



West Auckland Men's Rebus Club

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

Newsletter

AUGUST 2021

The next meeting will be at 10 am Friday 13 August 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
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Newsletter	John Mihaljevic	johnmihaljevicnz@gmail.com	09 836 1504
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Attendance	Stephen David	sjdavid55@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.

ANOTHER DEATH IN THE FAMILY RAÈ ELMO HILDRETH 1929-2021

Long time (since 2000) member Raè Hildreth passed away at his home on Thursday 5 August. His funeral will be at Salvation Army, 18 Allright Place, Mt Wellington, at 11am next Thursday 12 August 2021 (the day before our meeting).

He was one of the most popular members of New Lynn Probus. The blue plastic mugs we use at morning tea were bought by Raè. For many years he made the tea and coffee. This photo of him, with his daughter Bronwynne, at his ninetieth birthday party shows him, appropriately, with cups and saucers:



and here enjoying a Club meeting with his fellow club members and friends:



The death notice in the Saturday morning *New Zealand Herald* of August 7th read:

With family by his side Raè was promoted to Glory on Thursday 5th August at aged 92. His funeral will be held at the Salvation Army, 18 Allbright Place Mt Wellington at 11 am.

We wrote an item on Raè in the March 2021 newsletter. It is reproduced below.

Raè Hildreth is moving with his daughter to Kaukapaka to be nearer his grandchildren and great grandchildren. Raè has been a member of the club for 21 years.

We know a bit about Raè from a talk he gave as club speaker in October 2017. He grew up in Mt Eden during the depression when you could buy a box of broken Weetbix from the Sanitarium factory in Exmouth Street for a shilling. The first paid employment Raè had was in a grocer's shop. It was in the days before pre-packaging when everything had to be weighed, including the butter.

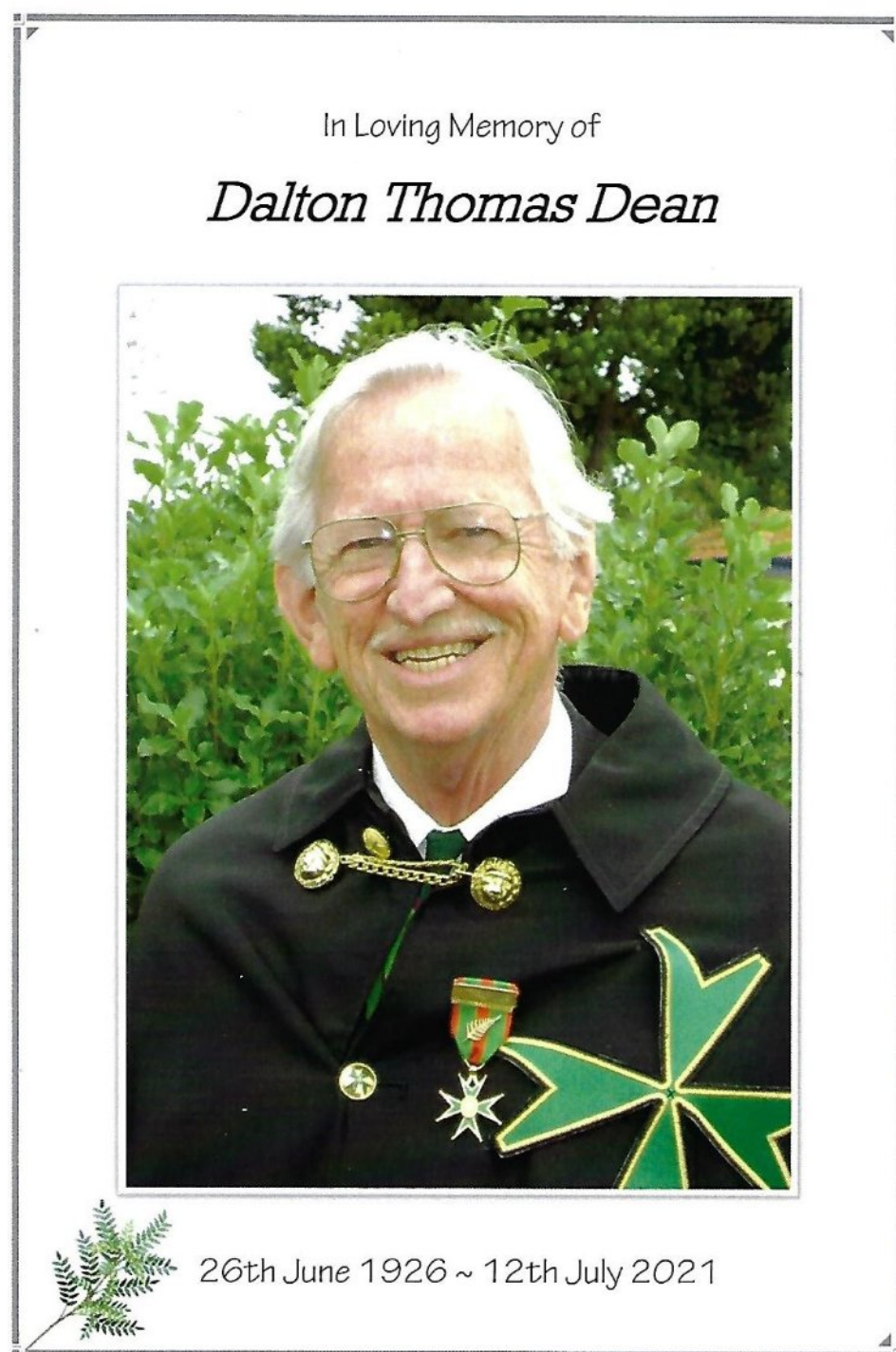
Raè worked at the Farmers for 29 years in various departments and positions and described it as a marvelous place to work.

