



# West Auckland Men's Rebus Club

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

## Newsletter

### NOVEMBER 2021

**The next meeting is scheduled for 10 am Friday 12 November at the New Lynn Friendship Hall, 3063 Great North Road, New Lynn**

**COVID PERMITTING**

**Because another group needs it, we must vacate the meeting room no later than 12 noon, so please be prompt and expeditious**

#### COMMITTEE

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Secretary	Vince Middeldorp	<a href="mailto:vincemiddeldorp@gmail.com">vincemiddeldorp@gmail.com</a>	828 5250
Treasurer	Justin Griffith	<a href="mailto:justin@griffith.co.nz">justin@griffith.co.nz</a>	282 3104
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	Barry O'Rourke	<a href="mailto:judderbumps@gmail.com">judderbumps@gmail.com</a>	818 7935
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Webmaster	Vince Middeldorp	<a href="mailto:vincemiddeldorp@gmail.com">vincemiddeldorp@gmail.com</a>	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)**  
**Bill Mutch**

Hello from the Foothills of Auckland (Titirangi) where it is damp due to a lot of rain but at least our dams are full again. It seems so long since we have held a meeting; all due to level 3 lockdown and with our November meeting not far away, I think that also will not happen,

Today (Saturday 30th) they reported 160 cases. Wow! One has to be extra careful. We older folk are good at sticking to the rules; however some people just can not and make it harder for us all.

I hope you all are keeping good, some have rung me and I have rung others: keeping in touch is what our club is all about.

I have lost two friends in Laos with covid and a whole family in USA all got Covid, but the adults were double jabbed and got a mild Covid, but they said it was horrible - the kids got very ill.

Re our meeting hall, the side door handrail is still on the to do list. With Covid no work is being done and hall is not in use. However, with a flat wheelchair area we can open the main doors as they (and us) do not want any mishaps. So as soon as Vince or I get there we will unlock the main door.

An older couple were sound asleep upstairs about 3am when they both woke up with loud knocking on the front door, so the husband zapped downstairs opened the door to be greeted by a drunk guy saying *can you give me a push?* With that the husband said *Its 3am, the answer is no* and shut the door.

He gets back to bed and wife says *What was that all about? Oh, just a drunk guy wanting a push.* There was another knock, so the wife said *Recall the time we broke down late at night and others helped us; well go help this guy.* So the husband gets dressed and zaps downstairs, opens the door. It was really dark and no one was there, so he calls out *Anyone here?.* There was this merry voice *Hey over here on the kids swing. I need a push!!!!.*

Claudia said *that will put a smile on their faces.*

**SECRETARIES REPORT**  
***We are now using the Front Door at the Friendship Hall.***  
**Vince Middeldorp**



On 21 October, I sent the following email to Kath Wicks:

Hi Kath,

In our October Rebus Club newsletter, Bill Mutch wrote: *There have been some more comments about the handrail needed at the hall... (and) ... I will ask Vince to email them again about our request.*

Before asking for an update on the handrail I thought it best to drive past the Friendship Hall just in case it had already been fitted. I was appalled at what I saw and so will you. One or more rough sleepers have camped at back entrance and left a pile of garbage. Someone has also vomited on the concrete steps. Attached is a photo of what I saw yesterday (Wednesday 20 October).



Can you please confirm the handrail project is still on the hall upgrade plan and provide some indication of when it might be installed?

Also I understand that we have permission to let members in through the front door. Some of our members are elderly and frail. Asking them to walk up the stairs without a handrail is unsafe. Can you please confirm that what I've been told is correct i.e. it is okay for us to use the front door?

Hope you are keeping well during the lockdown and making the most of your break from being in the office.

Kind Regards  
Vince Middeldorp

Kath Wicks replied with the following email:

Thank you Vince.

Yes, Mary Hibberd and I were both made aware of this situation by others yesterday and it is being dealt with today.

**You can also be assured that it is perfectly fine for your members who are challenged by the side entrance, to use the main, front door to come and go from.** All that is required, to enable this, is one physically fit person - the key holder - to unlock the side door and walk through internally, to open the front door by using the inside latch to do so. The front entrance is fully accessible even to wheelchairs or those who might have walking frames. It opens wide, and also has a full length handrail along the level pathway. We would in fact prefer than anyone who might be a little unsteady, to use this entrance way.

The only thing we ask, is that the person who is responsible for securing the venue after your meeting is over, remembers to close the main front door by again using the internal latch, and then departs via the side door using the key that was allocated to your group, to lock it from the outside again. You will understand I am sure after viewing the mess in the side porch yesterday, why premise security is so very important. Sadly, it is not a new or unknown problem to us.

Also, I am sorry, but I cannot offer you any update re the installation of the requested handrail. I have heard no news but that would of course be owing to lockdown.

Regards,  
Kath Wicks.

### ***CLUB EVENTS***

#### ***SPEAKERS***

No meeting, so no speakers.

#### ***QUIZ***

No meeting, so no quiz.

#### ***OUTINGS***

#### ***COFFEE MORNING***

No Coffee Mornings.

#### ***OUTINGS***

No Outings.

#### ***FUTURE OUTINGS***

Nothing in prospect.

### ***MEMBER'S CONTRIBUTION***

Several members have sent material.

