



West Auckland Men's Rebus Club

<http://www.rebuswestauckland.nz/>
Affiliated to Rebus New Zealand Incorporated
<https://www.rebus.nz/>

Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2021

The next meeting will be at 10 am Friday 12 February at the New Lynn Friendship Hall, 3063 Great North Road, New Lynn
Because another group needs it, we must vacate the meeting room no later than 12 noon, so please be prompt and expeditious

COMMITTEE

President	Bill Mutch	celebrantwedding@gmail.com	817 4721
Immediate Past President	Bill Fairs	bill.fairs@gmail.com	627 8297
Secretary	Vince Middeldorp	vincemiddeldorp@gmail.com	828 5250
Treasurer	Justin Griffith	justin@griffith.co.nz	282 3104
Almoner	Trayton Wickens	wickens@safetynet.co.nz	818 5340
	Barry O'Rourke	judderbumps@gmail.com	818 7935
Outings	Ian Smith	ismith435@gmail.com	0274549343
Newsletter	John Mihaljevic	johnmihaljevicnz@gmail.com	836 1504
Speakers	Noel Rose	noelrose1976@gmail.com	828 1305
Hospitality	Trevor Pollard	fayandtrevor@kinect.co.nz	817 8822
	Alan Babich	ajbabich@xtra.co.nz	833 6169
Membership	Laurie Vincent	laurie_mary@outlook.com	820 2234
Attendance	Stephen David	sj david55@gmail.com	21641717
Webmaster	Vince Middeldorp	vincemiddeldorp@gmail.com	828 5250

CLUB BUSINESS

Note that Bill Fairs is no longer listed as Federation Liaison. Bill feels that a special position for this function is not necessary and that any such work can be adequately handled by the Secretary. This means that Bill no longer has a formal position in the Club, although, as he amply demonstrated at the January meeting, when he stepped in to chair the meeting when both the President and his intended stand-in could not, that he is able and willing to step in if required. This marks the end of many years of sterling service to the Club in a variety of capacities by Bill. Thank you for all that, Bill. Long may you be able to sit back, leave the work and worries to others and just enjoy it. You have earned it.

The only item on the agenda for this meeting is the West Auckland Mens Rebus AGM. We need a full Committee to ensure the continued successful operation of the Club. Not all current Committee members are willing, or able, to continue, so please all give serious consideration to standing for Committee.

It was intended to have a New Lynn Mens Probus AGM at this meeting, to decide its future. However, to avoid possible complications caused by some members, it has been decided to postpone that to a future date. Until then, New Lynn Mens Probus will remain in recess.

PRESIDENT'S PRATTLE

Bill Mutch

Thank goodness that 2020 is now history, and at REBUS we appear to have come out of it good, not like the poor people in the USA and UK. In 1997 my wife and I hosted a young lad from the USA, he was training to be a teacher, he is a life time friend to this day, a wonderful guy who has ended up being the Principle of a big school near New York, but I just had contact with his Mother & Father saying that he is in poor shape with Covid. We have to be very thankful that none of us at REBUS have fallen into the Covid grip. We do need at our meeting to still be alert and if not well, please stay at home.

The nice member who hands out the name badges at our meetings (with a free smile) is Stephen David. However he has not been to our December or January meetings due to having had an operation. He has been in hospital for most of this time, but I am happy to say he will be going home on Tuesday 26th. I have missed his helpful nature and we wish Stephen all the best for the future and hope to see him again at our next meeting.

I have been very busy conducting Funerals and Weddings and a backlog because of Covid has increased my work so much, but a very good friend passed away eating his Christmas dinner and we had to wait until 14 days to do his service, so that is why I was not able to attend our last meeting and I was grateful that Bill Fairs was able to help out. Thanks Bill. I had excellent feedback about the meeting and three of our members gave interesting talks of about 10 minutes each. We have a wealth of knowledge in the Club, so let's keep using this and make April our next members day - we also save money!!!. We do have to be fair and aim to finish our meetings at 11.45am as the next group is waiting, I always thank them so don't be afraid to do the same.

