



REBUS CLUB OF HIBISCUS COAST

September 2026 Bulletin

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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:	Tim Jones	021 386 981
Vice President:	Vacant	
Secretary :	Trevor Weal	021 032 3373
Treasurer:	Bryan Wentworth	021 210 1791
IPP/Membership:	Paul Robinson	027 2222 151
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Trips & Events:	Steve Waller	021 0864 0236
Bulletin Editor:	Neville Drower	021 886 130
Host/Welfare:	Peter Fava	021 560 925
Apparel/Trips & Events	Bill Cobb	027 292 5159

Non-Committee

Book Table:	Dave Betts	021 967 074
Kitchen:	Murray Paterson	021 0238 9252
Kitchen:	Julian Joy	027 764 0663
Kitchen:	Riley Bell	021 684 085
Presentations:	Brian Tracey	021 661 573
Door Raffle & Prizes:	Fergus Small	027 264 1366
Door Raffle & Prizes:	Alan Menzies	027 444 2094
Photography:	Graeme McIntosh	027 473 9787
Dinner Club:	George Tregidga	027 223 7953

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

Our NEXT MEETING will be held on 6 October, 2026 at 9.30 am.

Our Guest Speaker this month will be **Barry Thom from Manly Yacht Club**, Barry will be introduced by Frank Coggan and thanked by Tom Hipkiss. Our **Club Speaker** will be **Gilbert Peterson**.

Quick reminder: If you are unable to attend, please send your apology to our email address above, and if you are attending, please do wear your name tag.

President's Message

Dear fellow members,



As I write this message, I'm drawn to the presenter's repeated comments on Breakfast TV this morning – "robbed" with the headline "NRL admits late Warriors call was wrong, axes top referee". An unfortunate end to

the Warriors 2026 season, and the euphoria that has gripped us all year.

The Warriors record had an added poignancy for Naiome and me when, later in the morning, we managed to get tickets to Ronan Keating's concert in March. His signature song is "Life is a rollercoaster,

just gotta ride it"!

No such extreme emotions were on display at our mid-September club outing to The Range near Warkworth. Some prowess was on display at the driving range, but it was the mini golf that tested the luck, accuracy and arithmetic of the rest of us! Skill at the shooting range was variable, and became less reliable as the overriding thought of lunch at The Warkworth Hotel prevailed.

The fickle weather and winter illness have affected attendance at our recent Club meetings. With the warmth of spring, and an excellent guest speaker in Barry Thom from the Manly Yacht Club on October

6, I look forward to sharing our next Club meeting with you.

Take care, and as always, please check this bulletin for duties and upcoming events.

Regards, *Tim*

Zen teaching for September... If you tell the truth, you don't have to remember anything.

Treasurer's Report



The bank balance remains strong at \$6,234. Well done to you all for paying your subs!!

Bryan Wentworth

Membership and "Our People"



A very warm welcome to Jack Jansen who was inducted by Tim at our September meeting.

Jack was born in NZ in 1951 shortly after his parents emigrated from Denmark. He has been married to Maureen for 45 years, but is still waiting for his long service medal. They have four daughters – one in NZ with two children, and three in Australia with six children plus another due in early 2027.



Apart from a couple of employed stints early in his life, he has been self-employed with roles ranging from sales, fashion wear, credit agencies, security products, printing accessories, and management. He has no claim to fame, but loves all manner of sports, history, politics, photography, art, and his family. He appreciates the opportunity to join a club where one can discuss, debate, and explore the more important aspects of life, rather than sitting around watching the relentless live reality TV series that abound.

We hope you enjoy your participation in our club Jack.

Paul Robinson.

Fathoming our legalistic brethren...

A man was sent to Hell for his sins. As he was being taken to his place of eternal torment, he passed a room where a lawyer was having an intimate conversation with a beautiful woman. "What a rip-off," the man muttered. "I have to roast for all eternity, and that **lawyer** spends it with that gorgeous woman."

Jabbing the man with his pitchfork, the escorting demon snarled, "Who are you to question that woman's punishment?"