#### ***TRAVELLERS' TALES***

Bill Mutch

I thought that a few tales from my travels, maybe something extra to read over these lockdown times. I have been to many parts of the globe, to some very interesting places such as Uruguay, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Chile, Argentina, USA, UK, France, Belgium, Italy, Austria, Denmark, Many Pacific Islands, Germany, Switzerland, South Africa, Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore Greece, South Korea, to name some but other places that will pop into my mind.

Today I will start with Vietnam/Laos/Cambodia. We have had many homestay students over the years; in fact 133 in total sometimes 5 in a group. The length of stay is from 4 weeks to our longest two of over 8 years, who we still have regular contact with. In fact, one stayed in NZ, got married and yes, I conducted his wedding. Most students are from Vietnam, so I will home in on my travels within Vietnam first. In 1999 my late wife Mae and I went on the first of many trips to Vietnam. We were met at Hanoi Airport (north Vietnam) by one of our past students, who arranged to get us picked up by his brother's black new BMW. He is a doctor at the Hanoi hospital, and they both spoke reasonable English as our Vietnamese at that time was not good. We were tired after our plane trip, so they took us to our hotel, the Green Park. Not there now, but the trip from the airport to the hotel took 30 minutes. Not many cars but 100s of motorbikes and pedal power bikes. It was October and we found it hot. Our hotel was an old French-built one and was too far from shopping, but being fit cookies in those days we walked everywhere, getting lost was easy, but we spent many hours looking at the markets called the "Old Quarter", a place that is filled with all types of products and crammed with people, all we found to be very friendly and many younger ones spoke English. We saw them with live chickens and killed them on the spot and cleaned for you ready to cook. Fish that was all alive, meat cut up in front of you, plastic bags on sticks to keep the flies away. One thing that I could not try was the grilled Rats! Yes rats. Very popular. My favourite food is chicken soup: the Vietnamese make it so nice and you can buy it on the side of the roads. My wife was afraid to try some food and ate many cooked eggs.

We invited our ex Homestay to have dinner with us. With another ex-student they came to our hotel on motorbikes. They ordered all the food and explained the dishes. Our room was on the 2nd floor. It was a little noisy with motorbikes, but it was clean. The next day we walked around the lake. This took about 90 minutes. It was very hot, so we got two cone ice creams. What a shock when she said they were 4700 each. That is 4700 local dong. At the time I think that was about \$US4. We decided that we were so hot and worn out a taxi would be good. Well you have to agree on a price before you get in and we got this \$2 fare but when we got to the hotel the driver said 12 dollars. We could not agree, so I got my wife to go get a hotel staffer, who came out and really put the driver in his place: we paid \$2.

If you want false teeth or new Specs, Vietnam is where to buy them cheap, excellent choices and fast service.

At this time CDs were the in thing and we purchased about 10 movie disks. Very cheap, but on trying them back in NZ they turned out to be blank disks, but had nice labels. So try before you buy is the key!!!. We took a day trip in a minibus which picked us up at the hotel in the early morning. About 2 hours took us to Halong Bay([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ha\\_Long\\_Bay](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ha_Long_Bay)). Going on a good-sized junk type vessel (double-decker) to wander around the many Islands of Halong Bay. Such a beautiful place, stopping off at a couple of floating villages and going into one of the worlds largest caves. My wife stayed on the boat as it is over 100 steep steps to the cave; but it was amazing and nice and cool in the cave. They gave us lunch, then we started making our way home. We got back to the hotel at 7 pm.

The next day we were invited to go to meet the homestay's family. They lived on the ground floor of a high rise building about 40 stories high. His father owns the company that builds them. I had a nice big bunch of flowers for his wife, that's a great story. About lunchtime I went to the Old Quarter to buy some flowers. As Vietnam has world-class flowers they are easy to find. On asking how much I was told the prices. A young guy walking past asked me



where I was from. I said *oh New Zealand*. He said I've been there. With that he took over, asked me which bunch I liked. He then bargained and I got them under half the price I was going to pay.

The family took us out to a very upmarket hotel for an evening meal. Because we were classed as special guests the son was allowed to bring his girlfriend (now his wife). She sat next to me. She was very well dressed, in fact stunning!!!! I felt sorry for her as she did not speak and I got up enough courage to speak in Vietnamese and said *Oh you look very beautiful*. But I said it in the wrong tone - which meant I actually said *I want to make love to you*. There were 13 people around the table. All went silent then, had a good laugh. The girl was embarrassed.

After 6 days we flew to South Vietnam (Saigon now called Ho Chi-mIn City) where we meet another old homestay student. We stayed at a nice hotel where we were treated like the Royal family, but I will finish this part another time. Vietnam has nice food and friendly people.

**IAN SPURDLE**  
**FOUNDATION MEMBER OF NEW LYNN MEN'S PROBUS CLUB**  
**Vince Middeldorp**

Over the years I've bought light bulbs for my car and trailer from Spurdle Auto Electrical. The auto-electricians at the premises have always been helpful; something I greatly appreciate because people like me must be more of a nuisance to them than anything else.



The Spurdle Auto Electrical business is located at the top of Rosebank Road, just down from Blockhouse Bay Road.

Earlier this year Tom Lowndes gave me the records from New Lynn Men's Probus Club. When flicking through them, I was surprised to see that the founder of Spurdle Auto Electrical, Ian Spurdle, was a founding member of New Lynn Men's Probus Club and was also its first Treasurer.

