



West Auckland Men's Rebus Club

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

Newsletter

APRIL 2021

The next meeting will be at 10 am Friday 9 April 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
Welfare Officer	Trayton Wickens	wickens@safetynet.co.nz	818 5340
	Barry O'Rourke	judderbumps@gmail.com	818 7935
Outings	Ian Smith	ismith435@gmail.com	027 4549343
Newsletter	John Mihaljevic	johnmihaljevicnz@gmail.com	09 836 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

Please note that my landline phone number listed above is now prefixed with the Auckland Area Code (09). This is now necessary, for both incoming and outgoing calls, because Vodafone gave me a new, wireless, modem, which requires it. Others lucky enough to have Vodafone as their ISP may be in the same situation. Sometimes it works without the Area Code, sometimes not.

CLUB BUSINESS

PRESIDENT'S REPORT **(aka PRESIDENT'S PRATTLE)**

Our summer is drawing slowly to an end but I enjoy this time of the year with cooler morning starts and a good nights sleep.

We are very lucky to have our NZ covid under control, allowing us to hold our REBUS meetings and more freedom, unlike many other parts of the big world.

Soon it will be our turn as senior folk to get the first covid jab.

Just a reminder: if unwell just stay at home; we are here to look after our team.

At our April meeting, we have no guest speakers so we will all have to entertain each other, I will make it fun and interesting and we will finish at 11.45 am so as not to hold up the midday group.

I enjoyed meeting our group for morning tea on Wednesday 31 at 10 am, I think about 30 turned up, the hot chocolate I had and Janet's coffee was just average but the main part was chatting with everyone was excellent, when we get big groups it is hard to find big enough cafes.

We have our mid-year Christmas lunch coming up soon; which will be held at Lynmall shopping mall. Laurie will give us more details. Interesting that we will not need a set fee but just pay for what you order: let's make it a great get-together!!!

Remember, if you want to bring someone with you to this lunch, that is good, perhaps we could even pick up new members.

When people are away on our meeting days I always feel something is missing as each and every one of you is a treasure. We have a wealth of knowledge between us. I was looking at an old list and so many have passed on, so make every meeting count.

Next month a new food court is opening up at the Titirangi village, with added 30 car parks in the basement. However, parking will still be tight,

As secretary of The Railway Enthusiasts group with a big member base, I have been kept very busy. However as my Parkinsons has increased a little I have stepped down as of 1 May, so you will see more of me attending morning teas.

All enjoy the April weather.

Cheers Bill Mutch (President)

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Vince Middeldorp



The Members ▲ and The Men In Charge ▼



Bill Mutch welcomed 27 members and visitor Raymond Barrett to the meeting. He told Raymond not to worry, because we are all on drugs.

Apologies were recorded for Charles Nicholls, Ray Hancock and Noel Rose. There were some notable absentees: Alan Babich and Dr Tom Miller.

John Mihaljevic spoke about the newsletter after having had a discussion with John McKeown about the newsletter ending up in his spam folder. John Mihaljevic brought some printouts of the newsletter and reminded members they were provided for those not on email e.g. Neil Castle, Euan Carr.

The minutes from 12 March were provided to Bill Mutch for confirmation and signing.

Secretary Vince Middeldorp reported one item of external correspondence, which was an affiliation renewal form received from Rebus NZ.

Justin Griffith said four members had paid their subscription using internet banking and twenty-two had paid with cash. Justin said we had in excess of \$2,400 in the bank.