Being asked to officiate at a funeral service in an emergency led to Raè becoming a Celebrant and then going on to officiate at many funerals. His wife Beverley, also a Celebrant, officiated at marriages as well, and Raè said they were a great team.

For more than ten years, Raè made morning tea at the monthly meetings of the club. He purchased the plastic cups, still in use today.

In July 2019, Raè celebrated his ninetieth birthday. His daughter Bronwynne organized a secret birthday party, which took Raè completely by surprise. Trevor Pollard, the late Neil Lindstrom, and some of the other club members attended the event.





Our last surviving Foundation Member, Dalton Dean, died on 12 July 2021. His funeral was on Friday 16 July. Several Club members were among the many who attended.

A fuller account of Dalton's life will be in a later Newsletter.

CLUB BUSINESS

PRESIDENT'S REPORT (aka PRESIDENT'S PRATTLE) Bill Mutch

It is nice to see some winter sun, but we did lose Dalton Dean from our ranks, which is always sad to see as every one of our valued members is part of our family. Dalton had a good send off, attended by myself and some other members. Our Welfare Officers both do a wonderful job.

On the Covid front we appear to be going good, much better than Fiji. I have had my first Jab with the next one booked for 26 August, which I get at the New Lynn Medical Centre.

As on the 9 August I turn 80, so had to get a Drivers test, which was about 50 minutes, harder than I thought but I did pass.

A friend who was born on 4 August and lived next door and I have stayed in contact all those 80 years. We catch up at least three times a year, but we both are now single, so lots to talk about but my goal is to get him to join REBUS.

After all, I think we have an amazing mix of people in our friendly club.

On Tuesday 3 August a group of us met at Ryders, Riversdale Road, Avondale to see a movie and have a hot lunch.

Alison Turner was in charge and she always does a great job. She had made a lot of nibbles to have with a hot coffee or tea. I think 54 in total went. The movie was *Fisherman's Friend*; a nice movie and was followed by a nice hot roast, which went down well as a winter lunch. Alison had donated an extra bit of pork, so there was plenty of hot pork and apple sauce.

After stepping down as Secretary for the Railway Enthusiasts Society I do have a bit more time to enjoy other things, my Parkinson's has increased a bit and writing and typing has become much harder but onwards and upwards I go. I have also reduced doing weddings as a Celebrant but am still active with funerals. I will share with you at the meeting why I had to get out of bed at 4.45am!!!

Trevor Pollard dropped off some lemons, but I didn't hear him, perhaps I was downstairs, or having a nap. I must invest in a doorbell again. We had one but Noni our ruined black and white fat cat was scared of it.

It looks like the Supermarket trade is in for a shake up.

Janet and I got home at about 2.15pm and had a nap.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Vince Middeldorp

Bill Mutch welcomed 34 members to the meeting and made special mention of Andrew Geddes, who was just out of Auckland Hospital, and former President Maurice Vickers, who Bill said was an expert at controlling meetings.

Apologies were recorded for Ray Hancock and Raymond Barrett.

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 7 June, were provided to Bill Mutch for confirmation and signing.

Under matters arising, it was reported that we now have a listing in *The Beacon*. We will soon have a listing in the *Coffee Newsletter*. We have a page under events on the Neighbourly website.

Three items of correspondence have been received: a request for a New Lynn Probus tax return from Bernadette Newman at Inland Revenue; a website traffic report from Cloudflare; and a Google Invoice for the website.

Treasurer Justin Griffith said we had \$285 in the cash box, and around \$900 in current bank accounts with some more money in a term deposit. Fifty-one dollars was put into the kitty for morning tea in June. The corresponding amounts for previous months were May \$41; April \$32; and March \$30.

Trips organiser Ian Smith reminded members about the Gold Card trip to Orakei Bay Village on 30 July. He suggested Christmas Lunch at Soljans and agreed to make the arrangements. Following Laurie Vincent's suggestion, a late November date will be chosen.

Welfare Officer Barry O'Rourke reeled off names of members who were experiencing health issues and others he has been in contact with on the phone. They were Neil Castle, Bill Fairs, Andrew Geddes, Maurice Vickers, Euan Carr, Stephen David, Trevor Pollard, Roger Laloli and Bill Mutch. Welfare Officer Trayton Wickens reported that Dalton Dean is dropping away.

Under General Business, members were reminded about the roast meal and movie at Ryders on Tuesday 3 August being organised by Alison Turner.

The next meeting date was set down for Friday 13 August 2021 at 10.00 am. The speaker will be our own Bill Fairs. He is going to talk about his playing the saxophone in rock bands during the 1960s.

Dr Tom Miller conducted his quiz, which was enjoyed by all the members.