The minute books from Tom show Ian Spurdle gave club speaker talks in March 1992 and again in June 2004.

In those talks Ian said he was born and educated in Auckland, married in Auckland and lived there all his life. From what we know about him, Ian lived what many would regard as the kiwi dream: a family, home ownership, holiday bach up north, and successful business.

Ian's story started in 1944, when he began his auto-electrical apprenticeship. Back in those days spare parts were often unobtainable and auto-electricians were making things such as the pieces required for the commutator on electric motor armatures.

Also in those days, the Auckland Electric Power Board was supplying Queen Street with DC power. Because neon lighting does not run on DC power, Ian worked on modifying small DC motors to provide the AC power needed to light up the neon advertising signs on the Queen Street shops.

In 1960 Ian started his own business in a small shed and in 1963 moved to a new building in Avondale's railway yard. This would have to be the same building that Spurdle Auto Electrical operates out of today.

Repairing Lucas equipment on English cars kept Ian and his staff busy and spare parts were stocked to suit. Ian said in his 2004 talk that this situation no longer exists. Auto electricians now have to continually buy in parts because of the myriad different cars from different countries on New Zealand roads.

Ian was involved in Rotary for a time and played in a brass band for 29 years. The minutes do not record the instrument he played or the brass band that he played in – only that it was Auckland's pre-eminent brass band.

Ian lived for 46 years in Whitney Street and his bach was in Buckletons Bay, which is 17 km out from Warkworth. One of his pastimes was small boat sailing.

In 1988 Ian sold his business but not the building. He was therefore able to supplement his retirement income with a rental income. In 2001 Ian moved from Whitney Street to Pah Road to be nearer his family. Despite now living in Epsom he remained a member of New Lynn Men's Probus Club.

The minutes show Ian attended some of the monthly meetings of New Lynn Men's Probus Club in 2010 but none in 2011. He didn't, however, resign from the Club because every meeting in 2011 shows him recorded as an apology.

In 2011 Ian sold his building to the current owners of Spurdle Auto Electrical. Also that same year he passed away. The minutes of Friday 9 September 2011 record: *Members stood in respectful silence for Foundation member Ian Spurdle who passed away on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2011. Ian who had been the Club's Foundation Treasurer and also Trips Organiser in 1977, had been ill for some time.*

My interest in Ian Spurdle’s story results from more than the connection between the auto electrical business on Rosebank Road and the founding of New Lynn Men’s Probus Club. I delivered newspapers after school in the 1960s. One of the streets on my round was Whitney Street: Spurdle at 103 Whitney Street was on my round. I knew Ian Spurdle by sight when I was a teenager.

Thanks for that Vince. Looks like you have a gold mine of interesting material for the Newsletter. If other members have such stories to tell, please share them with the rest of us, via the Newsletter.

As a personal aside, back in the days when I still drove my car and it needed an auto electrician (more often than I would have liked!), Spurdle was my go-to auto electrician.

**TREATMENT OF COVID-19**  
**Vince Middeldorp**



In the October issue of the newsletter I wrote about a small randomized study of Fluvoxamine for the early treatment of COVID-19 published in the Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA).

In that study 0 of 80 patients in the Fluvoxamine group ended up requiring hospitalization. In the placebo group 6 of 72 patients required hospitalization.

The result of that study published in JAMA resulted in a much larger study, this one published in the UK’s prestigious Lancet Medical Journal on October 27, 2021.



In this study the researchers recruited 1,497 patients in outpatient clinics who tested positive for SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19.

All the participants were at high risk of severe disease, for example, due to hypertension, diabetes, or obesity.

The researchers randomly assigned 741 patients to take Fluvoxamine and 756 to take placebo pills.

Overall, there were 17 deaths in the Fluvoxamine group and 25 deaths in the placebo group. These results are nowhere near as good as those from the smaller study.

However, for the subset of patients who took the medication as instructed (defined as taking at least 80% of the doses), there was only one death in the Fluvoxamine group compared with 12 deaths in the placebo group.

Fluvoxamine costs \$4 for a course of COVID-19 treatment. By comparison, Merck's experimental antiviral pill for COVID-19 Molnupiravir costs \$700 per course (these amounts are in US dollars).



Pharmac has negotiated an agreement with Merck to purchase an initial supply of 60,000 courses of Molnupiravir for New Zealand, subject to the treatment gaining regulatory approval from Medsafe.

Looking at what they do, I think the two drugs could be used in combination. Molnupiravir stops the first stage of the disease, viral replication, and Fluvoxamine stops the second stage of the disease, hyper inflammation. The third stage of the disease, thrombosis (blood clotting), can be treated with full dose aspirin for thirty days.

For the sake of completeness, the **Ministry of Health’s recommendation** for the early treatment of COVID-19 **dated November 5, 2021**, is to use budesonide. The cost of one Pulmicort Turbuhaler® containing budesonide is listed by PHARMAC on the Online Pharmaceutical Schedule - September 2021 at \$32.00. One device per patient meets the proposed treatment plan.



The recommendation to use budesonide results from the STOIC trial published in the Lancet on April 9, 2021. In the STOIC trial the primary outcome (an urgent care visit or hospitalization) occurred in ten of 70 participants in the usual care group and one of 69 participants in the budesonide group. Putting it another way, early treatment with budesonide resulted in an 87 percent reduction in urgent care or hospitalization for those with COVID-19.



