



## REBUS CLUB OF HIBISCUS COAST

**June 2025**

Post: 37 Beauvoir Ave, Matakata, Whangaparaoa 0930

Website: <http://www.rebus-hibiscuscoast.co.nz>

Email: [hibiscusrebus@gmail.com](mailto:hibiscusrebus@gmail.com)

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:	Tim Jones	021 386 981
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
Database:	Phil Martell	027 497 0024
Dinner club:	George Tregidga	027 223 7953
Presentations:	Brian Tracey	021 661 573
Membership:	Stephen McKay	021 189 5022

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

**Our NEXT MEETING will be held on TUESDAY 1<sup>st</sup> July 2025 at 9.30 am.**

Our Guest Speaker is Owen Rutter on "Sailing: my life and career". Owen will be introduced by Kim Hanna and thanked by Rod Klarwill. Our Club Speaker is Frank Coggan on a "Rescue on the way to Samoa".

**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 recent cold snap emphasised that we are approaching mid-winter. Never-the-less this year is not as miserable as I remember for previous winters. That is because we shifted from Titirangi to the tropical coast – a move with which I am still happy.

It is my sad duty to advise that we have lost two members this month – Merv Reeves and Royce Norton.



Merv joined in February 2016 and was a very cheerful but quiet man. He and his wife Jennifer were on holiday in Rarotonga – a place well known by both, and one about which Jennifer commented that the blessing of the comfort and kindness which emanates in Rarotonga contributed to his peaceful passing.



*Group photo January 2021. Royce and Ngaire celebrated their 70<sup>th</sup> Wedding anniversary last year.*

Royce joined Probus in June 2006 and was very well known within our club. He and his wife Ngaire were active members of the Rebus Ramblers and joined in a lot of our trips and events. Royce was ninety-five when he passed away peacefully at his home in Gulf Rise Village. In addition to Ngaire, he is survived by six children and their spouses, fifteen grandchildren, and ten great-grandchildren.

The Rebus NZ 2026 AGM Organizing Committee got under way with our first meeting last week. We have confirmed a date for this event – Thursday 14th May 2026. I will include updates as we make progress during the next 12 months.

Take care out there,

*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 promotional apparel available through our website <https://www.rebus.nz/apparel> has now been extended to include polo shirts.



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.

## Humour

### THE OLD POODLE

**A wealthy old lady decides to go on a photo safari in Africa, taking her faithful aged poodle named Cuddles along for company.**

**One day the poodle starts chasing butterflies and before long, Cuddles discovers that she's lost. Wandering about, she notices a leopard heading rapidly in her direction with the intention of having lunch.**

**The old poodle thinks, "Oh, oh! I'm in deep trouble now!" Noticing some bones on the ground close by, she immediately settles down to chew on the bones with her back to the approaching cat. Just as the leopard is about to leap, the old poodle exclaims loudly, "Boy, that**

**was one delicious leopard! I wonder if there are any others around here."**

**Hearing this, the young leopard halts his attack in mid-strike, a look of terror comes over him, and he slinks away into the trees. "Whew!", says the leopard, "That was close! That old poodle nearly had me!"**

**Meanwhile, a monkey who had been watching the whole scene from a nearby tree, figures he can put this knowledge to good use and trade it for protection from the leopard. So off he goes, but the old poodle sees him head after the leopard with great speed, and figures that something must be up. The monkey soon catches up with the leopard, spills the beans and strikes a deal for himself with the leopard.**

**The young leopard is furious at being made a fool of and says, "Here, monkey, hop on my back and see what's going to happen to that conniving canine!"**

**Now, the old poodle sees the leopard coming with the monkey on his back and thinks, "What am I going to do now?" Instead of running, the dog sits down with her back to her attackers, pretending she hasn't seen them yet, and just when they get close enough to hear, the old poodle says, "Where's that damn monkey? I sent him off an hour ago to bring me another leopard!"**

## Trips and Events



With Steve having a well-earned holiday with family in the UK, the Committee is sharing his role.

Fieldays - eleven members joined Garth on a visit to the Fieldays Exhibition at Mystery Creek on

Friday 13th June. It was a full-day event departing from Silverdale at 8.00 am in a rental van and returning home after 6pm.

July 24th Auckland Zoo – Gill Wild from the Gulf Harbour Club is a volunteer at the zoo and has offered to be our tour guide for this event. We will carpool from Edith Hopper leaving at 9.30 am. Entry to the zoo is \$20 and parking \$8 per vehicle – pay on the day. Lunch in the zoo at own cost. Please can you confirm with Paul if you wish to

join this trip phone: 027 2222 151 or at [hibiscusrebus@gmail.com](mailto:hibiscusrebus@gmail.com) NO LATER than **Monday 21st July**.

August 6th mid-year lunch – Bill Cobb has booked tables at the Red Beach Surf Lifesaving Club for midday. The meal is \$40 per head including buffet main and dessert – the menu is attached at the foot of this bulletin. Drink prices are very reasonable – beer & cider \$8.50, house wine \$9 per glass, soft drinks etc \$3 - \$5 each, with tea & coffee and spirits available. The club is subsidising the lunch to the value of \$7 per meal. Book your places by email to Paul at [hibiscusrebus@gmail.com](mailto:hibiscusrebus@gmail.com) and pay \$40 per person into the Club's bank account 12 3084 0176946 00 NO LATER than **Friday 25th July**. Put reference LUNCH with your payment.

