



## CLUB OF HIBISCUS COAST

### November 2024

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Club bank a/c - **12 3084 0176946 00**

Affiliated to Rebus NZ Incorporated.



*Where you will find fun, friendship, and conviviality.*

#### Committee

President:	Paul Robinson	027 2222 151
Vice President:	Vacant	
Secretary :	Trevor Weal	021 032 3373
Treasurer:	Bryan Wentworth	021 210 1791
IPP/Website/Rebus NZ:	Garth Dutton	020 4006 0844
Speakers/Ramblers:	David Gatland	021 285 5734
Trips & events:	Steve Waller	021 0864 0236
Bulletin:	Earl Brookbanks	027 274 8780
Host:	Peter Fava	021 560 925
	Bill Cobb	027 292 5159

#### Non-Committee

Book table:	Dave Betts	021 967 074
Kitchen:	Mike Peake	021 177 4820
Kitchen:	Julian Joy	027 764 0663
Kitchen/Transport:	Murray Paterson	021 0238 9252
Door raffle & prizes:	Fergus Small	027 264 1366
Door raffle & prizes:	Alan Menzies	027 444 2094
Photography:	Graeme McIntosh	027 473 9787
Welfare:	Frank Coggan	021 932 811
Membership/Database:	Phil Martell	027 497 0024
Dinner club:	George Tregidga	027 223 7953
Presentations:	Les Wistrand	022 061 2266

**Meetings are held at the Bridge Club in Edith Hopper Park, Ladies Mile, Manly.**

**Our NEXT MEETING will be held on TUESDAY 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2024 at 9.30 am.**

Our Guest Speaker is author, Frances Hall talks about Scatterlogical Wisdom – her life with humour and grace .  
Our Club Speaker is Graeme McIntosh on the Chatham Islands.

**Quick reminder:** If you are unable to attend, please send your apology to our email address above, and if you are attending, please remember to wear your nametag.

#### President's Message



Hello friends!

The end of the year is just around the corner, and this will be our last bulletin for 2024. Roll on summer - it will be nice to pop down to the beach for a swim when [if?] the water temperature lifts a bit. I suspect that the local weather and the beaches are the predominant reason many of you chose to live in this area. I am certain it would not have been the roading infrastructure!

Writing this near the end of November, I note that we will have a good attendance of 55+ for our Christmas lunch at The Archer. We are celebrating the yuletide a little earlier than usual this year to enable our trip on the Jane Gifford on 6th of December to fit with the tide at Mahurangi.

This outing will attract our largest group for 2024 so keep your fingers crossed for fine weather. Following that we will all have a break until our annual summer picnic towards the end of January.



I want to thank our Committee for their excellent work this year, together with our non-Committee volunteers, all of whom jointly do their best to make the club the easy-going and interesting society that you enjoy.



I wish everyone an enjoyable Christmas with your families and friends and a very safe New Year.

*Paul Robinson*



## Rebus apparel

Rebus NZ has organised a line of Rebus-branded hats for members to wear and hopefully trigger interest in our group from persons outside of the club. At this stage there are caps, bucket hats, and visors. The intention is to add polo shirts to this programme soon.



The hats come in several colours – navy blue, black, and white, all of which can be seen at <https://www.apparelmerchco.com/collections/rebus> Rebus NZ has a few remaining items in stock at \$20 for the caps and bucket hats, and \$17 for the visors. If you wish to purchase one [or more] of these, they will be available at our club meeting next Tuesday or you can order through Bill Cobb.

## KEEPING WHANGAPARAOA GREEN SPACES MAINTAINED

Member Rod Klarwill has suggested that members might be interested in the information below as it pertains to our area and follows on from the presentation by Owen Paterson at our October club meeting. They intend to hold volunteer workdays from mid-December onwards,

### Keep Whangaparāoa's Green Spaces. Healthy Communities Need Space

## 100+ Community Volunteers clean-up Gulf Harbour Country Club's abandoned Golf Course

A community-led initiative to mow the entire Gulf Harbour Country Club (GHCC) with a small team of helpers and support from local businesses got underway on Monday 21 October. On Sundays the 3rd and 10th of November a group of approximately 100 volunteers in total gathered on the golf course and undertook a major cleanup of the grounds. The following is a video showing the substantial impact the second volunteer day made. KWGS is not directly involved in this initiative but have played a supporting role to enable the team of mowers to get an action plan drawn up, gather resources to get volunteers on-board and

devise a comprehensive clean-up plan and move towards establishing a “Gulf Harbour Community Trust” to run these initiatives. We are also collecting donations for the mowers’ operational expenses on behalf of the mower team at the point. The Trust will have its own banking arrangements in the New Year. Please support our fantastic local business sponsors and not-for-profit supporters. They are listed at the end of the video.