### ***JOKES FROM LAURIE VINCENT***

Mick: *I've been going to night classes every night for 5 months now.*  
Paddy: *Oh!*  
Mick: *For example, do you know who Alexander Graham Bell is?*  
Paddy: *No.*  
Mick: *He's the inventor of the phone in 1876; if you took night classes you'd know this.*  
The next day,  
Mick: *Do you know who Alexander Dumas is?*  
Paddy: *No.*  
Mick: *He's the author of "The Three Musketeers". If you took night classes, you'd know this.*  
The next day, once again,  
Mick: *And do you know who Jean-Jacques Rousseau is?*  
Paddy: *No.*  
Mick: *He's the author of The Confessions. If you took night classes, you'd know this.*  
This time, Paddy got irritated and said: *And you Mick ... do you know who Sean Reilly is?*  
Mick: *No.*  
Paddy: *He's the fellow who's bonking your wife! If you stopped going to night classes you'd know this!*

While enjoying their evening cocktails, the wife asks her husband, in a very seductive voice: *Have you ever seen twenty dollars all crumpled up?* No said her husband. She gave him a sexy little smile, unbuttoned the top 3 buttons of her blouse, and slowly reached down into the cleavage created by a soft, silky push-up bra, and pulled out a crumpled twenty dollar bill. He took the crumpled bill from her and smiled approvingly. She then asked him: *Have you ever seen fifty dollars all crumpled up?* Uh...no, I haven't he said, with an anxious tone in his voice. She gave another sexy little smile, pulled up her skirt, and seductively reached into her tight, sheer panties, and pulled out a crumpled fifty dollar bill. He took the crumpled fifty dollar bill and started breathing a little quicker with anticipation. Now she said *have you ever seen \$50,000 all crumpled up?* He said: *No!* trying to hide his anticipation.  
She said: *Check the garage.*

I took my 76 year-old dad to the mall the other day to buy some new shoes. We decided to grab a bite at the food court. I noticed he was watching a teenager sitting next to him. The teenager had spiked hair in all different colours – green, red, orange, and blue. My dad kept staring at her. The teenager kept looking and would find my dad staring every time. When the teenager had had enough, she sarcastically asked: *What's the matter old man, never done anything wild in your life?* Knowing my dad, I quickly swallowed my food so that I would not choke on his response. I knew he would have a good one! In classic style he responded without batting an eyelid: *Got stoned once and had sex with a parrot. I was just wondering if you're my kid...*

A body builder takes off his shirt and a blonde says: *Wow, what a great chest you have.* He says *100lbs of dynamite babe.* He takes off his pants and the blonde says: *What massive calves you have.* He replies: *That's 100lbs of dynamite babe.* He then removes his underwear and the blonde goes running screaming in fear. He puts his clothes on and chases behind her. He catches her and asks why she ran like that. She replies: *I was afraid to be around all that dynamite after I saw how short the fuse was!.*

### ***MORE FROM LAURIE***

In spite of lockdown, time has gone really fast and hopefully we will soon be operating as usual once again. Until then, some interesting items.

**BENJAMIN FERENZ** interview 2017, YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zwa4zRWDsvI>

This remarkable man now aged 102 is worth watching in a 17 minute interview by *60 Minutes* in 2017.

### **SPORT: RUGBY**

I watched the 1956 rugby test between New Zealand and South Africa at Eden Park in front of 61,240 fans.

New Zealand lock forward Tiny White was assisted from the field with a serious back injury only 1cm from causing possibly being crippled for life.

Jaap Bekker admitted many years later, when close to death, that he was responsible for the kick and had agonised for so long about the incident. Bekker died in 2013.

### **ATHLETICS:**

In 1945 Sweden was neutral during the war and its athletes were able to train without interruptions.

This year Gundar Haegg set a world mile record of 4min 1.4 secs.

In August 2020 Joshua Cheptegei of Uganda set a world record for 5000m (3miles 188 yards) record of 12 min 35.6 secs. This time has a mile average of 4 mins 1.6 secs, demonstrating a huge advance in sustained speed due to a massive increase in endurance.