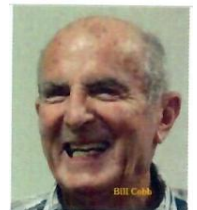
Trips and Events



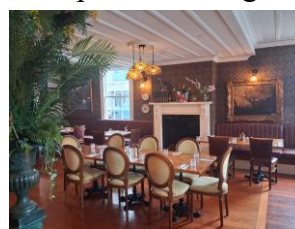
Recent trip to The Range

Fifteen of us met at The Range, near Warkworth, on 17th

September for a morning's sporting activities.



We chose between hitting some balls at the golf driving range, air rifle shooting and mini-golfing, or did all three activities. After the morning's fun and friendly competition, we met up at The Warkworth Hotel for lunch where we were joined by three of our wives. Everyone seemed to have had a good time, so perhaps we will repeat our trip to The Range next year.



Our Next Trip

Tuesday 13 October 2026 to Auckland Stardome
at 670 Manukau Road, One Tree Hill Domain,
Royal Oak.

We will car share to the Stardome/Planetarium site (off Manukau road), meeting at about 9.50am, ready to have our private dome viewing at 10am. The show is a type of film, entitled Our Sky Tonight, which we'll view on the domed ceiling from semi reclined seats. After the show we'll be able to look around the gallery. Following the visit we'll drive around Cornwall Park/One Tree Hill to the Bistro for lunch.

Directions

To get to the Stardome there are a couple of options:

- i) Heading southward on SH1 you could leave the motorway at Gillies and turn right along Gillies Ave, then left into one-way Owens Rd and then at the end of that road, right onto Manukau Rd. Continue along Manukau Rd, crossing the Green Lane intersection and keeping left at the fork of Pah Rd and Manukau Rd. The Stardome is on the left on Olive Grove, which is off Manukau Rd.
- ii) Alternatively, heading southward on SH1, you could leave the motorway at Green Lane and drive through Cornwall Park to The Stardome.

To get to The Bistro from The Stardome, you cannot drive through the park, as Kenneth Myers Drive becomes a one-way street so cars are not permitted. An easy way to The Bistro is to drive to Manukau Rd and turn right, then right onto Green Lane, then right into the entrance of Cornwall Park. The narrow entrance gate is between stone walls. At the roundabout turn right and you will find The Bistro and car parking on the left. This is only a few minutes drive.

Regarding fees/costs, entry to the Stardome is free to members and partners as your committee decided to pay the \$175 for up to 35 people from club funds. Lunch is at your own expense and as usual we leave it up to passengers to donate to their car-pool driver.

All are welcome including wives/partners and friends/guests, however if we exceed 35 members and partners, we'll ask guests to pay the \$5 entrance fee.

We will meet at Edith Hopper Park, Manly, at 8.45 am to give us sufficient time to drive to The Stardome and meet up in the car park outside the building.

If you are making your own transport arrangement with other fellow members, please let me know when you notify me that you, and if applicable your partner or guests, will be joining us.

To book your place notify Steve at stevejwaller49@gmail.com

Upcoming events

Thursday 19th November- Bowls and BBQ lunch at Manly Bowling Club.

This is a fun day when all are welcome and no previous experience necessary. We split into teams, get some basic coaching on the rules of the game and how to bowl, then have some friendly competition accompanied by much merriment.

Bowls are provided. A couple of members volunteer to be BBQ chefs (offers welcomed) and some of our wives prepare and serve up the buffet salads and bread rolls. A well-stocked and reasonably priced bar is staffed by a member of The Bowling Club. Anyone who has a favourite salad dish they wish to prepare and share will be refunded the ingredient expenses. Anyone offering to man the BBQ or wash dishes, please advise Steve. We provide the BBQ meat, salads and bread.

Thursday December 10th- End of year/Christmas Lunch (to be confirmed).

More information about the above Bowls/BBQ and the Christmas Lunch, including cost of participation, will be circulated nearer the time. To book these activities, if you haven't done so already, contact Steve as above.

Steve Waller and Bill Cobb

Welfare

The flu has affected quite a few of us recently as seen by attendance at our last meeting. We had 43



members at the August meeting, the lowest for the year. Hopefully, with the start of spring, we are over the worst.