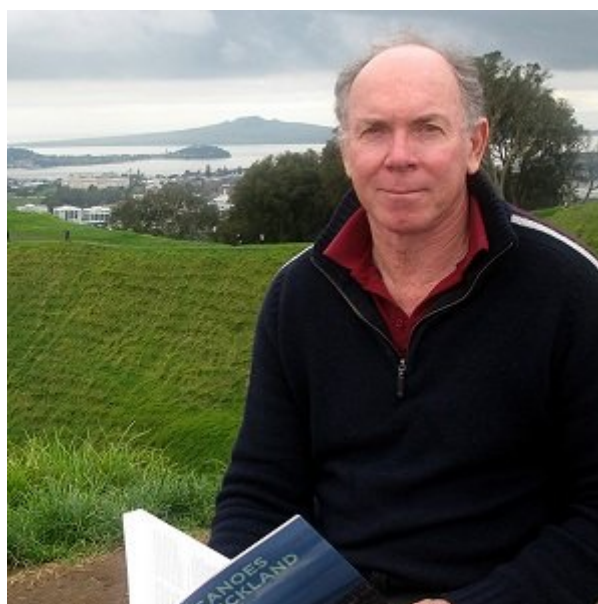
Bruce Hayward spoke about Auckland's volcanic cones.

The meeting closed at 11.45 am.

CLUB EVENTS

SPEAKER

Our Guest Speaker in July was **Bruce Haywood**, on *Auckland's Volcanoes*.



Bruce began by noting that Auckland is often referred to as the *City of Volcanoes*. They provide the city with character and diversity, especially in the central city. Many suburbs are centred on and named for specific volcanoes: Mount Roskill, Mount Wellington, Mount Eden, for example. Auckland is not only built *on* the volcanoes, but *out* of them: basalt lava flows provide building stone, while scoria cones provide aggregate, including railway ballast.

The exact number of volcanoes in Auckland is not known, but the generally accepted figure is 53. There are 53 volcanoes within 20 kilometres of Mt Eden and One Tree Hill, which mark the centre of the field. The field ranges from Rangitoto and Pupuke in the north to Mt Albert in the west and south to Wiri and McLaughins Mountain to the south and Tamaki and Pigeon Mountain to the east.

The Auckland Volcanic Field is relatively new; all of them having erupted within the last 200,000 years. Rangitoto is the youngest, having erupted only about 600 years ago (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rangitoto>). Rangitoto is also unique among Auckland's volcanoes in two other respects. It is by far the largest, having erupted more lava than all the others put together, It is also the only one to have erupted from under the sea. The youngest onshore volcano is Mount Wellington (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maungarei>). The three oldest are the explosion craters at Northcote-Takapuna Pupuke, Onepoto and Tank Farm/Tuff Crater (<https://www.auckland.ac.nz/en/news/2019/11/25/city-of-volcanoes.html>).

For about 90% of the age of the volcanic field, sea level was lower than it is now (courtesy of the Ice Ages), so that what are now the Waitemata and Manukau Harbours were forested land, albeit traversed by rivers.

Auckland has a varied volcanic landscape, the product of three types of volcanic eruption, producing three different types of rock and so three different kinds of landform. The three kinds of eruption are sequential. Various volcanoes have stopped at different stages, so producing the different landforms.

The first stage is **Explosive**. Hot (about 1200°C) magma rising from reservoirs deep below hits cold ground water, resulting in explosions. These explosive pulses, repeating on a time scale of about 30 seconds to a couple of minutes, pulverise the rock and magma, blowing the resulting volcanic ash 3-4 kilometres into the air, before it falls back to earth relatively close to the vent as tuff rock (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tuff>). This ash fall forms a ring around the explosive crater. Each explosive pulse forms a separate ash layer in the tuff ring. The resulting craters flooded, forming lakes which, over time, silted up. We have tended to 'reclaim' this 'wasteland', using it for things such as sports fields.

Probably *all* the Auckland volcanoes started in this way. Some (21 are known) stopped at this stage; the others progressed to the next stage: **Fire Fountaining**.

Fire Fountaining begins when all the ground water has been boiled away and the continuing eruption becomes dry. As the pressure on the magma falls, the gases dissolved in it expand and froth it up. This produces fountains of frothy lava, which is deposited around the vent as frothy rock, better known as *scoria* (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Scoria>). This produces steep-sided cones with sides (internal facing the crater as well as external) at an angle of 30°, the angle of rest of scoria.

All 33 scoria cones have been modified by Maori, with characteristic terraced fortifications and living areas. Of the 33 original scoria cones, 12 have been completely destroyed and only one is still intact.

Eventually, the erupting magma becomes 'degassed' and so forms the third and final phase of the eruptive process: **Lava Flows**. While the molten rock is underground, it is termed *magma*; once it emerges onto the surface it is termed *lava*. Lava comes in two forms: *pahoehoe* and *aa* (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ntt8nwrH0oU> and (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YCyiaQZiXi4><https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YCyiaQZiXi4>).

Lava solidifies into *basalt* rock (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Basalt> and <https://geology.com/rocks/basalt.shtml>). As it cools, from the top and the bottom, it contracts and cracks, forming vertical columns (<https://askanearthspacescientist.asu.edu/top-question/columnar-jointing>).