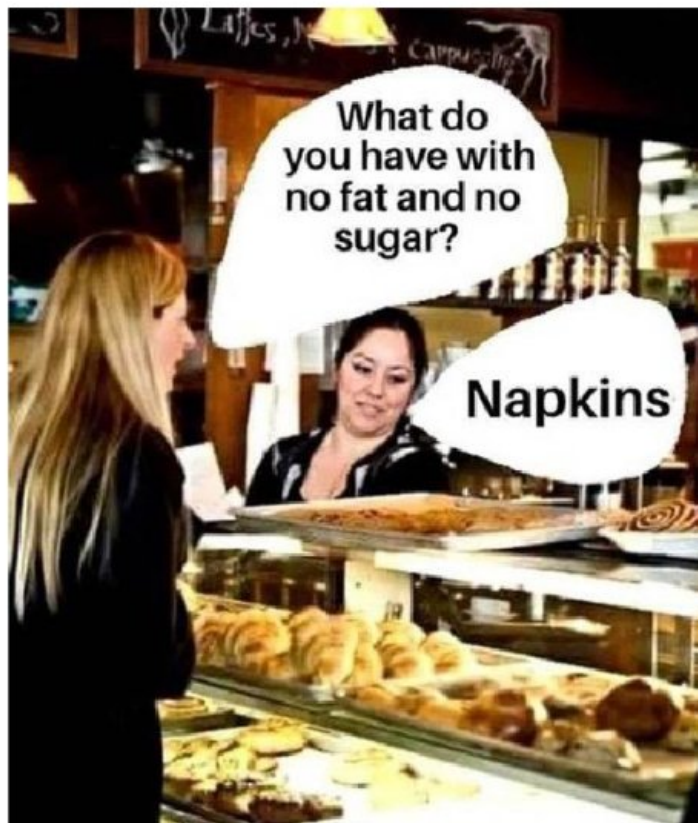
## YACHTING: 1979

The Fastnet Admirals Cup race of 605 miles from Cowes to Fastnet Rock to Plymouth via south of the Isles of Scilly, was held with 303 yachts competing. A storm on the third day wreaked havoc on the fleet.

Emergency services, naval forces, civilian vessels from around the west side of the English Channel were summoned to aid the largest ever rescue operation in peace time. It involved 4000 people, including the entire Irish naval services fleet, life boats and helicopters, RAF Nimrod jets, Royal Navy ships and a Dutch warship. 125 yachtsmen were picked up but 15 yachtsmen and 4 spectators died.

I've always been impressed by the men and women who compete in long distance yacht races. They do what they enjoy, but they have to watch the weather, don't they?

**FROM RAY BARRETT**



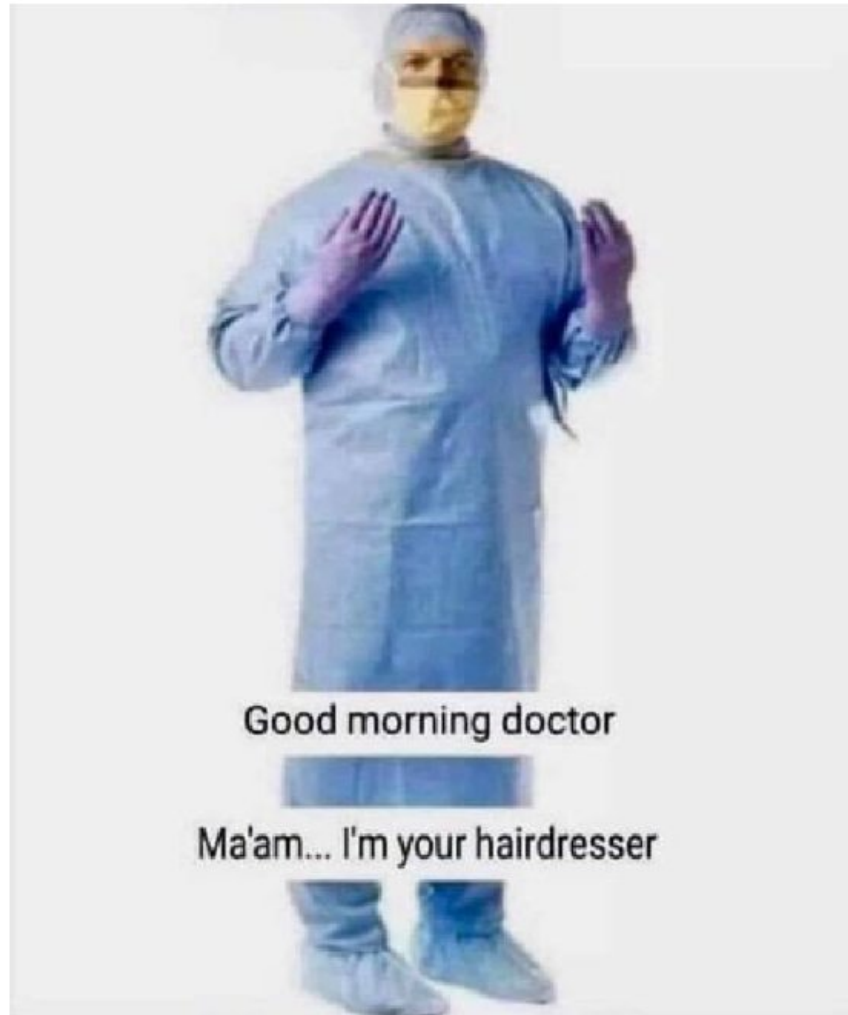
So many people these days are too judgemental.

I can tell just by looking at them.



**I'm always  
disappointed when  
a liar's pants don't  
actually catch  
on fire.**





Good morning doctor

Ma'am... I'm your hairdresser



Day 12 of Coronavirus quarantine... I found a new hobby "toilet paper art."