Our mid year lunch should be great with Laurie getting in early to ensure we get a good deal. I have a special presentation making use of one of our members, but due to my work load I was not able to train this person and I can take one more, just tell me you are willing, which means meeting a few times for training - about 1 hour each time, no more information needed!!!!.

Granddaughter Claudia has kindly added this:

Fay and Trevor Pollard have been married many years, but recently Fay was at the stove when Trevor came inside for his lunch and said to Fay: *What are you doing?*

Fay said: *Just frying two eggs.*

Trevor snapped: *You are dam hopeless, you need more oil then added: Make sure they do not stick, move them around; turn the heat down. They look over cooked again.*

Fay replies: *Look, I have cooked eggs for years; don't tell me what to do.*

Trevor said: *Well, now you know how I feel when you sit in the passenger's seat and make bad remarks about my driving!*

The next meeting is our GM. I understand this can be a bit boring at times. I will try hard to make it interesting, but I must add that the joining of our 2 clubs has worked very well.

We always need people to help, so put that hand up.

It is 12.20am - I had better join my cat Noni in my bed.

Cheers Bill Mutch

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Vince Middeldorp

Bill Fairs stepped into the Chairman's role because Bill Mutch and Noel Rose were both apologies. Bill welcomed 20 members to the first monthly meeting of the year.

Apologies were recorded for Bill Mutch, Herb Simmonds, Noel Rose, Euan Carr, Stephen David, Ray Hancock, Laurie Whetton, Rae Hildreth and Tony Allen.

The minutes of the previous meeting (11 December 2020), were provided to Bill Fairs for confirmation and signing. There were no matters arising from the last meeting.

Secretary Vince Middeldorp reported that there were no items of external correspondence during the past month.

Justin Griffith presented the accounts for the year ending 31st December 2020. Excess of income over expenditure was \$198.85 and total funds (BNZ+KiwiBank+cash) increased to \$1,912.31.

Roger Laloli moved, John Mihaljevic seconded, a motion to retain in club funds, the money saved from the caterer accepting \$10/head instead of \$15/head for Christmas lunch. The motion passed unanimously.

Bill Fairs suggested Christmas music from a Bluetooth speaker and Trevor Pollard suggested Soljans or Ryders for Christmas lunch 2021.

Trips organiser Ian Smith reminded members that the next coffee morning was Wednesday 27 January 10:00 a.m. Sierra Cafe Lincoln Road.

Barry O'Rourke reported that Stephen David is still in hospital and Euan Carr has had a few issues. Trayton Wickens said that Dalton Dean's legs have packed up but otherwise he is doing okay.

The next meeting date was set down for Friday 12 February 2020 at 10.00 am. The main item of business at this meeting would be New Lynn Men's Probuss AGM followed by West Auckland Men's Rebus AGM.

Tom Miller conducted a quiz which was again was great fun after which the meeting adjourned for morning tea.

Instead of the usual guest speaker, club members Ian Smith, Barry O'Rourke and Andrew Geddes each spoke for a short time.

The meeting closed in time for the room to be cleared at 12:00 p.m.

The Minutes of the last AGM are also provided:

WEST AUCKLAND MEN'S REBUS CLUB

Minutes of the Annual Members Meeting held in the Kelston Community Centre, on Friday 6 March 2020 at 10.25 am.

Present:

Chairman Bill Fairs, Secretary Vince Middeldorp, Treasurer Justin Griffith, members totaling 16 and three visitors (Bill Mutch, Anthony Dennis, Val Seagar).

Apologies:

Leo Nobilo, Bob Lee, Rodger Hallen, Trayton Wickens, Roger Laloli, Ian Smith.

Obituaries:

Ian Williams, Gordon Fordyce, Max Deane, John Lucas, Arild Hansen.

Minutes:

The minutes of the previous AGM held on 5 April 2019, were accepted as a true and correct record.

Trevor Pollard / Andrew Geddes

Correspondence:

Nil

Treasurer's Report:

Justin Griffith presented the financial report. Bank balance was \$1,528.67 and cashbox \$53.90. Excess of income over expenditure for the year was \$134.06. Resolved: That the treasurer's report be accepted.