Thank you to Paul Robinson for visiting Colin Cathro and Peter Farrell at Evelyn Page, Orewa. Paul found them both bright and doing well. Elizabeth Wake told me that Graeme, her husband, was discharged from North Shore Hospital and is back at Evelyn Page in a special ward so that he can receive appropriate care. She also confirmed to me that Colin and Peter are doing well and taking up residency at Evelyn Page. They look forward to having visitors.

John Bell is well, but he currently has a personal engagement which clashes with our Tuesday meetings.

Robert Mann is also well, but at the moment is away.

Don Baverstock is at home and unlikely to return.

Neil Douglas said he was still keen to attend, but he has not been around for the last 3 months.

Jocelyn, Ray Watkins's wife, told me that Ray will be resigning from Rebus.

As far as I know Earl Brookbanks is still at the Sands Care Centre and Village in Browns Bay. Unfortunately, I have been unable to get a reply over the phone.

Similarly with Bill Anderson. I left a message, but no reply.

If you know of any member who is unwell or needs assistance, please do not hesitate to let me know (021560925) and I will try to follow it up.

Peter Fava

Aircrew Comments Hasten A Decline in Tourism...

An excerpt from a cabin stewardess' safety briefing: "Your seat cushions can be used for flotation and, in the event of an emergency water landing, please paddle to shore and take them with our compliments."

Speakers Corner

Club Speaker – Edwin Davies

Ed started his chat by telling us he still felt like a new boy in our club. He lived in Auckland for most of his life, early days in Sandringham and Mt Eden. Later in life he shifted to Orewa to retire and escape Auckland, but it had come to find him.



At school, he studied academic subjects: Latin, French, Maths, English, Physics and History and, liking them, decided to continue to study them at Auckland University. As teaching was a 9 to 3 job offering 10 weeks of holidays and payment whilst attending university under a Studentship Scheme, Ed decided to become part of Division U at Teachers Training College. To maintain this scholarship he had to pass his exams and teach for it's duration.

After four years of university study and a year at training college Ed initially found it difficult to find a French teaching job but was ultimately fortunate enough to obtain a position at Penrose High School. He was given the lowest 5th Form and 3rd Form French Classes, lowest 5th Form History Class, responsibility for the lowest 3rd Form PE Class, coaching of a Cricket Team after school and for umpiring on Saturday mornings. At the end of his first year, he was given the textbook issue job pursuant to the Government's policy of free education in state schools.

The second year of teaching was even more stressful. Ed was given different subjects to teach that included the bottom 6th Form English Class. Most significantly, his brother-in-law died that year leaving his 27-year-old sister with three children to look after; Ed stepped in to help her.

After three years at Penrose High School Ed wanted a change; the government regulation of country service applied a cap to salaries and in addition to this consideration, Ed wanted to teach French to maintain his skills in this area. He chose to move to Putaruru High School and found a flat (an old farmhouse) to share with three other young men

who were all members of the local operatic society. Ed was soon involved in musical activities.

The teaching was not quite as arduous although it now included a German class and a rugby team. Driving himself hard with the operatic society and also driving a mate to Hamilton once a week, he decided to take a year's break from teaching which turned out to be the end of Ed's teaching career.

In concluding, Ed told us that at one point he had become very ill with glandular fever which was not initially picked up by the doctors and ultimately led to him being admitted to Auckland Hospital. The ward sister, one of his former Penrose High School pupils, told Ed he looked better now than he had when teaching her all those years ago!

A SENIOR MOMENT

An elderly lady actually wrote this letter to her bank. The bank manager thought it amusing enough to have it published in The Times and the newspaper thanked him most sincerely.

Dear Sir,

I am writing to thank you for bouncing my cheque with which I endeavoured to pay my plumber last month. By my calculations, three 'nanoseconds' must have elapsed between his presenting the cheque and the arrival in my account of the funds needed to honour it. I refer, of course, to the automatic monthly deposit of my Pension, an arrangement which, I admit, has been in place for only twenty-eight years.

You are to be commended for seizing that brief window of opportunity, and also for debiting my account £30 by way of penalty for the inconvenience caused to your bank. My thankfulness springs from the manner in which this incident has caused me to rethink my errant financial ways.