The longest lava flow in Auckland is Meola Reef (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Meola_Reef): you may recall Neil Castle's talk on his youthful adventures there, as reported in the March 2020 Newsletter. Although it now extends almost right across the Waitemata Harbour, thanks to lower sea levels during the Ice Age, it was actually formed on dry land. Originally thought to derive from Three Kings or Mt Eden or Mt Albert, chemical analysis shows that it actually came from Mt St John. The Meola Reef lava flow is actually older than Three Kings, Mt Eden and Mt Albert, although they did subsequently add to, and obscure, it. Hence the initial misunderstanding.

The varied lava landforms in the Central Auckland area were conditioned by the varied topography there *before* the eruptions. Where the pre-eruption landscape was flat, as on the Manukau Lowlands, the lava spread out evenly around the cone, producing a characteristic **Fried Egg Volcano**, with the central cone being the yolk and the surrounding lava apron being the egg white.

Bruce concluded his talk with a brief discussion on the ongoing volcanic risk to Auckland: what is the likelihood of future eruptions (see <https://www.devora.org.nz/>): **Determining Volcanic Risk in Auckland (DEVORA)**

The magma feeding Auckland's volcanoes comes from about 60 kilometres down in the Earth's Mantle (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earth's_mantle). The rise of any such magma can be detected from the distinctive volcano earthquakes its movement generates, which would be detected by a network of seismometers around Auckland (see <https://www.aucklandmuseum.com/visit/whats-on/online-exhibitions/living-with-volcanoes/city-of-volcanoes/not-if-but-when/seismic-monitoring> and <https://www.devora.org.nz/tag/seismometers/>). These *volcano quakes* start when the rising magma reaches the base of the Earth's Crust (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Earth's_crust), about 30 kilometres down. These will give from 2 to 7 days warning of the impending eruption. Civil Defence can evacuate the 5 kilometre centred on the likely point of eruption in 36 hours.

Although the dates of the various eruptions are now well known, no discernible pattern has emerged, although there are periods of both considerable activity and of quiet. Nor has any spatial pattern emerged. Therefore the only way to know when and where the next eruption will be is to look out for it.

Auckland's volcanic field is *monogenetic*: each volcano erupts only once. At most, any second eruption in any one place is very soon after the first. This is because, as it rises, the magma cools and solidifies, so blocking the current path. This takes about 20 to 30 years. After that, the rising magma has to find another path to the surface, so erupts somewhere else.

Whenever and wherever the next eruption occurs, the most dangerous phase will be the first: the Explosive. The wet explosive, pyroclastic flows will be close to vent, sideways and up. Five kilometres at most; probably only 2 or 3. But within that range they will be lethal. Hence the need to evacuate the danger zone *before* the eruption. Any subsequent Fire Fountaining will be less dangerous, because it will effect a smaller area. Similarly, any lava flows will be limited in scope, so easy for people to avoid. However, property and infrastructure will be vulnerable throughout.

For background on Bruce, see <https://aucklanduniversitypress.co.nz/authors-and-editors/bruce-w-hayward/> and <http://geomarine.org.nz/>. For more on Auckland's volcanoes see https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Auckland_volcanic_field and <https://www.gns.cri.nz/Home/Learning/Science-Topics/Volcanoes/New-Zealand-Volcanoes/Volcano-Geology-and-Hazards/Auckland-Volcanic-Field-Geology>. For more on volcanoes in general see <http://www.luckysci.com/2014/08/types-of-volcanic-eruptions-and-their-dynamics/>.

The Guest Speaker in August will be our very own Bill Fairs. On his time as saxophonist with the Keil Isles band in the 1950-70s (<https://www.discogs.com/artist/866467-The-Keil-Isles>).

QUIZ QUESTIONS

- 1 Who was the first man to fly around the world in a spaceship?
- 2 How many ribs are there in the human body?
- 3 What is the capital city of Canada?
- 4 What do camels store in their humps?
- 5 What are female elephants called?
- 6 Name the longest river in South America?
- 7 Which is **not** a vegetable: cucumber, onion, broccoli?
- 8 Who is known as *The King of Rock and Roll*?
- 9 Which of these fruits did Christopher Columbus discover in the New World: mango, date, pineapple?
- 10 What two sports are played on a *green table*?

Tom usually finishes with a BAD STORY or two, but this month he stayed on topic and finished with a set of:

CORNY QUESTIONS

- 1 What did the policeman say to the belly button?
You're under a vest
- 2 Why don't oysters donate to charity?
Because they are shellfish
- 3 What does a clock do when it's hungry?
It goes back for seconds
- 4 Why did the scarecrow get promoted?
Because he was outstanding in his field
- 5 What do you call a person sitting up a tree carrying a briefcase?
A branch manager
- 6 What did one wall say to the other?
I'll meet you at the corner
- 7 How many tickles does it take to make an octopus laugh?
Ten tickles
- 8 How do priests make holy water?
They take tap water and boil Hell out of it
- 9 What's the worst thing about being an egg?
You only get laid once

OUTINGS

COFFEE MORNING Waitakere Gardens

Friday 30 July saw 24 members and significant others enjoy a most pleasant Coffee Morning at Waitakere Gardens, Henderson, as guests of Metlifecare. Resident Sales Manager Amanda McCullough hosted the event, then took those interested on a tour of the village.