View the video

here: <https://youtu.be/ZBVi4NpqiWs>

## Further Volunteer Clean-up Days

Four more Volunteer Days will take place on the following Sundays:

*15th December 2024; 26th January 2025;*

*16th February 2025; 16th March 2025*

If you are already registered to help with the Volunteer Days, the Gulf Harbour Community Trust team will be in touch with you by email with detailed instructions closer to those respective dates. If you would like to help with the clean-ups but haven’t registered your interest yet, please email: [comms@kwgnz.org](mailto:comms@kwgnz.org) as soon as possible.

## Donate to Mower Operational Expenses

Thank you to everyone who has donated towards the mowers’ operational expenses. KWGS are co-ordinating donations on behalf of the mowing group at this stage. Use our bank account details to make a transfer or complete a Stripe Credit card donation on this

page: <https://www.kwgnz.org/donate.html>

For more information contact:

Howard Baldwin: [comms@kwgnz.org](mailto:comms@kwgnz.org)

Visit our website: [www.kwgnz.org](http://www.kwgnz.org)





## Trips and Functions

For those going on the Jane Gifford trip, please read the information under upcoming trip.

### Recent function

#### October 31st. BBQ and Bowling at Manly

#### Bowling Club.

We had twenty-six participating in our annual bowls day at Manly Bowling Club, twenty playing bowls and having lunch plus six for lunch only. The weather was fine for most of the time with just a light shower towards the end of the bowls competition, which did not spoil the fun at all. We are made of sturdy stuff at RCHC!

We split into six teams, so we had three competitions which finished about 12.30pm for lunch and a welcome drink from the bar. For lunch we had BBQ chicken breast and sausages and an excellent range of salads and bread rolls. I would like to thank Andy of Manly Bowling Club, who set us up with bowls and a little tuition on rules and took control of the bar for us. I would also like, on behalf of all of us who attended, to thank Garth for sourcing the meat and bread, Murray for helping me shop for the salads and dressings etc. and Paul for helping me sort out the bowling teams. I would like to take this opportunity to especially thank Judy Patterson, Jan Martell, and my wife Tessa for preparing and serving the salads and Toni Wentworth for doing the dish washing, not forgetting our excellent BBQ chefs Bill Cobb and Phil Martell. Without the enthusiastic help of so many, such events would not be possible.

I am sure we will repeat this event next year, hopefully with more of you and your partners participating. Where else can you get such a great experience and wonderful meal for \$22.50?

#### Thursday 28th November. Christmas Lunch at The Archer.

Fifty-three members, partners and friends enjoyed our end-of-year Christmas Lunch at The Archer, Stanmore Bay. Your club sponsored the first drink, and the fixed price starter and main menu allowed us plenty of choice. All the meals looked delicious. My chicken starter was very tasty, and my main roast lamb was the best lamb I have had for a long time. Everyone I spoke to enjoyed their meal too, so well done the chef and staff at The Archer. We had a free raffle of two lovely Christmas hampers plus a bottle of wine donated

by Danny (the Archer).

It was good to see many of our newer members and to catch up with club friends. Overall, it was a most enjoyable, special lunch.



### Upcoming Trip

December 6th (Friday). Two-hour, Jane Gifford Charter Cruise from Warkworth.

We will travel to Warkworth on the free bus from Silverdale, or in your own car. Do not forget your AT HOP card if travelling by bus.

The bus stops close to the river wharf where the boat awaits us. We board the boat at about 11.30am and sail down the Mahurangi River into the estuary near Snells Beach.

We can each bring our own picnic and drinks, beer, wine etc. to have lunch on board the boat, during our two-hour cruise.

The bus from Hibiscus Coast Station leaves at 9.20 and 10.20 and takes about 30 minutes. The bus stops in Warkworth outside the Masonic Hall, near the Tourist Information/library building and the toilets are at the rear of this building.

**We will meet at the boat wharf (just behind the above buildings) at 11.15.**

If you prefer to drive to Warkworth that is fine, just let Steve know of your plans.

All are welcome, including friends.

**If going by bus the service is the number 995 and leaves from stop B at HC. Station. Each bus holds about thirty-six passengers and normally there are few regular users. Either get an early bus at 9.20 or the later one at 10.20. The latest timetable shows buses leaving HCS at 9.20, 9.50 and 10.20, though I personally am not sure about the 9.50 one but give it a go if you wish. Get off the bus at the last stop in the middle of the town centre at the Masonic Hall.**



**The return bus, according to the timetable (dated 9th September 2024) is at 13.45, 14.15, 14.45 etc. And leaves at the stop you got off on Percy St.**

Places are now limited, so if you wish to be included, book and pay now.