I noticed that whereas I personally attend to your telephone calls and letters, when I try to contact you, I am confronted by the impersonal, overharging, pre-recorded, faceless entity which your bank has become. From now on I, like you, choose only to deal with a flesh-and-blood person.

My mortgage and loan payments will therefore and hereafter no longer be automatic, but will arrive at

your bank by cheque, addressed personally and confidentially to an employee at your bank who you must nominate. Be aware that it is an offence under the Postal Act for any other person to open such an envelope.

Please find attached an Application Contact Status which I require your chosen employee to complete. I am sorry it runs to eight pages, but in order that I know as much about him or her as your bank knows about me, there is no alternative. Please note that all copies of his or her medical history must be countersigned by a Solicitor, and the mandatory details of his/her financial situation (income, debts, assets and liabilities) must be accompanied by documented proof.

In due course, I will issue your employee with a PIN number which he/she must quote in dealings with me. I regret that it cannot be shorter than 28 digits but, again, I have modelled it on the number of button presses required of me to access my account balance on your 'phone bank service. As they say, imitation is the sincerest form of flattery.

Let me level the playing field even further. When you call me, press buttons as follows:

- 1-- To make an appointment to see me.
- 2-- To query a missing payment.
- 3-- To transfer the call to my living room in case I am there.
- 4-- To transfer the call to my bedroom in case I am sleeping.
- 5-- To transfer the call to my toilet in case I am attending to nature.
- 6-- To transfer the call to my mobile phone if I am not at home.
- 7-- To leave a message on my computer (a password to access my computer is required and will be communicated, at a later date, to the Authorized Contact.)
- 8-- To return to the main menu and to listen to options 1 through 8.
- 9-- To make a general complaint or inquiry.

The contact will then be put on hold, pending the attention of my automated answering service. While this may, on occasion, involve a lengthy wait, uplifting music will play for the duration of the call.

Regrettably, but again following your example, I must also levy an establishment fee to cover the

setting up of this new arrangement.

May I wish you a happy, if ever so slightly less prosperous, New Year.

Your Humble Client

Guest Speakers – Duncan Miller and Tania Rainey; State of Play with the Gulf Harbour Country Club

Rod Klarwill introduced Duncan and Tania to the meeting.

Tania began their presentation by explaining that there were two Trusts involved in the future of the Gulf Harbour Country Club ('the Club'): Gulf Harbour Community Trust #1 and Gulf Harbour Community Trust #2. These were formed to try to overcome the stalemate currently existing with the Club - the present owner has just walked away from this property owing substantial amounts and is in no way interested in maintaining the property.



The first Trust is involved in the maintenance of the green spaces and the care of the property by carrying out the mowing, spraying, pest control, painting and graffiti removal, security of buildings and rubbish removal. This Trust has been reliant on the ongoing work of 170+ homeowners and public donations to carry out its operations. It has had difficulty convincing the police that they should take action against arsonists and youth who have damaged the property. The police have not been able to prosecute as the owner has not registered a complaint.

The second Trust is involved in the legal aspects of taking over ownership of the Club and its future development. The present owner, Long River Investments, indirectly owned by Greg Oliver, has no interest in the Gulf Harbour and surrounding communities. MBIE has not wanted to take legal action against Greg Oliver.

The property currently has three mortgagees who are owed approximately \$24m, \$10m and a further \$10m respectively. Each of these three mortgages need to be negotiated separately before any future



development can go ahead. Future development might include redevelopment of the golf course, a state-of-the-art golf

driving range, a retirement village, a shopping centre and a conference facility similar to that included in the Pakuranga Golf Club development.

Duncan and Tania's group has been talking with the CEO of Auckland City Council, Phil Wilson and his team, to explore ways in which they can get development underway. There are still 1,440 vacant properties yet to be developed on the peninsular.

Bob Hagan thanked our guest speakers for their presentation and awarded them with a certificate and a bottle of wine.

Thanks to Trevor Weal for his summary of the Member's and Guest's Presentations in the Editors absence.

Neville Drower

Comprehending accountants...