Herb Simmonds / John Mihaljevic

Officers for 2020:

President	Noel Rose
Secretary	Vince Middeldorp
Treasurer	Justin Griffith
Trips	Ian Smith
Almoner	Barry O'Rourke / Trayton Wickens
Hospitality	Trevor Pollard / Alan Babich
Newsletter	John Mihaljevic
Speakers	Noel Rose

President's Report:

Bill Fairs presented the President's Report in which he highlighted the change from PSPL, to Friendship and finally Rebus. He thanked Roger Laloli for his guidance when he became President and looked forward to new friendships with the members of Probus New Lynn.

Closure: 10.36 a.m.

President

Approved on Signing, Friday 12 February 2021

E& OE

CLUB EVENTS

SPEAKERS

January saw the new year off to a good start with three Club Speakers: Andrew Geddes, Ian Smith, and Barry O'Rourke. However, President Bill's Mystery Presentation had to be held over until now.

Ian Smith and his Prostrate

Ian has had problems with his prostate (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Prostate>) for a long time (since about the age of 30), despite much effort over the years, including a 'bore job' seven years ago.

Unfortunately, it still gets him up 3 or 4 times a night. He does get some benefit from lying down in the afternoon, with his feet elevated to drain fluid from them. Wearing airline stockings also helps. He needs to avoid drinking after 3pm, and to avoid coffee at any time: caffeine encourages urination.

Bill Fairs told of his bladder infection, which was cured with antibiotics. He added that he has found the drinking cranberry juice (<https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/322731>) helped.

Over the years, Ian has tried various things. Pecans (<https://www.webmd.com/diet/health-benefits-pecans#1>) help. Rather than coffee, Ian drinks Velvet Latte (<https://www.aline-made.com/beetroot-latte/>), made with beetroot (<https://www.aline-made.com/beetroot-latte/>). Or eats lots of beetroot.

Collagen (<https://www.healthline.com/nutrition/collagen>) can help with many things. *Collagen Body* (<https://opaathhealth.com/products/collagen-body>) is a useful form.

Vince Middeldorp told of a friend who knew the location of every toilet in Auckland, because of his need to urinate often. His urologist prescribed a 3-tablet combination which proved efficacious. Vince also mentioned his chat with the bus driver on the Chelsea trip, whose job required a similar solution. Vince also told of finding an effective Icelandic plant extract, used by the Vikings, on a market stall selling out-of-date pharmacy stock.

Ian gets most of the supplements he takes online from Health Post (<http://www.healthpost.co.nz/>). The products are:

- Thompsons Prostrate Support
- Nature's Sunshine Saw Palmetto
- DoxaZosin (from his doctor)

Prosta Biol This hasn't been of any use to Ian, but it does contain zinc and selenium, which are essential body supports for the prostate. Other supplements also have these, so don't double up. New Zealand soils, and therefore plants, are deficient in selenium., so selenium supplements can be useful for all.

Ian recommends Velvet Latte powder, to be made into a drink, for blood flow and to clear the arteries. It is made by Nutra Organic (<https://www.nutraorganics.com.au/>). Beetroot powder will also do it. Or just eat lots of beetroot. And pecans.

For digestion support and bone strength, Ian recommends *Nutra Organics Collagen Body* (<https://nutraorganics.com.au/products/collagen-body>).

Ian has tried acupuncture without any noticeable results but is currently trialling some acupuncture patches on 6 points suggested by the naturopath. Progress with this so far is just as disappointing after 4 days. Ian also notes that this water retention problem is not confined to males.

Ian would appreciate feedback (ismith435@gmail.com)/.

Before taking **any** supplements, run them past your GP, to make sure that they will 'play nicely' with your prescribed medication. This is not always the case, and you do **not** want to make a bad situation worse.

As Acting President Bill Fairs noted, a very interesting talk on a subject that can, if it has not already, affect any or all of us.

On a personal note, my prostate has behaved itself, at least so far. However, over the years I have had a prostate examination. Twice. An interesting experience, though not one I would look forward to repeating.