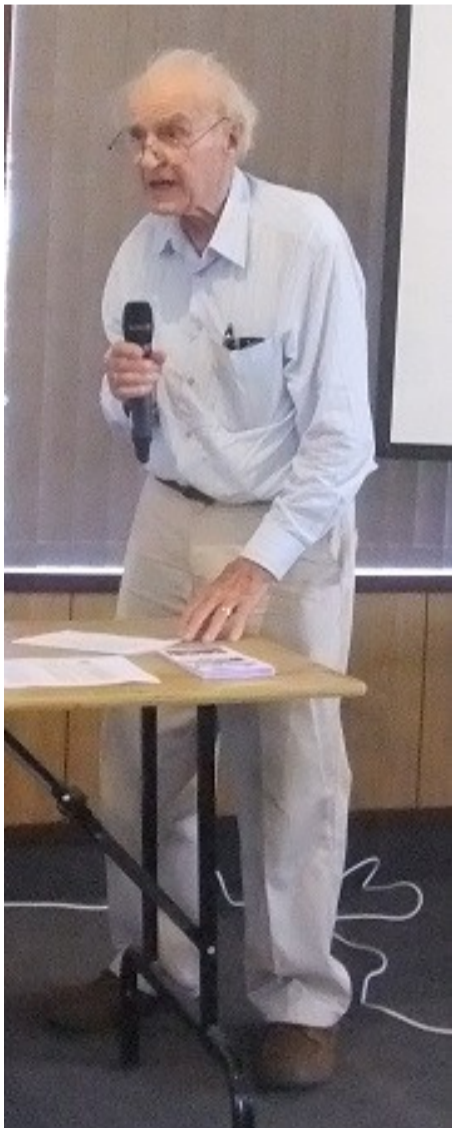
◀ Justin



Ian ▶

Trips Organiser Ian Smith had three outings: coffee morning at Huckleberry Cafe 31 March; Zoo trip 24 March; and a Kaipara Estuary boat trip on 30 April. Bill Mutch said that he had only heard good reports about the Kaipara harbour boat trips.

Trayton Wickens reported he hadn't been to see foundation member Dalton Dean because of the lockdown. Barry O'Rourke said he had talked to Chas Lowe and his family had convinced him to move to Wellington. Barry also said he had been to see Laurie Whetton and reported him looking rather frail.



◀ Trayton



Trevor ▶

Trevor Pollard brought scones with butter and jam for morning tea to mark his 61st wedding anniversary, which was on the day of the meeting.

Bill Mutch provided an interesting story. He had been booked as the celebrant for a wedding where the people were all Vietnamese. Bill had trouble finding the house and arrived right on time. When he walked in, one of the people said in Vietnamese that he hoped Bill would hurry up and not muck round. Bill said that he said he wouldn't in Vietnamese because he speaks it fluently; much to the surprise of those at the wedding.

The next meeting was set down for Friday 9 April 2021 at 10.00 am. Barry O'Rourke said he would talk to Noel Rose about a guest speaker, his neighbour who he thinks will be good.

Neil Castle said he could give a talk one day on his brother Len Castle, the famous potter who was made a Distinguished Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit for services to pottery and who turned down a knighthood when it was offered to him.

Laurie Vincent finished the session before morning tea, by informing members that mid-winter lunch would be at Goode Brothers in New Lynn on 23 June 2021.

After morning tea Laurie Vincent conducted a quiz, and Maurice Vickers spoke on the time he visited the Solomon Islands when his son, who is a Priest, was posted there. Bill Mutch recounted a story about his time as a Dale Carnegie instructor.

The meeting closed at 11.45 am. The Indian group who use the hall after us were not waiting outside as they usually are.

CLUB EVENTS

SPEAKERS

MAURICE VICKERS



Long-standing (since 2004) member Maurice Vickers told us of a visit to to eldest son in the Solomon Islands in 1995.

By way of background, he told us of living in Kinross Street, Blockhouse Bay, for 62 years. Three years ago he and his wife, Kath, moved to Hillsborough Heights Retirement Village, Mount Roskill. Unfortunately, Kath died soon after. They have two sons. The youngest lives in America, with Maurice's two grandchildren. The oldest son Ashley is a Dominican priest: the tale Maurice told us centres on him.

Ashley was trained in Australia (mostly Canberra and Melbourne), but was ordained in Auckland, at St Benedict's Church, Newton (see <https://www.facebook.com/StBenedictsAuckland/>), in 1986. After serving a couple of years in New Zealand, he spent a few more years in Australia, then, in 1992, began a seven year stint in the Solomon Islands.

In 1995 he invited his father to visit him there. Air New Zealand then had a weekly service from Auckland to Honiaria, the Solomons capital, which Maurice likened to a combination of New Lynn and the Waitakeres.

Maurice's visit coincided with the enthronement of a new Catholic Bishop of the Solomons. This entailed a big parade, many speeches and much feasting. Maurice was particularly taken by the bamboo band and the accompanying chorus. The bamboo band was based on flutes, which ranged in size from very small to about 1½ metres in length. The latter were too big to be blown. Rather, they were struck, with a leave or, better, a jandal. They were no less melodious for that.