September 11th Te Huia train to Rotokauri and return – this trip will leave from The Strand at the bottom of town at 9.45 am going to Rotokauri [the old Te Rapa air force base just north of Hamilton]. It leaves Rotokauri at 2.15 pm arriving back in The Strand around 4.30 pm.

The train trip is free if you obtain a Bee Card. This is best purchased online [not difficult] and make sure you have your Super Gold concession included when you register your Bee Card. More information next month.

*Paul Robinson*



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

No new members this month, but we have a couple "in the pipeline".

*Steve McKay*



### **Welfare**

Graeme McIntosh is out of hospital and he and Jean moved home from Army Bay to the Peninsular Club in Stanmore Bay last week.

Don Baverstock's osteomyelitis is serious enough that it hinders his ability to join our meetings. He has advised that he will come along if he feels up to it on the day.

*Frank Coggan*

### **Treasurer's Report**



The balance in the Club's Bank account stands at \$4403.15, with some further income expected.

Reminder - Annual subscriptions – the annual subscription for 2025/26 is due and remains the same as for previous years at \$25. We do not send an invoice for this subscription. Please pay online to our ASB account 12 3084 0176946 00 with the reference "ann sub" or by cash at our meeting on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> July.

*Bryan Wentworth*

### **Speaker's corner**

We decided not to have a Club Speaker this month in order to accommodate our Guest Speaker's presentation.

### **Guest Speaker:**

Our Guest Speaker, Guy Slocum was introduced by Bill Cobb. Guy's talk was on being an RAF pilot during the Cold War.

He started his talk with a small background on the cold war which began with the Yalta Meeting between Stalin, Churchill, and Roosevelt on the Black Sea towards the end of WWII. Stalin asked if the allied armies could slow their advance and meet the Russian army in Berlin. This Roosevelt agreed to. The result was a divided Europe and the cold war.



Each side developed ballistic missiles with nuclear warheads which could destroy whole cities with one missile.

Guy told the meeting that he started learning to fly in an Auster J5 monoplane escaping death in a forced landing when the propellor fell off. He then

progressed to jet fighters which in the early days had a straight wing. He did 140 hours training flying as low as you could to avoid the enemy's radar, twice the height of trees which turned out to be saplings (flying 30ft above the ground), which was rather a shock to him.

He next went on to the Folland Gnat which had a swept wing. This was harder to fly and could reach subsonic speeds and supersonic speeds if you flew straight down from 40,000 feet. He lost a mate when his plane caught fire, and he couldn't eject as the fuselage nose cone folded back over the cockpit preventing the ejection.

The 18 pilots starting the course was reduced to 6 who went onto the Hawker Hunter fighter jet. This plane had the pilot on his own and they performed combat training air to air and air to ground exercises. A flag was pulled behind a plane and this was shot at by the pilots.

The next progression was to the Lightning F6 that was a larger plane and a wonderful toy but useless as a fighter as it carried only 2 missiles. To improve the fighting capability, a gun was added under the fuel tank which made it easy for the plane to catch on fire. This happened to Guy who watched the fire go through the fuel tanks until it broke off the tail. Then he had to eject. These were used to patrol the North Sea. The Soviets were practicing using their aeroplanes, the Tupolev Tu-95 Bear with four turbo-prop engines with long range capability and armed with missiles, flying into the North Sea and targeting the UK just in case war broke out. The RAF's job was to eliminate these planes before they launched their missiles, so they practiced their interception role. Jets use a lot of fuel. So, to keep them topped up they developed Victor bombers into flying fuel tankers which refuelled the jets in the air. The jet would need to put their nose into a basket or sock which dangled out the back of the tanker while it was flying and this was connected to the tanker by the fuel hose used for the refuelling. These were difficult operations as the basket would wobble around from the turbulence of both the tanker and the fighter. Night refuelling added to the difficulty, so radar and moonlight were used. Refuelling was sometimes done 33 times a patrol.

Following the Lightning came the F4 Phantom. This was a pig to fly as it was bought from the US and converted to Rolls-Royce engines. However, it had 8 missiles plus an improved radar and used flaps on the side of the plane to control the airflow entering the jet engines. It was unstable in combat, but this was an advantage as it enabled a flick manoeuvre to escape a following enemy. Pilots were on black ops, which meant denying everything if anything went wrong and secrecy for 35 years or 70 if it involved a foreign power. Their alert system was a 24-hour watch, and they had to be in the air within 5 minutes.

After his time patrolling the North Sea, Guy went to fly the Phantom for the Navy. Take-off from an aircraft carrier meant the use of an extended front wheel to get the correct take-off angle, a catapult, and the use of after-burners with a helicopter ready to lift the pilot out of the water before the ship ran you over if the plane didn't achieve liftoff. Landing on the deck required a hook to grab a wire strung across the deck and the afterburners on landing just in case the hook didn't catch. This would enable another take-off.