For those of you who have yet to experience it, it has you laying on your side on the examination table, facing the wall with your lower garments down around your knees. The doctor rolls his sleeve up as far as it will go, dons a rubber glove and move in. Literally. There is a scene in *All Creatures Great and Small* where one of the vets conducts an internal examination of a pregnant cow. He sticks his hand up the appropriate orifice as far as it will go and feels around. A sort of internal grope. That is pretty much what a prostate examination is. Different orifice, but same principle.

Not to worry. The procedure is not painful, just unpleasant. Extremely unpleasant.

Barry O'Rourke on Banking

The second speaker of the morning was Barry O'Rourke, who told us about his 30-year career in banking.

A native Aucklander, he began in the Newmarket branch of the Bank of New South Wales (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bank_of_New_South_Wales) as it was then, later it morphed into WestPac (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Westpac>). He was at Newmarket for 5 years. It was a busy place, where he learned much, both good and bad (he made his first visit to a pub at this time). Starting as a Junior, he worked his way up the ladder, doing various tasks. On DC (Decimal Currency) Day, 10 July 1967 (<https://nzhistory.govt.nz/nz-adopts-decimal-currency>), the Manager told Barry, by then Head Teller, that he would have to balance two lots of money. Of course Barry did so without a hitch.

He then moved to the Auckland branch, the largest in New Zealand, for 5 years. Starting as Assistant to the Accountant – his dogsbody -Barry moved to various other departments; including International Business, in which he specialised. He ended up in Exporting, one of the three branches of International Business: Import, Export and Overseas.

He then moved to Hamilton, his first Appointment, where he did three years as Overseas Officer, processing export documents. One very big client was JC Hutton NZ Limited.

Barry then moved to Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea. The Overseas Department was 5 times the size of the one in Hamilton. He was there for two years, running the Overseas Department. Barry managed to avoid 'going troppo' (<https://en.wiktionary.org/wiki/troppo>), a common fate of expatriates such as he. For that reason he declined an invitation to serve another year in Moresby.

Barry then noted that at that time he was still single, not marrying until he was 54.

He now moved back to Auckland, serving 4 years as Branch Accountant (despite having no relevant qualifications) at the Upper Symonds Street branch.

It was now – 1982 – that The Commercial Bank of Australia and The Bank of New South Wales combined to form WestPac.

In 1985 Barry moved to Wellington HQ, the Regional Office in Courtney Place. Here he gained much experience in office management. He relieved all over Wellington, serving at one time or another in about 95% of Wellington branches.

He then spent 2½ years as Manager in Ruatoria. He initially saw this as an 'exile', but in the end he did not want to leave.

His final move was to Gisborne, as manager of a smaller branch. He then decided that he had done enough banking, and that it was time for a change.

When Barry started his banking career, there were no computers, everything was manual. The books had to be balance daily by hand. Computers came later.

At that time, the 'Transfer System' was 'voluntary'. You did not have to accept an offered move, but it was not good for ones career to turn it down. This is no longer then case.

Barry noted the major changes in banking currently underway: the phasing-out of cheques, branch closures, ATM removals and the general trend to have everything done online. Very scary for those of us not au fait with IT. Actually, it's not always easy even for those of us who are!

Barry is a sports fanatic, especially cricket, but also rugby. He is also keen on golf (especially in Papua New Guinea), as well as squash and bowls.

Barry retired in 1993, aged 46, and moved back to Auckland. Needing work, he got a cataloguing job. This was based on his overall experience in banking, having worked in various branches of banking, including surveys of branches to ascertain their actual staffing requirements.

Barry ended his talk on a humorous note:

Knock, knock who's there?

Nicholas

Nicholas Who?

Nicholas not much money these days

Adam

Adam Who?
Adam Up and Send Me the Bill

Caralone
Caralone Who?
Caralone some money till next week?

Andrew Geddes on Sailing on the Waitemata

Andrew started by singing an advertising jingle we can probably all recall from our younger days. There might be a family connection between him and the business. He actually has quite a good voice. Perhaps he could be prevailed upon to give a recital. Though I hope he has a wider repertoire.