Ashley's parish was on Choiseul Island (see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Choiseul_Island), about 150 kilometres from Honiaria. Maurice travelled there in a small, 5-seat, aircraft, then by canoe. There was a church (seating about 200 people) and a small house, with support staff. On Sunday morning people came from all around. The service began at no set time, but whenever the local chief decided it should. The service was followed by a big feast, and games. Then, suddenly, everyone was gone.

They visited another village, travelling in a 15-foot by 4-foot fibreglass canoe, powered by a large outboard motor. They travelled about a mile off shore, through clear blue water. Suddenly they were in a patch of dirty brown water. This was topsoil that had been washed down by recent rain from an area of clear-felled forest.

On another occasion they visited another village, where they were greeted by a crowd of 20-40 people, who had been alerted by the mysterious, but highly effective, 'bush telegraph'. Here they were taken to a nearby house, where two young women ceremonially presented Maurice with a tray bearing a loaf of bread. This was because Maurice, as the eldest son of an eldest son, was considered the equivalent of a paramount chief. Ashley was the third such eldest son of an eldest son, but Maurice, as the father, had precedence. Maurice was therefore called upon to break the bread and make a speech.

A few days before he was due to return home, Maurice became very ill. Taken to hospital, he was diagnosed with malaria. This came as quite a surprise, since he had not had all the necessary shots before leaving New Zealand, he had not been in the Solomons long enough to have been infected with malaria and for it to have become apparent. He was appropriately treated and flown back to New Zealand, for further medical attention. The malaria soon went away, and has never returned.

When asked at the end of his talk, Maurice was most emphatic that he would **not** be going back to the Solomons.

Bill Mutch noted that the Solomons had very good diving, especially to sunken World War II ships, of which there are many (<https://www.diveplanit.com/diving/solomon-islands-wreck-diving-for-recreational-divers/>).

Another of the Club Talks that Bill Mutch is arranging for us. They are a great way for us to get to know our fellow members, so that they are not just faces and names, but well-rounded personalities. Thank you Maurice for an informative and entertaining talk. And thank you, Bill, for organizing it.

PRESIDENT BILL'S SURPRISE PRESENTATION

At long last, Bill Mutch was finally able to give his much-anticipated *Surprise Presentation*. This was based on his years of experience as a Dale Carnegie (see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dale_Carnegie) Tutor.



Bill had been a Dale Carnegie Tutor for many years, running an intense 4-week evening course (6pm-10pm), with 30-40 people; in the Auckland Town Hall on Mondays and Tuesdays and in Rotorua on Wednesdays. Many of his former students are now prominent on TV.

He told of one student in particular: a woman who was clearly struggling; trailing well behind her class mates. When she had to give a 2-minute presentation, she went to the front of the class, said *Excuse me* and walked out the door. Everyone thought she had just gone to the toilet, but she did not return. Bill was eventually able to persuade her to come back, and she did very well, eventually outdoing the rest of the class.

She thanked Bill for giving her the strength to leave her husband. She moved to South Australia, where she ran a prison self-presentation course. She became a certified Dale Carnegie instructor in her own right. She died recently.

Bill also told of 'Michael', a 17-year-old (18 was the normal minimum age) who had been 'persuaded' – made – to attend by his step father. Michael hated his step father, and did not do well. But he came back 3 years later and proved an outstanding student.

Bill concluded with the story of another woman. When the audience was asked to pick one person to make an impromptu one-minute speech, she volunteered. Her topic was *How I made my first dollar*. At the age of 11, her mother put her on the street as a prostitute.

Bill sent her story to Head Office in New York, who used it in their promotions.

Bill never ceases to amaze. He has certainly had a varied and impactful (for want of a better word) career. He needs to make himself a Club Speaker – sooner rather than later. It certainly shows the value of Club Speakers in giving us all insights into the lives of our fellow members and so allowing us to get to know each other better. Otherwise we will be no more than faces in a crowd and names on a list.

FUTURE SPEAKER

President Bill has arranged Club Speaker(s) for the April meeting.

GRANT STEVENS TALK Friday 14 May

The Guest Speaker in May will be Grant Stevens. We recently heard Grant speaking on Winston Churchill, of whom he is a great fan. However, Grant's day job is as a computer serviceman (<http://www.edencomputers.co.nz/>). Some of you may already have made use of his services in this capacity.

