on to the joint interest group recent visit to the Hamilton Classic Car Museum.

Classic Cars Special Interest Trip

On 16th January, a special interest group from the combined Gulf Harbour and Hibiscus Coast Clubs went on tour to the Vintage Car Museum in Hamilton.

With shared cars the group met up with some campervan members at Hampton Downs for a coffee on the way down.

The Museum is located just off Rifle Range Road in Hamilton and the exhibits were remarkably interesting. There was a wide range of yesteryear automotive accessories, motorcycles, and of course a variety of very



well-presented classic cars. We all had our favourites, mine being this 1950 Bristol. Just look at the classic lines and boy there are



a few knobs to play with on the dashboard. It was an enjoyable day out, very well organised by Trevor Penn and Peter Odendaal.

The Editor

Walking Group:



Even with the threat of Covid/Omicron the walking has been very popular with good numbers turning up for the exercise and social

time.

This past month started off with a revisit to Sanders Reserve on 31 January to enjoy the

scenery (minus the trees mowed down by the Council (refer January Bulletin). The social time after this walk was enjoyed at the Black Cottage Café in Coatsville.

This was to be followed by a Stanmore Bay walk on the 6th February but this was called off due to



inclement weather and the challenge was completed on the 14th with a good turn out

of 22 who enjoyed their cuppa at Beans N Bites afterwards.

The final walk of the month was at Albany and took on the new bridges across the motorway and then back down through the lakes. The



comfort stop was at Kings Plant Barn, Silverdale.

This group is co-ordinated by

Peter Odendaal of Gulf Harbour and if you wish to be included in the weekly mailout contact David Gatland.

Birthdays for February



We would like to congratulate the following members for having successfully negotiated another year and hope that they are able to enjoy their birthday with family and friends. Special mention of our latest nonagenarian

- Wayne Pointon
- Paul Wilkinson
- Colin Cathro
- Des Fox
- Earl Brookbanks
- Charles Surma



David Winks

Graeme's Puzzle

A big welcome back to Graeme Wake's puzzle this bulletin.

You will know that $2 + 2$ (plus) and 2×2 (times) both equal 4.

- Can you find 2 **different whole** numbers that do this?
- What about 3 numbers?

Fraternal greetings,
Graeme

Puzzle Corner

Last month's Puzzle

This "burning rope" problem is a classic logic puzzle. You have two ropes that each take an hour to burn but burn at inconsistent rates. How can you measure 45 minutes? (You can light one or both ropes at one or both ends at the same time.)

Answer: Because they both burn inconsistently, you cannot just light one end of a rope and wait until it is 75 percent of the way through. But this is what you can do: Light the first rope at both ends, and light the other rope at one end, all at the same time. The first rope will take 30 minutes to burn (even if one side burns faster than the other, it still takes 30 minutes). The moment the first rope goes out, light the other end of the second rope. Because the time elapsed of the second rope burning was 30 minutes, the

remaining rope will also take 30 minutes; lighting it from both ends will cut that in half to 15 minutes, giving you 45 minutes all together.

Donation

We would like to express our sincere thanks to Allan Yeo of Booster Wine Group for the donation of a selection of New Zealand fine wines. These will be given to our guest speakers in appreciation for their presentations.



If you wish to know more about the Booster Group, please visit their site

<https://boosterwinegroup.nz/our-story>