Andrew's talk was about his introduction to yachting, at about the age of 16-17, in the early 1950s. His father was keen that Andrew learn about yachting. He arranged for Andrew to join the crew of *Tawera*, a 65-foot sloop owned by Scotty Wilson, a member of the family that then owned the *New Zealand Herald* and a prominent member of the Royal New Zealand Yacht Squadron (<https://www.rnzys.org.nz/>). *Tawera* still races in the old ship races, but she is heavy and known for her deep displacement. She lies deep in the water and has a prominent bow wave.

He had to learn the ropes – literally: reef knot, the bowline, the figure of 8 knot, the clove hitch, the half hitch, the sheepshank, and so on (https://www.netknots.com/rope_knots). He had to be able to tie them with his eyes shut, in the dark or behind his back. He also had to learn many ship's terms and orders, especially yacht-racing rules: gybing, going about, halyards, easing or sharpening the sheets (<https://www.oxfordhandbooks.com/view/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199336005.001.0001/oxfordhb-9780199336005-e-48>).

As Captain, Wilson, who had been in the Royal New Zealand Navy, demanded that all of *Tawera*'s brasswork (compasses, ship's hinges, winches and winch handles) be kept highly polished. Andrew came to excel at this.

Andrew was, in essence, the cabin boy. As such, he had to stay aboard and look after the boat while the rest of the crew enjoyed themselves ashore. I suppose it kept him out of temptation and mischief.

Between races they sailed to Half Moon Bay, on Waiheke. There, the 'old guys' slept in a 'dainty little bach', partaking of Johnny Walker Scotch, then hard-to-get. Andrew was left aboard, in command of the yacht.

Andrew told us of one incident which had a marked effect on him. He was by himself on the boat, at dawn. He looked to sea and saw a mirage of about 20 boats appearing out of the sunrise, sailing across the Firth of Thames from Coromandel and 'rafting up' (mooring) in the bay where Andrew was. They were smaller boats, known as *mulleties* (<https://www.nzgeo.com/stories/grace-under-sail/>, <https://classicyachtinfo.com/yclass/l-class-mullet-boat/> and <https://www.sail-world.com/Australia/Yacht-racing-industry-of-NZ-created-by-historic-fishing-boat-race/-81412?source=duckduckgo>). Their skippers were all dressed in firemen's uniforms and wearing polished brass firemen's helmets, which glinted in the rising sun. The Commodore of this fleet had, mounted on the boom of his boat, a beautiful, well-sounding and polished fireman's bell. This was rung each time the grog ran out on one boat, causing another boat to be boarded by that crew.

The fire paraphernalia had been 'borrowed' from the Coromandel Fire Station. There was no police presence on the water in those days, to deal with the situation. But, at the end of the day, all the gear was diligently collected and deposited at the Admiralty Steps at the Ferry Building and, presumably, returned to the Coromandel Fire Station.

Andrew described sailing on a mulletie as being like having all the crew squashed under a kitchen table for the weekend with two dozen beer – DB Brown or Lion Red in quart bottles.

Yachting is Andrew's main sport, and his talk amounted to a brief review of yachting in Auckland in the 50s, 60s and 70s.

Andrew also sailed on *Fidelis*, which was owned for many years by Jim Davern, before being bought by Peter Williams. *Fidelis* was a harbour yacht, but was used for offshore racing. Andrew served as Peter's sailing master. *Fidelis* won the Sydney-Hobart race several times. For a while, she held the record as the fastest boat. Peter and Andrew raced her to Tonga and to Noumea. On the latter occasion, linguistic confusion saw the crew presented with a box of rice by their local host, when she had merely enquired about the race.

Peter Williams was a noted criminal lawyer, who often took his hard-core clients aboard to rehabilitate them into society. Andrew crewed for him on such occasions, often with his family also aboard. One such was Ronald Jorgensen, of Bassett Road machine-gun murders fame (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bassett_Road_machine_gun_murders). Andrew told of Jorgensen reading poetry to Andrew's children.

Not the sort of thing one normally hears about (or expects to), but no less interesting for it.