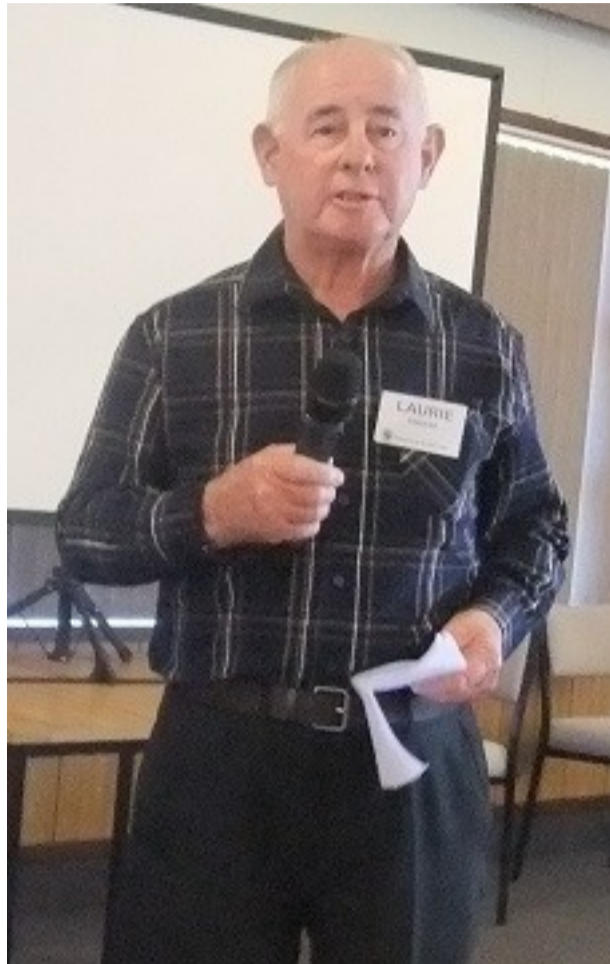
This time he will be speaking to us about computers and computing. He would like us to submit any questions about computers and computing beforehand, so that he can address specific matters of concern to members.

If you have any such questions, or matters you want raised, please send them to me (JohnMihaljevicNZ@gmail.com or 098361504), so that I can pass them on to Grant.

If you telephone me, thanks to Vodafone's new wireless modem, you need to include the Auckland Area Code (09) in the number, otherwise a nice lady will inform you that I do not exist.

QUIZ

Tom Miller not being available, the March quiz was provided by Laurie Vincent. The questions are here: as usual, the answers are later in this Newsletter.



MUSIC:

1 1968 - the song 'Obladi Oblada' – who sang the song?

2 1960 - 'My Old Man's A Dustman' – who sang this song?

3 1958 - This male singer was so popular that a race horse was named after him. The horse was very good and won the Avondale Guineas amongst his many wins. The 1958 song was called 'Don't Take Your Guns To Town Son'.

Name the singer. When touring New Zealand, he had to visit the horse named after him and he wrote of his experience in his biography.

4 Late forties - I was in a family of eight and we listened to the radio with an excitement not unusual in those days. We listened to serials like *The Whispering Voice Murders*, *Dossier on Demetrius* and *The Scarlet Pimpernel*.

We also liked stories by Randy Stone, but what I remembered most during this time was a song sung by a nine- year-old boy soprano whose name was Bobby Breen. Name the song.

Bobby Breen passed away in 2016 aged 88.

5 1949 – We listened to the *The Harry Lime Theme* music played on a zither, a kind of string instrument, and the music featured in a great British drama filmed in post-war Vienna and many scenes were shot in underground sewage tunnels. Stars were Orson Welles, Trevor Howard and Joseph Cotton.

Name the movie.

SPORT:

1 An All Black played his rugby with the Auckland Marist Club during the fifties and later his son played rugby for Scotland. Name the player.

2 He attended Marlborough Boy's High and played cricket for New Zealand during the sixties. He has been regarded as the fastest bowler produced in New Zealand. Name this speedster.

He played league for Ponsonby and four other clubs and for New Zealand Kiwis 1961-1970. He kept fit by running alongside a rubbish truck and picking up the cumbersome bins full of rubbish and throwing them up to a handler on top of the truck. Name the player.