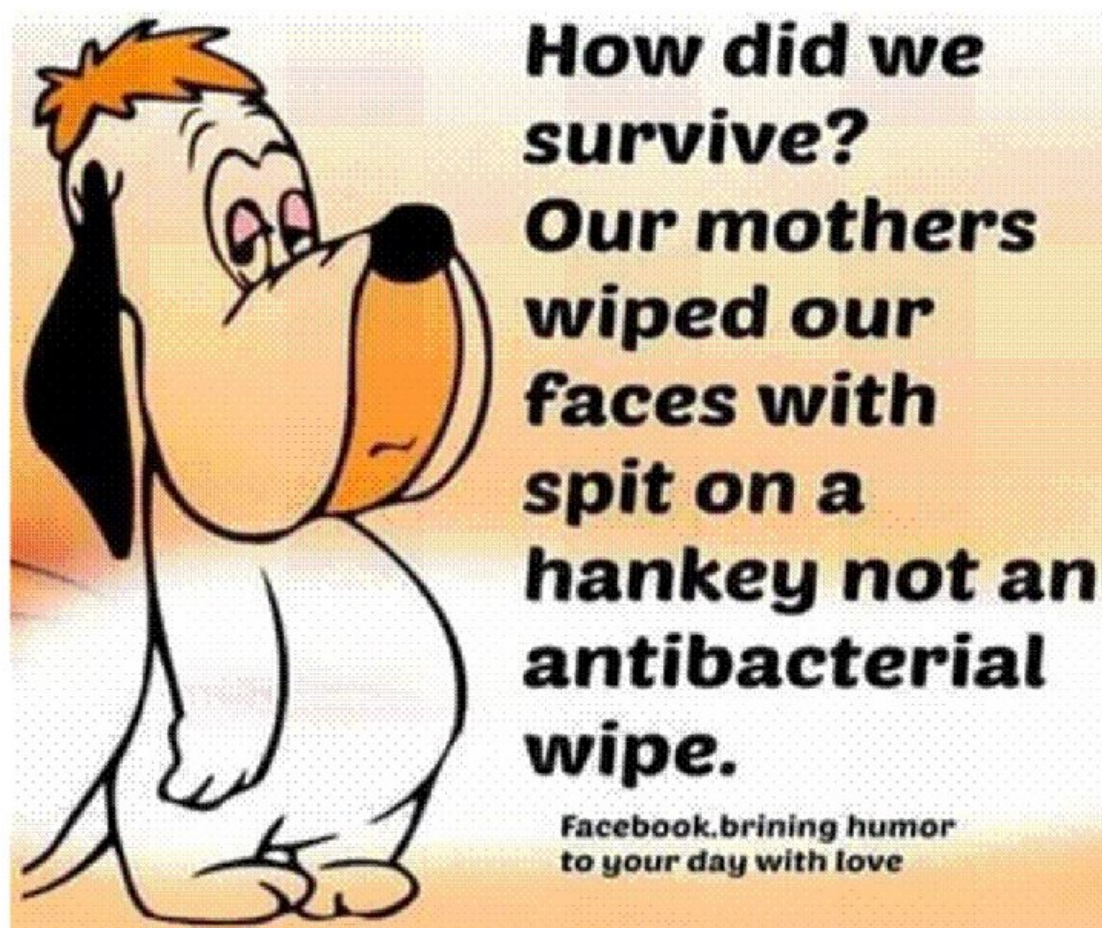
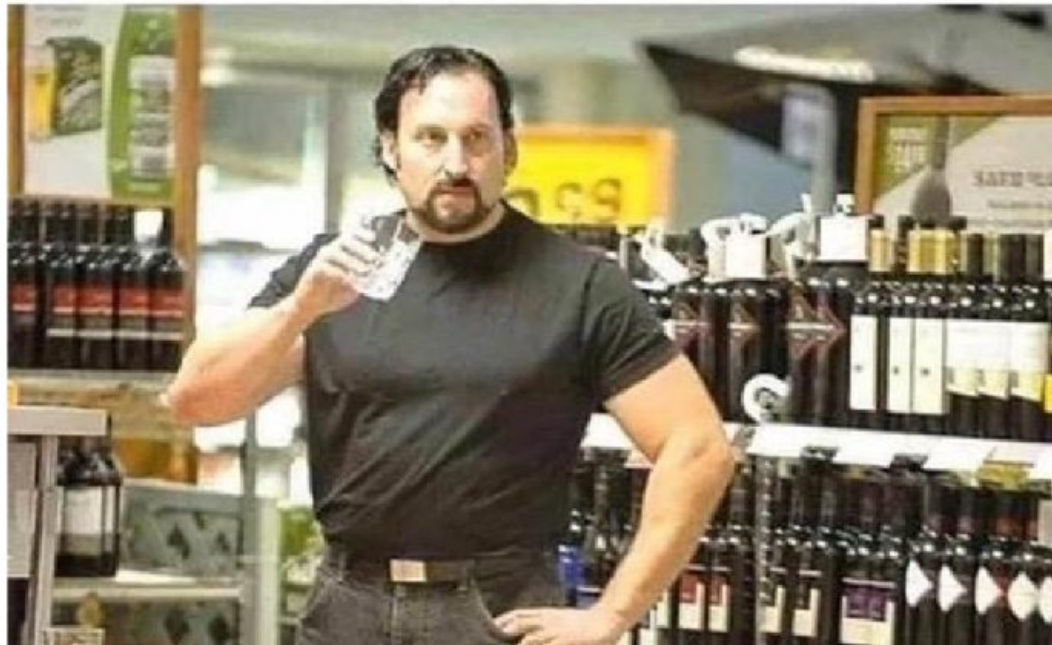
Week 6 of quarantine:





me: how much is the rent for  
this gorgeous apartment?

"sir, this is a liquor store."