QUIZ

Tom Miller informed and amused us with another of his World-Famous-In-West-Auckland quizzes
Questions and answers provided by Tom Miller
Answers below- no peeking

QUESTIONS

- 1 Which country is the natural habitat of the emu?
- 2 Who was known as 'Rocket Man' in the 1970s?
- 3 Which acid gives lemons and limes their sharp taste?
- 4 Which Roman emperor executed his mother and his wife?
- 5 Robert Baden-Powell founded which organisation in 1908?
- 6 What is the name of the device used to convert sound into electricity?
- 7 Which famous musician was said to be more popular than Jesus?
- 8 The motor scooter originated in which country?
- 9 How many members were in the 'Spice Girls' band?

- 10 How many X-chromosomes does a woman have?
- 11 What is the name given to an infant whale?
- 12 Who wrote the musical *Cats*?
- 13 Who wrote the book *Of Mice and Men*?

TOM'S BAD STORY

Doctor to aged male patient:

Things are not too bad, but not too good either, so I'll give you a prescription to get today and start taking the pills tomorrow, Monday. Then skip Tuesday and take the pills again on Wednesday. Skip Thursday, then pills on Friday. Skip Saturday, then pills on Sunday. Skip Monday, then pills on Tuesday. Continue this until the pills are all gone, then come back to see how you are going.

10 days later, the man's wife rang the doctor:

My husband needs to see you again; he's really not well. The pills are not a problem, but all this skipping is just too much for him!

On his daily walk recently, Tom saw a rather nice looking sleeping bag on the seat at a bus stop. He thought it too nice to be just left there and decided to take it to the Salvation Army.

As he started to roll it up, a bewhiskered head emerged: *F**k off, I'm trying to get some sleep!*

COFFEE MORNING

Wednesday 27 January saw one of our most successful Coffee Mornings to date, at Sierra, Lincoln Road, Henderson:



About two dozen people attended, including some from Waitakere Combined Rebus. It was good to see some members who had not attended recently. Things are certainly getting back to normal.



Enough for two tables



Coffee Morning organizer Ian entertaining Heather and Joan from Waitakere



Nice to see Trayton back, even if he is in solitary splendour - briefly



Trevor brought his traditional floral offering for the ladies

A good time was had by all. Nice one, Ian, you've earned reelection as Outings and Coffee Mornings Organizer.

MEMBERS CONTRIBUTIONS

This from Herb Simmons, a frequent contributor:

Frank and Phil met in a noisy supermarket:

Frank: *How do, Phil, sad news about the old man.*

Phil: *What's that?*

Frank (louder): *Sorry to hear about your dad.*

Phil: *Eh?*

Frank (louder still): *I hear your buried your father last week.*

Phil: *We had to - he died.*

This is something I found in Waitakere Gardens **Weekly Update Laugh Out Loud:**

Sure marriage can be fun some of the time. Trouble is, you're married all of the time.
Most stress is caused by three things. Money, family and family with no money.

Only on a cruise ship will you pay to sleep in a closet.
My idea of a Super Bowl is a toilet that cleans itself.
If a cluttered desk is a sign of a cluttered mind, of what, then, is an empty desk a sign?
What a kid I got, I told him about the bird and the bees and he told me about the butcher and my wife.†
Taking naps sounds so childish. I prefer to call them horizontal life pauses.
Some days I can conquer the world. Other days, it takes me three hours to convince myself to shower.
“If you fall, I’ll be there.” - Floor

† Reminds me of the man on his death bed, surrounded by his wife and three sons: two strapping lads and a runt. With his dying strength he points to the runt and asks the soon-to-be widow *Is he really mine? Yes, dear* she replies. Assured, he expires. The now widow turns to the runt and says *Thank God he didn’t ask about your brothers!*

Then some definitions:

Eyedropper	A clumsy ophthalmologist
Heroes	What a guy in a boat does
Left Bank	What the robber did when his bag was full of money
Paradox	Two physicians
Parasites	What you see from the top of the Eiffel Tower
Pharmacist	A helper on the farm
Polarize	What penguins see with
Relief	What trees do in the spring
Selfish	What the owner of a seafood shop does

On a more serious note, Vince provided an article on *Enduring Power of Attorney*. He was afraid that it might be boring. Not so. Even if it were, this is an important matter relevant to us all. I hope you will find it useful.