Chef Tarbruk delivering muffins, sausage rolls and drinks (non alcoholic) to the expectant throng.



Amanda also helped deliver the goodies.



But she also found time to enjoy the repast herself.



Before telling us about the wonders of Waitakere Gardens.



Then taking some of us on a tour of the village.
On the right is Vince, a serial visitor. On the left is Eric, who is already in residence.



Jewel and Roger Laloli have just celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.
Here's to the next 60 years!

Another successful Coffee Morning. Thanks to Amanda for organizing it and to the kitchen staff for setting it up.

The Cafe at Waitakere Gardens is open to the public, so feel free to drop in any time.

Some people have already expressed an interest in another Coffee Morning at Waitakere Gardens. Amanda is open to that.

MOVIE AND ROAST LUNCH AT RYDERS

Vince Middeldorp

Alison Turner, the secretary from the historic society, was rewarded with a huge turnout for the roast lunch and movie which she organized at Ryders in Riversdale Road, Avondale.

She said on the day that we ended up with 53 people. Some were from the two historic societies (Avondale-Waterview and Pt Chevalier), some were from the two Rebus groups (West Auckland and Waitakere), and some were from a Papakura ladies' group.

The last list I sent through to Alison had 33 names on it and with Clint Ryder having told me the maximum he could take was 50, I was somewhat worried. When I phoned Alison, she said the cinema had sixty seats and the dining room had 45. There was an enclosed area on the veranda which could accommodate the overflow from the dining room.

It was Alison who organized the event and not the historic society. On the day Alison was on her own, going from table to table to collect the money from everyone and handing out wrist tags. Thankfully, our own Linda Narayan stepped in to help Alison. With such numbers, it was too big a job for one person to manage on their own.



Andrew and Lynda Narayan with Alison Turner



Stephen David (in striped jumper), Barry O'Rourke, Trayton Wickens, Marjorie Wickens and Suzanne Barrett

The movie, *Fisherman's Friends*, was one that had something for everyone. There was the very picturesque Port Isaac location in Cornwall, excellent English actors, a story based on actual events and sea-shanty singing that remained in my head for days afterwards.

When organizing the event, Alison stressed to Clint Ryder that she wanted plenty of food for everyone and that ended up being the case with a little of everything (roast potatoes, roast meat, and some vegetables) left over. I went up and helped myself to seconds.

One of the great things about Ryders is the very convivial atmosphere. I talked to a long-lost friend who belonged to the Avondale-Waterview Historical society. Around the room I could see people who I'm sure had never met before, engaged in earnest conversation.

The picture quality on the screen was not great this time. The sound left me thinking about the audiologist who said a hearing aid might help me in certain situations, however I can forgive Ryders for its shortcomings. I have always enjoyed going there in the past and have never once seen a movie there I didn't like.

I'm sure there wouldn't be anyone who went along this time who wouldn't go again should the opportunity present itself (including those, such as Bill Mutch, who ended up having lunch outside on the enclosed veranda).

FUTURE OUTINGS

Our next Coffee Morning is at 10:30 am on Friday 20 August at The Sugar Grill, The Point, Te Atatu Peninsula (across the car park from Countdown). This is a return visit: we were there in January 2020.

The trip to Orakei Village, originally scheduled for Friday 30 July (when we actually had the Coffee Morning at Waitakere Gardens) will now be on Friday 27 August. Details as in last month's Newsletter. Ian will no doubt update us at the meeting.

OUTSIDE EVENTS

Waitakere Gardens is having an Open Day from 10 AM to 3 PM on Saturday 14 August (the day after our meeting). Feel free to come if you missed the Coffee Morning or would like another look.

Actually, Waitakere Gardens is not the only Metlifecare village in the West:



Which are also having Open Days on the 14th.

As well as offering the following:

Village	Location	Event	Date & Time	RSVP
Waitakere Gardens	15 Sel Peacock Drive, Henderson	Decluttering and Downsizing Seminar followed by Lunch	Friday 10 September 9:30am to 12:30pm	Amanda McCullough 09 836 9744
Powley	135 Connell Street, Blockhouse Bay	Open Day with High Tea	Thursday 16 September 10am to 2pm	Anna Wilson 09 826 2018
Crestwood	38 Golf Rd, New Lynn	Open Day with Market and Refreshments	Wednesday 22 September 10am to 2pm	Anna Wilson 09 826 2018
Hillsborough Heights	1381 Dominion Road Ext, Mt Roskill	The Art of Ageing Seminar with Coffee and Cake on arrival	Thursday 30 September 9.45am to 11.45am	Marie Kake 09 626 8077
Pinesong	66 Avonleigh Road, Titirangi	Village Tour with Lunch	Call Allan to book an appointment	Allan Kay 09 817 0464

Waitakere Gardens is having a Fashion Parade, at 3:30 PM to 6:00 PM on Wednesday 18 August:



If you or someone you know is interested, call Amanda at 836 9744 or email her at amandamc@metlifecare.co.nz.

MEMBER’S CONTRIBUTION

CLAUDIA’S CORNER

Claudia's Joke of the month.

I was horrified when my wife told me that my six year old son was not mine.
Apparently I need to pay more attention at school pick up times!!!.