**I asked my Doctor today how long he thinks this COVID thing will last. He responded with: "How should I know? I'm a doctor, not a politician".**







Are you drinking more alcohol  
than usual during quarantine?

Yes ☐

No ☐

X

It's called quarantine coffee. It's just like normal coffee but it has margarita in it and also no coffee.





**MOST PEOPLE  
DON'T THINK I'M  
AS OLD AS I AM  
UNTIL THEY HEAR  
ME STAND UP**

Like i was saying, the circus is just one of my careers. The real money comes from frosted flakes



I wanna be  
14 again and  
ruin my life  
differently.  
I have new  
ideas.

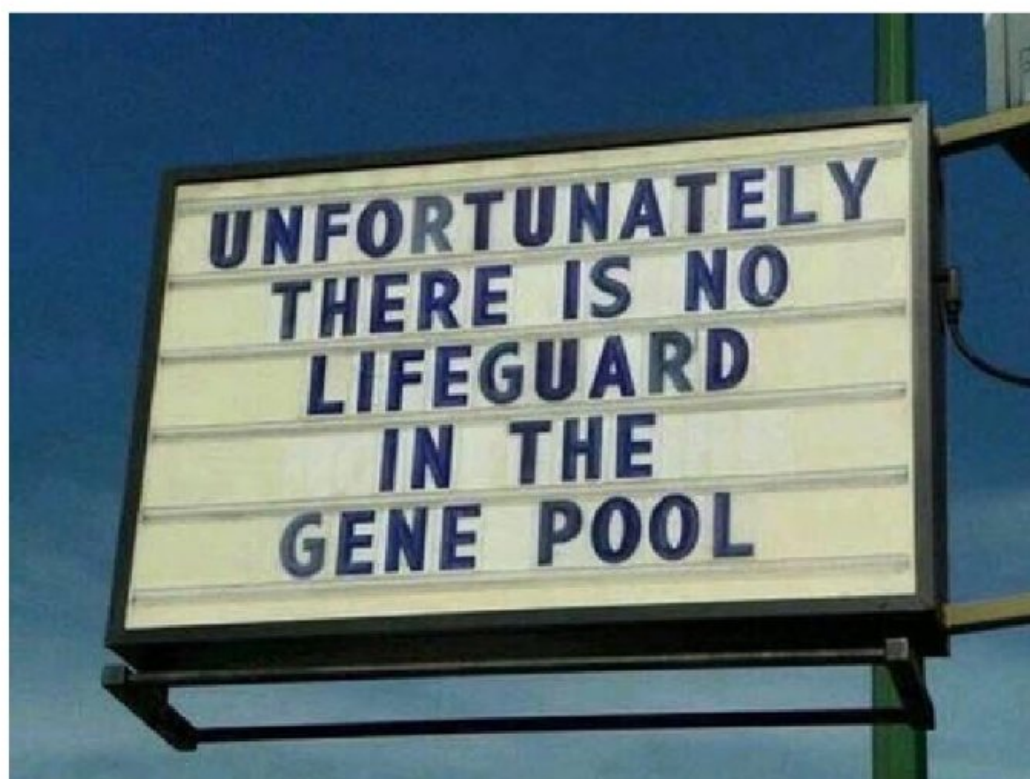
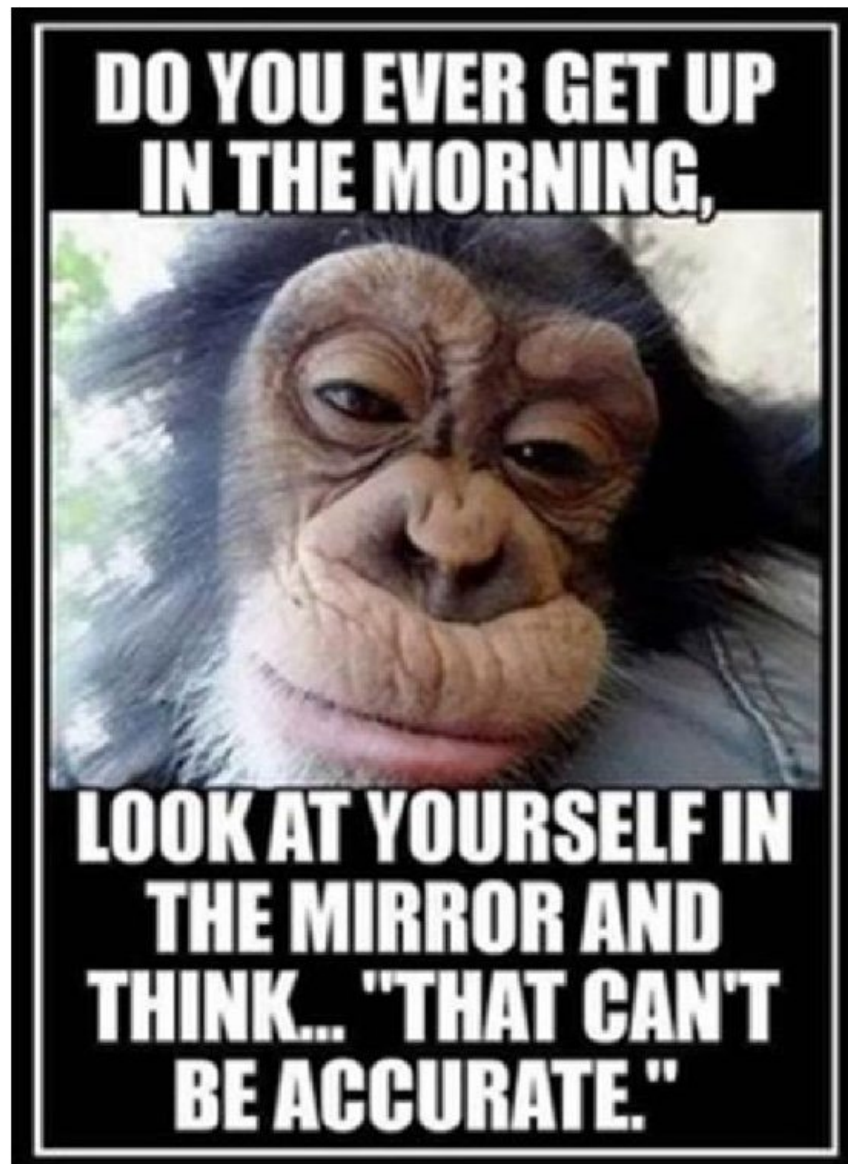
FOR THOSE THAT HAVE  
NEVER SEEN A  
CATFISH !!