4 He came from Portsmouth to live in New Zealand in 1953 and just three years later he represented New Zealand at the 1956 Olympic Games in Melbourne. His event was the 50km walk and he won the gold medal. When he crossed the finish line, he waved his arms in the air and produced a beaming smile. The Herald front page headline read 'Gay Kiwi wins gold medal'. That expression could be used in those days. Name the athlete. The Pommie/Kiwi passed away in 1994.

5 Peter Snell won two gold medals at Tokyo 1964, but who was the New Zealand swimmer who won two gold medals at the Atlanta Olympics in 1996?

6 This racehorse raced for just two years 1949/51. The chestnut started 25 times for 23 wins and two placings and won seventeen consecutive races, broke records, and if he had gone to Australia, would have cleaned up.

Name the horse.

7 She was a small Maori lady, but when she was little her father taught her to hit a tennis ball against the wall of their home using a wooden bat made by her father. She was not allowed onto a tennis court until she was 12, but by her late teens she was beating all her rivals here in New Zealand. Funds were raised to send her to Wimbledon and in 1957 she went to Wimbledon as a 21 year-old and reached the quarter finals. She was world-class but unrecognised in her own country until, at the age of 84, she was invited to Stanley Street to meet Serena Williams and presented her with a Maori cloak. Can you name her?

GENERAL:

1 Matchless and AJS. What were they?

2 **Ye Olde Pirate Ship**, complete with mast and rigging, was visited by many people for dancing and dining. Built in 1928 by Jim Fletcher and operating from 1929 to 1957, where was the venue for this Auckland attraction?

3 1938 – Orson Welles interrupted a radio broadcast and broadcasted his own warning concerning *The War of the Worlds* (a novel by H.G. Wells) that Martians were invading Earth and had already landed in Jersey. Some Americans panicked, others thought of suicide rather than face death by the Martians. Question: Why did some people panic?

4 Define NATO
SEATO
UNESCO
INUENDO (ha ha)

5 1949 – The film *Samson and Delilah* was shown throughout theatres and I remember Samson played by Victor Mature killing hundreds of Philistines with the jawbone of an ass. Delilah, played by Hedy Lamarr, was described as the most beautiful woman in the world. But at the height of her fame and amidst a world war, what did she, with the help of another person, invent?

OUTINGS

COFFEE MORNING

HUCKLEBERRY CAFE, NEW LYNN

On Wednesday 31 March 32 members and spouses, mainly from West Auckland Mens Rebus, but also some from Waitakere Combined Rebus, had an enjoyable hour or two at Huckleberry Cafe, New Lynn:



In fact, there were so many people in attendance that one, albeit large, table was not enough:



Vince and Barry spent the time productively, putting the world to rights:



They were not the only ones:



Rock hound and prospector displayed his finds:



Neil's gold prospecting prowess was evident:

Neil shared his prowess with Pete. Alan was clearly too well off to be bothered.



Pete was also ready to advise Neil:



Traditional aspects of Coffee Mornings were not neglected. Suitably attired Hat Man and Other:



Rumours that Neil will fund the Club from his gold prospecting have not been confirmed.

Notwithstanding that, a good time was, once more, had by all. Ian Smith's re-election as Outings Organiser last month has proved to have been inspired.

ZOO VISIT

Wednesday 24 March saw our visit, postponed from Wednesday 3 March, because of the last lockdown, to Auckland Zoo, to say goodbye to the elephants. About a dozen members and spouses, plus some from Waitakere Combined Rebus, had a pleasant stroll through (part of) the Zoo to the elephants, to watch the elephants at play in the water, then another stroll to lunch, then home.

The Zoo is much too big to be viewed in full in one day – a return visit is clearly in order. But we must be careful to pick the day carefully: weather is all-important. It was therefore fortunate that the original date proved impossible, because it was wet: the actual day was fine.

The visit began with people assembling at the entrance, while everyone arrived:



On the way to the elephants:



The view



and the viewers

Not all the curiosity was one way:



Finally, the elephants:



They were bashful at first:



But soon emerged:



For a stroll in the park:



A close-up rear view. Note the discarded breakfast in the lower left. It composts well. It also makes good paper (see, for example <https://www.bbc.com/news/business-36162953>), but there is not enough for that.

The elephants enjoyed their pool:



And their toys:



They played with their keepers:



But there were also serious moments – mouth inspection:



Vince interrogated one of the keepers:



He had already given an interesting commentary on the elephants and their antics. The keeper, that is, not Vince.