TRAYTON’S JOKE

A husband and wife were having dinner at a very fine restaurant when an absolutely stunning young woman comes over to their table, gives the husband a big open-mouthed kiss, then says she'll see him later and walks away.

The wife glares at her husband and says: *Who in the hell was that?*

Oh replies the husband *She's my mistress.*

Well, that's the last straw, says the wife. *I've had enough. I want a divorce!*

I can understand that, replies her husband, *But remember, if we get a divorce it will mean no more shopping trips to Paris, no more wintering in Barbados, no more summers in Tuscany, no more Jaguar in the garage, and no more yacht club. Not only that, but no more diamonds, no more credit card, and large bank account. But the decision is all yours.*

Just then a mutual friend of theirs enters the restaurant with a gorgeous babe on his arm.

Who's that woman with Jim? asks the wife. *That's his mistress,* says the husband.

The wife looks at him for a second and then says: *Ours is prettier!"*

LAURIE

WE OWE IT TO OUR ANCESTORS

Right now Auckland Libraries are holding heritage talks at the Auckland Art Gallery, from 12 noon-1pm. Cost is FREE but bookings are essential.

Lisa Truttman, whom you all know, is giving her talk on Wednesday 13 October and information regarding the Wednesday talks in the meantime, can be obtained from local libraries.

Historical talks are always interesting and several years ago I was able to obtain photographs and heaps of information regarding my great-grandparents, who lived from the 1830s. In spite of raising large families, they were fiercely determined to succeed and get ahead. There were names on my family tree relating to my great-great-great-grandparents, who lived from 1749. But there were no photographs. The first photograph in the world in fact, was taken in 1826 (<https://www.insider.com/first-photograph-in-history-2016-8>), but wouldn't it be interesting if we could go back hundreds, even thousands of years to view photos and have details of our ancient ancestors. It seems they really had a tough time getting to see the next day because of many factors.

They had to handle natural disasters, climate change, disease, countless wars, ice ages and learn to live in the most inhospitable places imaginable. They learned to communicate, to be sociable and innovative and use their ingenuity to overcome problems that got in their way. Constant physical activity in a natural sense and obtaining nutritious food from the sea allowed their brains to grow.

Many made it through, however, and that's why we are here today. To be born into this world (at astronomical odds) is a great gift and I reckon we owe it all to the efforts our ancestors made in spite of the many problems they faced!

GOOFY & DONALD DUCK

As a youngster I enjoyed cartoons at the movie theatre. Today on YouTube cartoons are available for us to laugh at once again.

Here are two examples:

1950: Goofy Motor Mania (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hk-c5jlk48s>)

1951: Dude Ranch Donald Duck (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BRl3-L4fl1Q>)

So take a look at a time when we laughed without a care in the world.

DANCE OF THE KNIGHTS with Charlie Chaplin (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lw6YwYLJBIs>). This is a spoof on Hitler supported by great music by Prokofiev. It's actually a scene from *The Great Dictator* (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Great_Dictator), which you can view at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JDX2tCkCM4o>.

JOHN

THE WISDOM OF THE ANCIENTS

Sideswipe, The New Zealand Herald, Tuesday 3 August 2021

- 1 He that would the daughter win, must with the mother first begin (1578)
- 2 A still tongue makes a wise head (1562)
- 3 Speak not of my debts unless you mean to pay them (1640)
- 4 One hand for yourself and one for the ship (1799)
- 5 The highest branch is not the safest roost (1563)
- 6 He who is absent is always in the wrong (1640)
- 7 The golden age was never the present age (1732)
- 8 Sweep your own doorstep clean (1624)
- 9 Idle people have the least leisure (1678)
- 10 He that would have eggs must endure the cackling of hens (1659)

NEIL

PUBLIC RELATIONS PRACTITIONERS Guinness Book of Humorous Anecdotes

When it came to Abraham Lincoln's turn to give his summation as the defence attorney, he said: *My learned opponent has given you all the facts, but has drawn all the wrong conclusions.* As it turned out he won the case. On the way out of the court, the prosecutor stopped Lincoln and asked: *How did you do it, Abe?*

Well, Abe said, *During the recess I wandered into a cafe, sat with the jurors and told them a story about a farmer who was mending a fence when his ten-year-old son came running, crying 'Dad, Sis is up in the hayloft with a hired hand and he is pulling down his pants and she is pulling up her skirts and I think they are going to pee over the hay'.*

According to Lincoln, the farmer said to his son: *You got all the facts straight, but you have drawn the wrong conclusion.*

TOM LOWNDES

ORIGINS OF NEW LYNN MEN'S PROBUS

There was an ad in the *Western Leader* about 4 inches square asking for retired or semi-retired men in New Lynn to form a Probus Club. What the heck is a Probus club? I called myself semi-retired, having completed 40 years in Government service and was three years into what turned out to be 12 years of a seven days a fortnight part-time job. It was a bit of a hike from Herald Island where we were living. Petrol was 98 cents/litre, so to satisfy my curiosity, I went along.

I had never heard of the word "Probus" and it was all a big mystery. The venue was the old War Memorial Hall, since demolished to make way for a McDonalds and the Library and adjacent to the War Memorial with its weeping pillars. It was a really nice little hall, and I had attended other functions there so it wasn't all strange.