To the optimist, the glass is half full.
To the pessimist, the glass is half empty.
To the accountant the glass is twice as large as it needs to be!

Upcoming Speakers

6 October Meeting:

Club Speaker: **Gilbert Peterson**

Guest Speaker: **Barry Thom – An Update on the Manly Sailing Club/Russell Coutts Sailing Foundation.**

Introduced by: **Frank Coggan**

Thanked by: **Tom Hipkiss**



"The Russell Coutts Sailing Foundation was created by Sir Russell Coutts—Olympic gold medallist, America's Cup winner, and lifelong advocate for youth sailing—to give young New Zealanders the chance to discover sailing, build confidence, and

learn life skills like preparation and teamwork.

Joining [Russell was] accomplished yachtsman and businessman Barry Thom, along with head coach Kylie Jameson, a talented sailor who leads the program with passion and expertise. Many of [RCSF's] coaches are RCSF graduates, including international youth and foiling champions, bringing first-hand experience and inspiration to every session.

All [RCSF] coaches hold Yachting New Zealand accreditation, and...regularly welcome top sailors to clinics, giving...young sailors extra motivation and a taste of world-class sailing."

David Gatland

In the nature of engineers...

An engineer crosses a road when a frog calls out to him, "If you kiss me, I'll turn into a beautiful princess." He bends over, picks up the frog and puts it in his pocket.

The frog speaks up again and says, "If you kiss me and turn me back into a beautiful princess, I will stay with you for one week." The engineer takes the frog out of his pocket, smiles at it and returns it to the pocket.

The frog then cries out, "If you kiss me and turn me back, I'll do whatever you say!" Again the engineer takes the frog out, smiles at it and puts it back into his pocket.

Finally, the frog asks, "What's the matter? I've told you I'm a beautiful princess, I'll stay with you for a month and do whatever you say. What more do you want?"

The engineer says, "Look, I'm an engineer. I don't have time for a girlfriend, but a talking frog, now that's cool!"

Ramblers

We closed out August with the Gulf Harbour southern Pinecrest Climb, a bit of a look back over the new Hobbs Bay subdivision and a return route



via the Country Club. The Amblers paced themselves around and on the flat walkways of Gulf Harbour. 18 of us enjoyed refreshments at the Cherry Café – mindful they'd have spring rolls on offer by the time we arrived.

With low tide around 9am, we next tackled the Orewa Beach Ramble commencing from the Estuary Arts Centre carpark. Post ramble refreshments were enjoyed with the Amblers at Dear Coasties in Bakehouse Lane.

For Chief Guide Garth's final Ramble before heading off on his well-deserved 80th break in the Med, we had a large turn-out for a ramble around Northcote Point. Starting from the Northcote Tavern, we wandered amongst the homes of the area, under the motorway to Sulphur Point Beach and back to the Tavern to a delightful celebratory lunch. Safe travels Garth and Ruth!

Keeping local, Apprentice Guide Neil led us on the circuit of Shakespear Regional Park from the Giant



Picture Frame. The Amblers attended the compulsory photo before driving down to Te Haruhi Beach for their 'flats'

wander. Meanwhile the Ramblers headed up to the lookout and then, via the Kowhai valley, past Pink beach to Haruhi Bay before returning to the picture frame. We then added to our points-count at the Cherry Café.

David Gatland

Combined Club Dinner Nights

The next combined dinner is booked for Tuesday night, 20th October at Maison Thai restaurant in Manly Village. With daylight saving I have set a start time of 6.30pm.



This will be the last Club Dinner for the year.

George Tregidga

Monthly Discussion Group

Ken Daniels' Gulf Harbour Club discussion group meets monthly to discuss (and resolve) the full gamut of today's more torturous (if not tortured!) issues. If you would like to attend please do let Ken know and he'll add you to the distribution list. Ken's contact details are:

Email: kendaniels007@gmail.com

Mob: 021 621 411

Neville Drower

Birthdays for August



...and our congratulations to the following members for having successfully navigated another year:

Garth Dutton
Ray Watkins
Julian Joy
Graeme Devitt
Roger Brentnall
Peter Boot
John McColl

Many Happy Returns!