On the way back we passed the flamingos:



It's real, not plastic!

Also, some distant cousins (who ignored us):



and the rhinos:



But they were bashful.

Our arboreal cousins had also obviously seen it all before:



Close-up:



Our visit to the Zoo concluded with an opportunity for a life study, *Apex Predator Foraging*:



New member Ray Barrett regaling us with tales of his fishing prowess. Hats were much in evidence – it was that kind of day.

Yet another excellent trip laid on by Trips Organiser Ian Smith. Plenty more to see at the Zoo, so I hope Ian has a return visit in mind. I realise that some members will find the necessary walking difficult: perhaps we could borrow some of the Zoo's wheelchairs.

FUTURE OUTINGS

KAIPARA TRIP

The Kaipara Harbour Boat Trip is on for Friday 30 April (you-know-what permitting). This is in conjunction with Waitakere Combined Rebus.

The bus will leave from the St Johns Hall, Edmonton Road, by the Te Atatu South Countdown, at 9:15 am, with a second pick-up opposite Morrison's Funeral Home, on Universal Drive, at about 9:25 am. Return, to these two points, will be about ???

The cost is \$50, payable either to Ian, at the April meeting, or online to the Waitakere Rebus account: 12.3232 0318628.00. Please include your name in the Details, for Registration purposes. Payment must be made by 19 April.

Vince has put this on the Club website (<https://www.rebuswestauckland.nz/kaipara-cruise/>). For those unable (or unwilling) to go there themselves, this is what he wrote:

*On 30 April we are organising a 3-hour cruise on the Kaipara Harbour and Kaipara River aboard the 17m fun vessel the **M.V. Kewpie Too**.*

The boat leaves on the river from Springs Road, Parakai, Helensville and goes up and around the estuaries. There is an onboard commentary about the history of the area, the ecology and the birdlife. It doesn't really go out on the Kaipara Harbour much and is scheduled for when the river is in high tide.

It is a bring your own lunch day, although we might find time to get to a coffee bar. We are going to Helensville by bus, leaving at 9.15 am from St John's Hall on Edmonton Road, down from the Countdown on the Te Atatu Road, Edmonton Road corner.

If some people prefer we can do a pickup from opposite Morrison's Florists 222 Universal Drive at 9.25 am. Anyone wanting to be picked up at Morrison should make this clear to Ian Smith when making their booking. We don't want anyone left behind.

The overall cost (bus plus cruise) is \$50/pp. The return time is about 2.30 -2.45 pm.

This trip has been organised in conjunction with Waitakere Combined Rebus. On 2 April a total of 22 people had registered for the trip which means we have enough people going to make it viable. The most we can take is 50.

Ian Smith is asking people intending to go on this cruise, to text him on 0274549343 and to pay into the combined Waitakere/West Auckland bank account 12 3232 0318628 00.