Anyway, the chairs were set out for a meeting. There was a table up the front where some smart-looking men were no doubt waiting to see how many turned up and eventually the total was 25. It turned out that all those smart fellows were Rotary and that Probus was a club that Rotarians could join when they retired. Hence *Pro* for professional and *bus* for business.

The meeting was called to order by a fellow called John Lovegrove, a Rotarian who I later learned had an upholstery business near the corner of Great North Road and Rata Street. John was a most likeable and capable man and smoothly saw that resolutions were soon passed to form a club to be known as the Probus Club of New Lynn; to receive applications for foundation membership and accept them as members as at 21st October 1991; to adopt the Probus Constitution; establish the venue to be the New Lynn community hall; set a joining fee of \$10.00 and a subscription of \$10.00 and hold an Election of Officers.

It also transpired that eligibility to join was phrased as "retired or semi-retired businessmen and others" and I remember very strong interest in who was included in "the others", which seemed to represent most of the men there and reassurance was given that membership wasn't restricted to retired businessmen.

The Election was straightforward in that there was only one nomination for each position and declared elected were Jack Gascoigne for President, Jim Moorhouse Secretary, Ian Spurdle Treasurer, John Lovegrove Committee Programme, Ian Dyer Visits and Trips, Gordon Campbell Membership and Jack Mills & Philip Taylor Almoners.

Apparently there was a Probus Club up the road at Kelston and their President, Jack Armstrong, installed Jack Gascoigne and presented him with a regalia-type collar and a cheque I later learned was for \$300.00 to get the club established.

John Lovegrove donated a gavel of Desert Hardwood from the USA for use by the Club.

After a cup of tea, a Guest Speaker was introduced, no less than the Deputy Mayor, Bruce McNaughton who gave a talk on the structure of the Waitakere City Council and the Auckland Regional Council.

Jack Mills thanked the Speaker. A date was set for the next meeting, and that was that.

There is a by-law that Officers hold office for one year, two in exceptional circumstances, and two years later when they sought a change of Officers I offered to be Secretary for a year. Offer accepted, and I was there for the next 25 years.

DAVE GERRARD

If you enjoyed Dave Gerrard's talk on *Drugs in Sport* in February 2019 you might like to hear him being interviewed on the National Programme:

Dave Gerrard at the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo at https://www.rnz.co.nz/audio/player?audio_id=2018805418https://www.rnz.co.nz/audio/player?audio_id=2018805418

Dr Dave Gerrard completes a 57-year Tokyo Olympics loop at https://www.rnz.co.nz/audio/player?audio_id=2018807333.

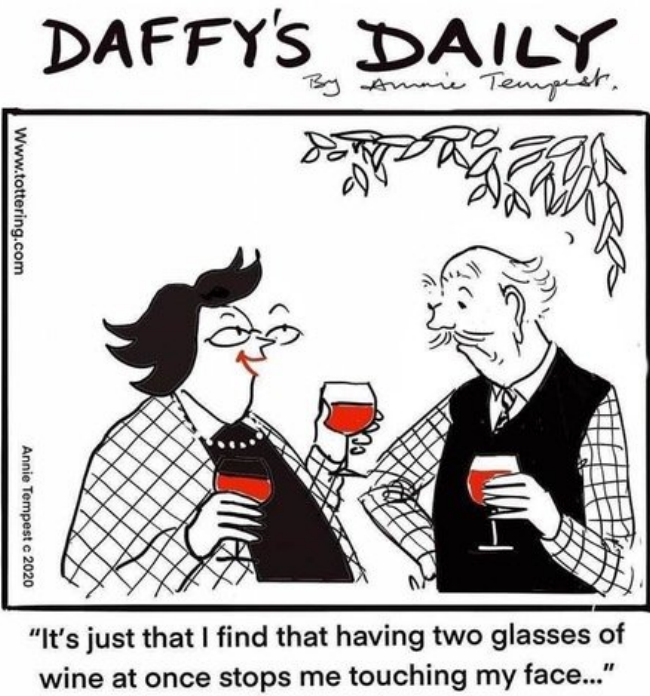
QUIZ ANSWERS

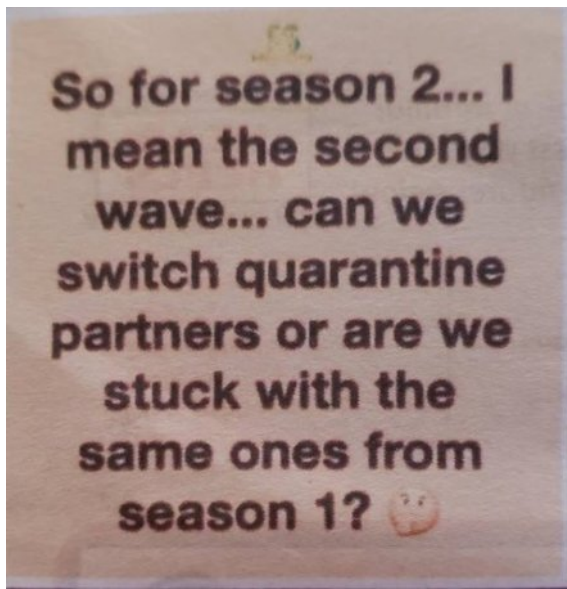
- 1 Yuri Gagarin
- 2 24 (12 pairs)
- 3 Ottawa
- 4 Fat (not water)
- 5 Cows (the males are bulls)