There was a free seminar on enduring power of attorney (EPOA) at the Sturges West Community House Wednesday 27 January, 10am. If the date and time look familiar, that’s because it coincided with the coffee morning at Sierra Café.

The speaker was Jenny Gill, a partner at Boyle Mathieson Law in Lincoln Road. She gave a talk about the EPOA; things all of us should know and, if you are like me, don’t know at all.

Jenny Gill said that most of the EPOA work she does is for people going into a retirement village. That’s because all retirement villages require residents to have an EPOA. She also says nine times out of ten the person with EPOA is a family member.

Many years ago, EPOA documents were only a single page, and solicitors loved them. These days EPOA prescribed forms are 30 pages long and most solicitors hate them.

Power of Attorney can be given for property and for personal care. The EPOA can take effect either immediately or not until after a doctor certifies that you are incapacitated. You get to choose but Jenny recommends it takes effect immediately and that this provision is not only ticked but initialled to show that it has been discussed.

More than one person can be given power of attorney to act for property, but only one person can hold power of attorney for personal care.

If more than one person has power of attorney for property, then the decision has to be made about whether they can act independently or whether they have to act jointly. Most times it’s jointly, but in that case a note needs to be made that jointly only applies if both attorneys are willing and able to act. That provision is necessary because family members who have joint EPOA can fall out. If there is a complete impasse between those who are required to act jointly, the matter goes to court.

The usual arrangement is for a husband and wife to give each other power of attorney. Should something happen to both of them, then the successor provision comes into play and maybe a son or daughter becomes the attorney. A successor attorney can also take over if the other persons appointed as attorneys, no longer wish to act.

The person holding power of attorney may be able to write a new will on behalf of the person they are acting for. It depends on what’s been ticked in the document. This provision is not recommended.

If the lawyer, or even the lawyer’s firm, has done any work for the person who is going to be given power of attorney then the legal work will have to be done by another solicitor. There is one exception to this rule, and that is a husband and wife granting EPOA to each other.

There is provision for the person who holds power of attorney to use it to benefit themselves. The example given was a person with a mortgage looking after the affairs of someone with a considerable amount of money in the bank. The person holding EPOA could use it to pay off their mortgage with the money from the person they are acting for, e.g. the proceeds of a house sale if the parent has gone into care. This is something that invariably is not ticked, but the solicitor can write in that the person acting is able to recover out of pocket expenses.

There is also provision for persons given EPOA to be required to consult with other persons before being able to do anything. That might mean a son or daughter with EPOA has to consult with their brothers and sisters. What needs to go in, if there is going to be consultation, is that the person being consulted has the right to be given all documents, e.g. a valuation report if a property is being sold.

An option that is rarely used is one that requires the attorney to make a payment each year to an individual or organisation, e.g. an annual donation to the Salvation Army which you want to continue.

If you hold power of attorney for someone who dies, then you can no longer use it. EPOA ceases on death.

I hold an EPOA that is dated 1998. It is one of those old one page documents and was prepared by the Public Trust. The good news for me is that it is still valid and doesn't need to be replaced.

Thank you, Vince. Once again, you have provided something of interest and use to us all.

SERVICES

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE

Charles Nicholls is a JP, and has offered fellow members his services as such, as per:

I am available to assist members with any documents that need a JP to sign. Our services are free. I can be contacted on this email cdnich300@gmail.com or on my landline 09 6293816 or as a last resort on my cell phone 02102551937.

If members cannot get to my house, I will visit people in their homes or meet them at one of our meetings.

Services are free. If members want a JP and for some reason I am not available they can access the following website <http://justiceofthepeace.org.nz/>.

While all JPs can act, I recommend that clients go to one that has the word accredited by his/her name as that means she/he has kept up with recent training.

It is unlikely that Charles is the only member with knowledge/skills that might be useful to other members. If you can contribute in any such way, please write a short notice and send it to me, to include in the Newsletter, and to Vince, to put on the website.