Make your payment into the club account at \$40pp with your name and reference "Boat Trip" and notify Steve at: stevejwaller49@gmail.com Club Bank Account: 12 3084 0176946 00

Date for your new 2025 diary

### **Thursday 13th February BBQ Picnic at Shakespear Regional Park**

Shakespear Beach area on the grass near the car parking area. We meet at midday and have a BBQ of meat and salads. Lunch is about 12.30.

We normally have a few lawn games, for those who want a bit of fun activity, plus a great catch up with other members after our break from club activities during the festive/January holiday period.

Bring your own chairs (and picnic table if you wish), drinks and plastic picnic glasses, plates, cutlery, and anything you wish to share, including your holiday stories.

All welcome including friends, but not your pets. Shakespear Park is a pet free zone.

Charge for lunch \$12.50 per person to be paid into the club account, ref: picnic.

We will soon be planning club activities for next year.

We have a list of your suggestions for trips but always welcome more. Any good trips you have been on or heard about or any types of trips you do not want included, let us know.

If I do not see you before, have a great Christmas and summer break.

CHEERS FOR NOW Steve

*Steve Waller*



### **Membership and 'Our People'**

We extend a very warm welcome to Tim Jones who was inducted at our last meeting. Tim's arrival brings our numbers to 70.



Tim's career has involved education at a senior level both in New Zealand and internationally and also in the travel industry. He has also been involved in the export of New Zealand's Manuka Honey. He is married to Naiome and has three married daughters and five, soon to be six grand-children. Tim has been involved in Rotary (St Johns) as Charter President. We look forward to hearing more from Tim following being tapped on the shoulder as a club speaker some time by David.

*Phil Martell.*



**Welfare** Bill Anderson is OK and intends to attend the meeting on the 3rd of December.

I have had a talk with President Paul re-creating a contact list of members that would be prepared to volunteer to transport members to medical appointments.

The demand for this service is small, but when help is called for from a member it is normally at short notice, so a list of members prepared to put their hands up would be very handy.

*Frank Coggan*



### **Treasurer's Report**

Bank account still holding strong. Balance \$6500 with known debts of \$1300 to pay.



## **Bryan Wentworth** **Speaker's corner**



**Club Speaker:** for November was Brian Tracey. Brian was born in Auckland, but his parents were missionaries, so the family soon left for Nigeria. Starting in Lagos to learn the language the family moved to Egosi where his father became a dentist. Brian grew up spending 3 years in Nigeria and 1 year back in New Zealand raising money to go back and continue the missionary work. They then moved to Jos in the Nigerian highlands but had constant problems with dust storms from the Sahara. He attended a Boarding School for missionary children set up for an American education system. Growing up was much like New Zealand children except the trees and food were different. He went on trips around Nigeria with his dad as a dentist, but the roads were a little dangerous with booby traps (large holes in the road) to stop travellers.

Brian was back in New Zealand for his bursary exams to finish his schooling. The family moved to Kenya and undertook relief work into Southern Sudan. Brian became a tour guide in the Nairobi National Park. He married a medical student and went to northern Thailand for aid work where he learnt to use bamboo for everything. Obtaining a science degree from Waikato University then back to Nairobi where he was close to gunshots from a coup attempt while picnicking in a park.

On returning to New Zealand, he gained a degree in geohydrology and a job at GCNZ, then Tonkin and Taylor and then his own geotechnical data business working in water supply. He is now retired.



**Guest Speaker** Our Guest Speaker Geoff Cooper was introduced by Bruce Reddell. Geoff told us about his life as a pilot. His father was in the Air Force during WW2 and, after an accident while an electrician, became involved with Rex Aviation. This gave Geoff his introduction and desire to become a pilot as well as an airframe mechanic. In 1967 he became a cadet with Squadron 3 working at Whenuapai and where he applied for a pilot licence. On being accepted for training, he was transferred to

Wigram and flew Harvards and Devons. In 1973 he transferred to Ohakea and to No42 Squadron where he spent a lot of hours flying DC-3s, often doing 39 – 43 days flying in a row. In 1979 he joined Air NZ flying 25000 hours in 737s, 767s, 777s, and 747s but his love was the DC-3 [or Dakota]. There are only a few left flying in the world (140) today and Geoff's firm, Fly DC3, after the 80th anniversary of the DC-3 in NZ, had to close down as covid caused a loss of clients using it as well as losing pilots and ground crew. There were also problems with the engine which needs to be repaired in California. Their firm operated out of Ardmore Airport in South Auckland and was used for sightseeing flights around Auckland. The plane had been used to fly personnel in the US Army Air Force, then operated out of Korea and the Philippines. Later she moved to Papua New Guinea and Queensland Australia where she ended up in the Mackay Air Museum. A NZ Warbirds syndicate successfully purchased the plane for \$72,000 in 1987. Since this date she gained her own Airline Operating Certificate, flew 43,000 hours until 28th April 2024. She is now for sale and is likely to head back to Australia. Geoff also flew the Catalina, but the Chief Engineer died, and it has not been used since. Geoff gave a very interesting talk along with photos of their DC-3. Riley Bell thanked Geoff for his informative presentation.