- 6 Amazon
- 7 Cucumber (technically, it's a fruit)
- 8 Elvis Presley
- 9 Pineapple
- 10 Table tennis and billiards

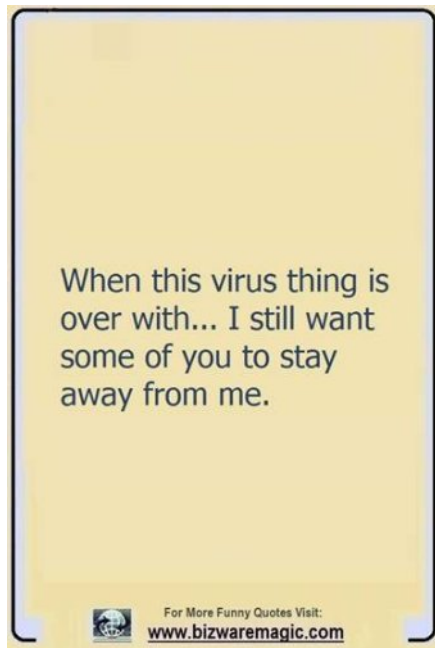
CARTOONS
Raymond Barrett

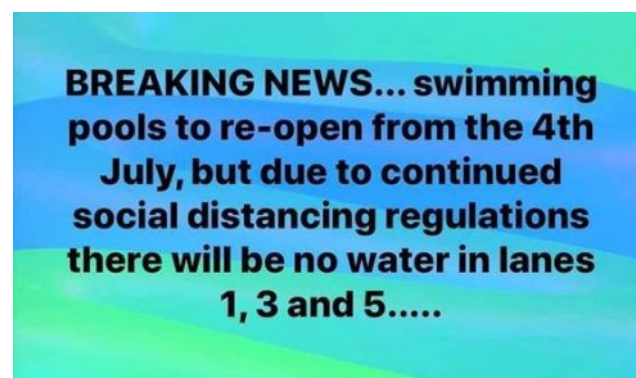
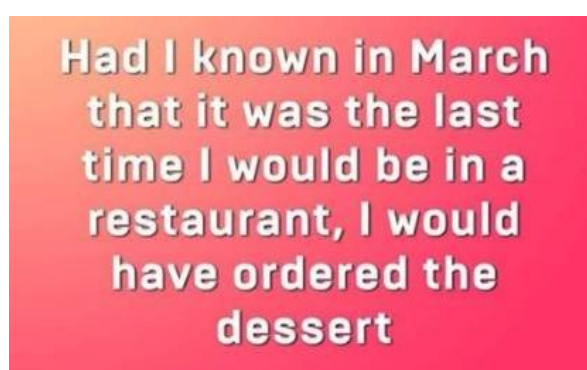
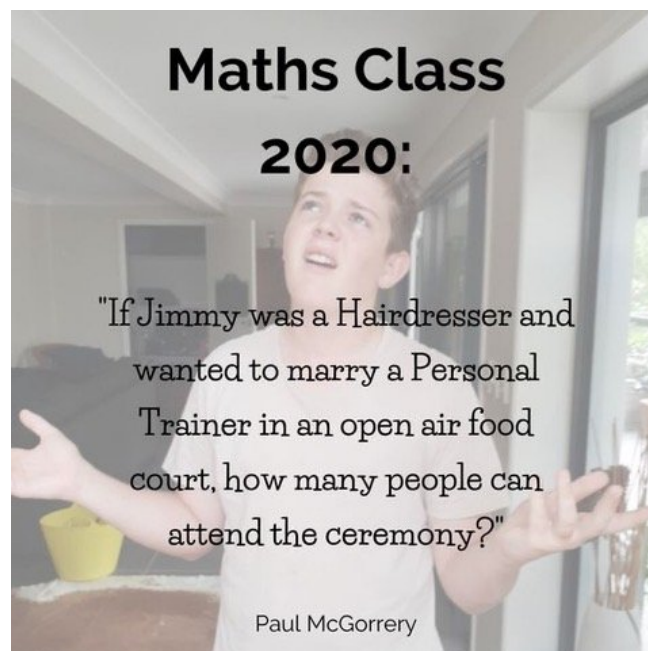
First day back at school after lockdown🤔😬🧐😂





Vintage picture of an old tradition of people eating cake after someone blows air from their mouth onto it
Circa: 2019 B.C. (Before Coronavirus)





I can't wait to walk down the aisle



It may take a village to raise a child, but I swear it's going to take a whole vineyard to homeschool one.



For More Funny Quotes Visit:
www.bizwaremagic.com

When the quarantine ends and you have to put on your work clothes again..



WHAT FACE MASKS SAY ABOUT A PERSON:



HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL



SEMI-PROFESSIONAL



THRIFTY



HANDY WITH NEEDLE AND THREAD



PROBABLY A BANK ROBBER



SHOULDN'T BE ALLOWED OUT OF THE HOUSE

Quarantine day 46. 😂





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

Grant Stevens, operating as Eden Computers (www.edencomputers.co.nz). I have not needed his services much, but I have found him very helpful when I did, as have others I know, Noel Rose for one. So Grant is the man to go to 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

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 10 September 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)