MID-WINTER LUNCH

12 Noon Wednesday 23 June

GOODE BROTHERS

Shop 118 Lynn mall

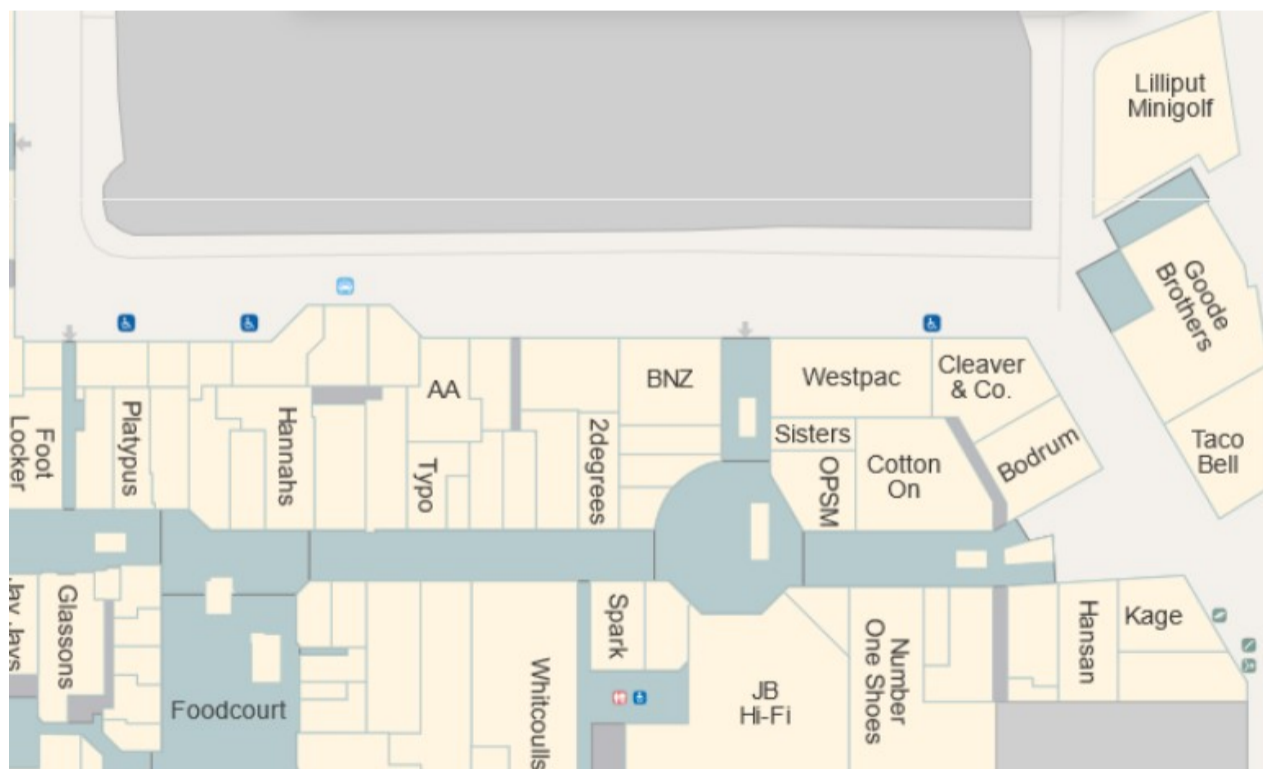
<https://www.kiwiproperty.com/lynnmall/en/news/story/goode-brothers>

<http://www.goodebrothers.co.nz/>

Plenty of parking available, close to bus and train stations.

Fully licensed premises.

Area set aside for 45 - final numbers must be confirmed at our 11June meeting.



It's part of The Brickworks, at the Veronica Street end of Lynn mall.

OUTSIDE EVENTS

PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY ORCHESTRA
3 PM SUNDAY 11 APRIL
Mt Eden War Memorial Hall, 489 Dominion Road, Balmoral
<http://philharmonic.org.nz/>

The PSO gives three free (by donation) concerts per year, in April, September and December. These are usually held in the Mt **Albert** War Memorial Hall, but this one, at least, is at a different venue. Entry is by donation, which includes a programme and afternoon tea.

This is, as it happens, a musical event, which I happen to be aware of and interested in. I know that at least one other member is also interested. If you know of any event that you think members might be interested in, please send me the details and I will include them in future Newsletters.

Remember the two other musical series listed in last month's Newsletter.

MEMBER'S CONTRIBUTION

ANTHONY DENNIS

Anthony Dennis was the club speaker at the Probus Club of New Lynn monthly meeting on Friday 13 February 2015. Secretary Tom Lowndes wrote an account of Anthony's talk in the minutes which made interesting reading. It was forwarded to Anthony, and he kindly rewrote it for this newsletter.



Anthony Dennis (second from left) with friends at Huckleberry recently

I hail from India, a subcontinent, and am a Christian and a Catholic. Contrary to popular belief, all Indian are not Hindus, though they are the vast majority and make up almost 80% of the population.

During the decades of British rule, a few Governors/Viceroy's left their mark. The systems of public service put in place were primarily to cater to the British interests. In my opinion, the best gift given by the British was the English language. Not surprisingly, it was not extensively taught.

My birthplace was the small seaside village of Sadashivgad in the old Bombay State (see <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sadashivgad>). I was born in May 1939 with the onset of the dark clouds of WWII.

I had the good fortune to attend a Railway School (only Primary) run by the Railways. The curriculum was British, the medium of instruction was English, the books and stationery were from England. The students wore a uniform complete with a solar hat and the school observed English holidays.

The school was in Castle Rock, a railway hamlet on the border of British India and Portuguese Goa (see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Castle_Rock,_Karnataka). It was a Customs post as well, but not set up for Immigrations.