SENIORNET WEST AUCKLAND

Members of a digital bent might be interested in the services offered by SeniorNet West Auckland (<http://www.seniornet-west-auckland.org.nz/>): two Help Sessions and a Meeting each month. The Help Sessions are on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month, 10-11 am, at its Learning Centre, upstairs in the Henderson RSA (66 Railside Avenue, Henderson). There is a \$5 fee. The Monthly Meeting, with a speaker, is on the 3rd Tuesday of the month, 10 am – noon, in the Kelston Community Centre (in the same room where West Auckland Rebus used to meet). A \$2 donation will give you morning tea and 3 chances of a small prize.

With COVID-19 once again in abeyance, normal services have been resumed. The next meeting will be on 17 November. The November Help Sessions will be on the 10th and 24th. The final Help Session of 2020 will be on 8 December. The first of 2021 will be on 26 January.

COMPUTER SERVICING

October's quest speaker, Grant Stevens, is actually a computer serviceman, operating as Eden Computers (www.edencomputers.co.nz). I have not needed his services much, but have found him very helpful when I did, as have others I know. Noel Rose already knew him in this capacity, so I am sure that he will agree with me in recommending Grant if your computer needs care and attention. Grant's contact details are on his website, above. If you cannot access him via his website, you can ring him at 09 638 8188 or 0274 939 017.

OTHER MATTERS

You can download the Rebus Federation Constitution at <https://www.rebus.nz/documents>, where it is listed under *Rules of Rebus NZ*. It was originally intended to append it to this Newsletter, but 13 pages is too long – I am not that desperate for content.

SUPERSENIORS

If you are not already in the habit of doing so, you should consult the SuperSeniors site (<http://www.superseniors.msd.govt.nz/>), where you can find much useful and interesting information, as well as sign-up to their eNewsletter.

QUIZ ANSWERS

- 1 Australia
- 2 Elton John
- 3 Citric
- 4 Nero
- 5 Boy Scouts
- 6 Microphone
- 7 John Lennon
- 8 Italy
- 9 5
- 10 2
- 11 Calf
- 12 Andrew Lloyd Weber
- 13 John Steinbeck

FINAL THOUGHT

From *Sideswipe*, *The New Zealand Herald*, Thursday 4 February 2021

Feedback from an old head on young shoulders

Back in 1998, *The Economist* ran an article which resulted in a record amount of feedback for its author. The subject at hand was children: "For children, just like cigarettes or mobile phones, clearly impose a negative externality on people who are near them. Anybody who has suffered a 12-hour flight with a bawling baby in the row immediately ahead or a bored youngster viciously kicking their seat from behind, will grasp this as quickly as they would love to grasp the youngster's neck." The piece later went on, with tongue somewhat in cheek, to propose "child-free zones" in all aeroplanes, trains and restaurants, and the introduction of taxes on youngsters. This letter was published two weeks later" "Sir, you are wrong when you say that children are like cigarettes or mobile telephones. No one has to smoke or use a mobile phone, but everyone has to be a child and you were one once too. You need children to pay for the pensions of miserable old people like you. Now pick on someone your own size (sic). Yours, Jessica Morley (aged 6)."

Take note, gentlemen, any 6-year-old who reads *The Economist* is not to be trifled with. I have not been able to discover what has become of her (she would now be in her late twenties), but I am sure that she has gone a long way.

SUPPORTERS

West Auckland Mens Rebus gratefully acknowledges the support and assistance of:



The Federation is always there for us, with help, advice and encouragement.



We are all grateful for their support.

The next meeting will be on Friday 12 March 2021
(usual time, usual place)

If anyone has any views, opinions, information, requests or questions they want to share with members, please do not hesitate to send them to me, so that I can include them in the Newsletter. Remember, it is YOUR Newsletter: feel free to contribute to it as you will. I do not want to have to write it all myself – I'm too lazy for that!

If you have any queries or problems with distribution, please raise them with Secretary Vince Middeldorp (vincemiddeldorp@gmail.com or 828 5250). Vince is responsible for distribution, I for content. Any contributions are most welcome (JohnMihaljevicNZ@gmail.com).

John Mihaljevic (Newsletter Editor)