## **David Gatland.**

### **Humour**

Tom is applying for a job as a signalman for the local railroad and is told to meet the inspector at the signal box.

The inspector decides to give Tom a pop quiz, asking: "What would you do if you realized that two trains were heading towards each other on the same track?"

Tom says: "I would switch one train to another track."

"What if the lever broke?" asks the inspector.

"Then I'd run down to the tracks and use the manual lever down there", answers Tom.

"What if that had been struck by lightning?" challenges the inspector.

"Then," Tom continued, "I'd run back up here and use the phone to call the next signal box."

"What if the phone was busy?"



"In that case," Tom argued, "I'd run to the street level and use the public phone near the station". "What if that had been vandalized?"

"Oh well," said Tom, "in that case I would run into town and get my Uncle Leo".

This puzzled the inspector, so he asked, "Why would you do that?"

"Because he's never seen a train crash.



### Ramblers – November 2024.

For our final October Ramble, the 9.00am shower didn't put very many off and we had a good turnout of 16 to take on some more holes around the Gulf Harbour Country club; starting from the 10th hole we then managed to walk the 11th, 14th, 15th, 16th 17th and 18th holes which was a good solid walk of approximately 6Km rounded up. It was good to see the volunteers out on the course and that many of the holes are now being tidied up. I encourage you to view their website for details of efforts being made to maintain the course and try to reverse what has happened

(<https://www.kwgnz.org/resource-library.html> ). A photo of those participating is published on our website.



*Ramblers at Shepherds Reserve Beach Haven - 4th November 2024*

Our next adventure on the 4th of November took 11 of us back to Beach Haven doing the estuary walk from Shepherds Park. The entrance to Shepherds Park is opposite 119 Beach Haven Road. From car park in Shepherds Park, we took the walking track down through the Park to Shepherds Park Beach and continued the track exiting onto Paragon Ave and returning along Paragon Ave. Right into Melba St back into Shepherds Park and via walking tracks back to our start point. There was a shorted walk within

Shepherds Park for the amblers. We enjoyed refreshments at Cox House Café on Windy Ridge. The following week we were at home again with the planned two cliffs walk from Gulf Harbour around towards Okoromai and then along the Pacific Parade Cliffs. The 6km is a pleasant walk with bush and open tracks, returning past the lakes to Gulf Harbour. However, as it happened a small dedicated (waterproof) group of 7 assembled and started on a shortened walk. Four completed a 5Km walk around the block. The compulsory coffee and sticky buns were enjoyed at the Manly Café. We then planned to do the Kauri Tree tops walk at Northcote but, part of that track is closed due to Kauri Die back. Instead, we hit Long Bay again, the main group making the walk to Granny's Bay while the amblers did the Long Bay flat walk. A very pleasant cuppa was had at the Scout Café in Torbay. WE have posted a recent photo of our most mature Ramblers - Royce and Ngaire Norton who celebrated their 70th Wedding Anniversary last week !!!CONGRATULATIONS !!!



*Ramblers at Long Bay- 18th November 2024*

Our final ramble for November is back to the local beach with a stroll along Orewa Beach starting from Estuary At Centre car park and later gathering for a well earnt cuppa at the Bake N Brew Café. The Ramblers – and a few Amblers – meet on Mondays at 0900 in conjunction with Gulf Harbour Rebus for home and away rambles of up to 9 km, followed by refreshments.

If you would like to join us, just let me know and I will add you to the mailing list. Partners, friends and prospects are all most welcome.

*David Gatland*



## **Combined Club Dinner Nights**



This group comprises members of both the Hibiscus Coast and Gulf Harbour Clubs. The next combined dinner is pencilled in for 4<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at Mainsail restaurant in Gulf Harbour with a start time of 6.30pm. This is the night of our first meeting of the year.



## **Birthdays for November**

Our congratulations to the following members for having successfully navigated another year – Robert Mann and Bill Cobb.

We hope that you were able to enjoy your birthday with family and friends.

## **Donation/sponsorship**

We wish to express our sincere thanks to Allan Yeo of **Booster Wine Group** for their ongoing donation of a selection of New Zealand fine wines. These will be given to our guest speakers in appreciation for their presentations. Visit their website at [boosterwinegroup.nz/our-story](http://boosterwinegroup.nz/our-story)