I finished my schooling at St Paul's, Belgaum (11years) run by the Jesuits and situated in the Cantonment area. The Jesuits run the best schools in India and the world over. I graduated in Economics and Accountancy and then moved to Bombay, the city of opportunities, as they say.

After a short stint in banking and later in pharmaceuticals, I joined Air France and in my 31 years with them, traveled extensively.

In 2006, I moved to Auckland.

During the Q&A session, advice for tourists and status of the caste system arose.

Visitors need to know that the 27 states in India differ totally from each other - the language, the food, the clothing, etc. Despite infrastructure having improved immensely, visitors still face an issue with water and pungent food.

While many would deem it shameful, the caste system has religious sanction, hence neither the British nor Indian politicians have been able to root it out.

Tom Lowndes recorded that Anthony started and finished his talk with a limerick, for which he has a fondness. Anthony provided two limericks and said he hopes no one will take offence.

There was once a girl named Starky
Who had an affair with a Darkie
The result of her sins was quadruplets not twins
One white, one dark and two khaki.

There was once a man named Clyde
Who in a funeral carriage was espied
When asked who is dead
He merely giggled and said
I only came for the ride.

CLAUDIA'S CORNER

Bill Mutch said *My granddaughter gave me a list of jokes. There are all fairly simple ones. I have just been reading them. This one from the backstreets of New York. Yesterday, I saw a guy spill all his scrabble letters on the street. I asked him, "What's the word on the street?"*

OTHER

ONLINE BANKING

With cheques now a thing of the past, and bank branches, and even ATMs, being few and far between, Internet Banking has become, if not welcome, certainly unavoidable. Specifically, you can now pay your Rebus subscription directly into our bank account: 38 9022 0402722 00. The precise details of how to make a payment will depend on just how your bank's web page is configured.

You will also have to set your account up with your bank first. Just go to the relevant page on your bank's web site and follow the instructions there. This process, and making payments, is not difficult, but can be daunting at first. When I signed-up for online banking, and also when I made my first online payment, I did it while on the phone to my bank's Help Line. The nice lady on the Help Line talked me through each process. With her help, it was all a lot easier than I had feared. I now regularly make online payments without any problem, and I also check my account on line whenever I want, both from the comfort and safety of my home.

An alternative to Internet Banking that you might prefer is Telephone Banking. I have never used it myself, so cannot comment on it from personal experience, although my sister has been using it for years, quite happily and successfully. Again, ring your bank's Help Line and take it from there. I do know (from my sister) that ASB has a separate phone number for Seniors, which is much better (less waiting) than that for younger customers.

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

MUSIC:

- 1 The Beatles
- 2 Lonnie Donegan
- 3 Jonny Cash
- 4 Rainbow on the River
- 5 The Third Man

SPORT:

- 1 Terry Lineen
- 2 Gary Bartlett
- 3 Roger Bailey
- 4 Norman Read
- 5 Danyon Loader
- 6 Mainbrace
- 7 Ruia Morrison

GENERAL:

- 1 Motorbikes
- 2 The promenade at Milford Beach
- 3 Because they believed Orson Welles' story was true. Was this an early version of fake news?
- 4 North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
SouthEast Asia Treaty Organisation
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation
Italian Suppository (see http://www.anvari.org/shortjoke/Miscellaneous_Jokes/36349_what-do-you-call-an-italian-suppository-an-inuendo.html)
- 5 She co-invented a system called *frequency hopping*, a way of jumping around on radio frequencies in order to avoid a third party jamming your signal. Lamarr invented it in the 1940s for use as a secret wartime communications system, that could keep the enemy from interfering with radio-controlled torpedoes. The technology underpins almost all modern radio communications leading eventually to cell phones. But did this famous movie actress earn money for her invention? NO, not a cent. Hedy Lamarr, who was born in Vienna, passed away in 2000, aged 86 (see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hedy_Lamarr, <https://www.invent.org/inductees/hedy-lamarr> and <https://www.biography.com/actor/hedy-lamarr>).

I've included full details of the quiz, as this is what the exercise was all about.
Thirteen questions out of 18 were answered correctly, a strike rate of 72%. That's really good. The memories and knowledge of our lot is excellent, if I may say so.

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 9 April 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)