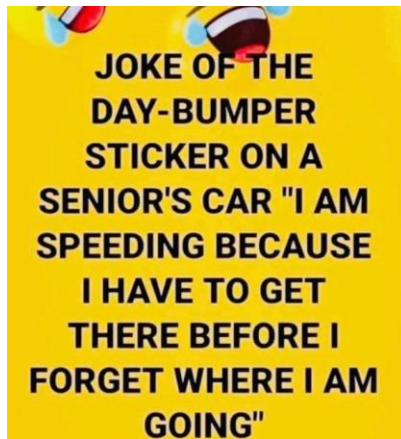
The next fighter jet was the Harrier Jump Jet which could hover using air nozzles on the side of the plane to control the airflow and balance the plane. One third of the fleet was lost in the learning of how to fly this plane and this was soon adapted for the navy as landing on an aircraft carrier became easier by hovering alongside and then shifting sideways onto the ship. Ski ramps on aircraft carriers were developed for take-off.

Guy ended his enthusiastic talk by saying there were a lot more experiences, but his time was up. The members thoroughly enjoyed his presentation and will have him back sometime in the future for the remainder of his experiences.

Guy was thanked by Phil Martell who presented him with a certificate and a bottle of wine.

*David Gatland.*

## Humour



## TRAIN TRAVEL!

Three New Zealanders and three Aussies are travelling by train to a cricket match at the World Cup in England. At the station, the three Aussies each buy a ticket and watch as the three Kiwis buy just one ticket between them. "How are the three of you going to travel on only one ticket?" asks one of the Aussies.

"Watch and learn," answers one of the Kiwis. They all board the train. The Aussies take their respective seats but all three Kiwis cram into a toilet and close the door behind them. Shortly after the train has departed, the conductor comes around collecting tickets. He knocks on the toilet door and says, "Ticket please." The door opens just a crack, and a single arm emerges with a ticket in hand. The conductor takes it and moves on.

The Aussies see this and agree it was quite a

clever idea. So after the game, they decide to copy the Kiwis on the return trip and save some money (being clever with money, and all that).

When they get to the station, they buy a single ticket for the return trip.

To their astonishment, the Kiwis don't buy a ticket at all!!

"How are you going to travel without a ticket?" says one perplexed Aussie. "Watch and learn," answers a Kiwi.

When they board the train the three Aussies cram into a toilet and soon after the three kiwis cram into another nearby. The train departs.

Shortly afterwards, one of the Kiwis leaves the toilet and walks over to the toilet where the Aussies are hiding.

He knocks on the door and says, "Ticket please."



## Ramblers

Early in June with the high tide around 11.30am, we did an inland Orewa walk. We started from Bake N Brew and headed north along the beach then left onto Kohu St, left into Hibiscus Coast Hwy, right into West Hoe, through Victor Eaves park and back onto West Hoe Rd, left onto Grand Drive, left into Chesterfield Way and left into the walkway through to Lakeside Drive and the walkway past the Maygrove Lake lily ponds and along the culvert to the estuary walkway.



*Ramblers Maygrove Lake, 2 June 2025*

We then went through to Orewa Beach where we took the beachside walkway back to Bake N Brew.

The following week a brave small team (8) fronted up with their brollies (which weren't needed) and had a pleasant walk around the Hammer Head and then up through the golf course – avoiding the 'freedom campers' on our return path. In all we did 7.5 Km and earnt a well-deserved coffee and sticky bun at Cherry café. A discovery – they have spring rolls available at

morning teatime – which are a nutritious substitute – or addition – to their delicious muffins and scones.

The next week, senior apprentice Neil Wild from Gulf Harbour led the group from Arundel Reserve through Alice Eaves Scenic Reserve and other local environs before replenishing at Bake N Brew.



*Ramblers, Alice Eaves Bush Walk, 16 June 2025*

Our third June Ramble is at Shepherds Park Beach Haven. From the car park we will take the walking track down through the Park to Shepherds Park Beach and continue the track exiting onto Paragon Ave and returning along Paragon Ave, into Melba St, into Shepherds Park and via walking tracks back to the start Point. There is a shortened walk within Shepherds Park for the Amblers. Refreshments will be at Cox House Café, 123 Stanley House Road, Windy Ridge.

If you would like to join us on a Monday at 0900, just let me know and I will add you to the mailing list. Partners, friends, visitors 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. With both clubs having their mid-winter lunches in July and August, the next combined dinner will be in early September. The date and restaurant are still to be decided but will be advertised in the August club bulletin.

If members have any ideas of restaurants in the area that we can try, please give me a call or email at [gandc@xtra.co.nz](mailto:gandc@xtra.co.nz)

*George Tregidga.*



### Birthdays for June

Our congratulations to the following members for having successfully navigated another year – George Tregidga, Paul Robinson, Stephen McKay, Tim Jones and Graeme Newton.

### 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.



If you wish to know more about the Booster visit their site <https://boosterwinegroup.nz/our-story>

**August 6<sup>th</sup> mid-year lunch at the  
Red Beach Life Surf Lifesaving Club**

**Menu**