I really don't  
mind getting  
older, but my  
body is taking  
it badly.







GETTING OLDER IS  
JUST ONE BODY PART  
AFTER ANOTHER  
SAYING, 'HA HA, YOU  
THINK THAT'S BAD?  
WATCH THIS.'

IF YOU REMEMBER PUMPING GAS  
BEHIND YOUR LICENSE PLATE....  
YOU MUST BE REALLY OLD! 🖐️😊





## **CLAUDIA'S CORNER**

See President's Report, above.

## **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](mailto: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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> 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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 10<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. 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](http://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**

No quiz, no answers.



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Here is a list of FAQs to which answers have been supplied. If you have any other questions, please use the **"Contact Us" button** on the Home page and email us your inquiry. We aim to answer all questions with 48 hours.

**Q. How much does it cost to become a member of a Rebus Club?**

*A. An annual membership subscription varies from Club to Club. They normally range between \$20 and \$40.*

**Q. Are there any other charges?**

*A. Most Clubs charge a one-off joining fee of between \$5 - \$20.*

**Q. How do I apply to become a member?**

*A. A membership application form is made available from your selected Club for completion. It usually requires a Nominator and Secunder. If you are not known to any Club member, you will be advised as to how to meet this requirement.*

**Q. How do I get in touch with my nearest Club?**

*A. Click on the "List of Affiliated Clubs" button on this site's Homepage. Here you will find contact telephone numbers of most Presidents and Secretaries.*

**Q. How many Rebus Clubs are there in NZ?**

*A. Fifty spread primarily throughout the North Island with three in the South Island.*

**Q. Can I start a Rebus Club in Australia?**

*A. The REBUS name has been trademarked in Australia and is available to any similar organization seeking affiliation.*

**Q. What capitation fees are charged by Rebus NZ to its affiliated Clubs?**

*A. The current fee per each Club's members is \$2.75. This is the lowest charged by similar Clubs in New Zealand.*



Q. How often do Clubs meet and must I attend all meetings?.

*A. Clubs meet monthly and whilst regular attendance is encouraged, it is not obligatory.*

Q. How long do meetings last?

*A. Most are held in the mornings between 9.30 and midday.*

Q. Will I be obliged to speak at meetings?

*A. Generally Clubs have a meeting format with a Club member giving a short 10-15 min talk about themselves or some interesting event in their lives. Participation is not obligatory, but warmly encouraged.*

Q. Will I be required to publicly fund-raise for worthy causes as occurs in many other Clubs such as Rotary, Lions etc?

*A. No. External fundraising is expressly prohibited by a Club's Constitution.*

Q. Can I see a copy of a Club's Constitution and By-laws.

*A. Rebus NZ provides its affiliates with a copy of an obligatory Constitution to qualify becoming a Rebus Club and an advisory set of By-laws. These may be viewed by clicking on the "Documents" button on this site's Home page.*

Q. Is Rebus affiliated to any political or religious organization.

*A. No, the Standard Constitution for affiliated Clubs (see above) states in Article II d) "It shall be non-political and non-sectarian. It shall not endorse any candidate for public office and shall not take corporate action at any meeting with the intention of influencing the policies or decisions of governments".*

Q. If I am single, may I join a Combined Club consisting of both men and women?

*A. Yes, you are free to choose that which may suit you best*

Q. If I join a single gender Club, but have a partner, can he or she attend Club meetings?

*A. No, but most Clubs have several activities during the year to which partners are welcome, e.g Mid-winter, or Christmas luncheon and outings.*

Q. Will I have to join a committee?

*A. Clubs always welcome new members, especially if they are willing to serve on a committee in the future. Again, the decision if invited to become a committee member, will be yours alone.*

Q. Is there any protection for Clubs if they or any of their members commit any negligent act which results in damage to the public's property?

*A. Yes. Cover is up to \$10million. See the "Liability Insurance" button on our home page.*

Q. Are there any travel insurance arrangements for members of Rebus Clubs?

*A. Yes, specialized cover for our age group is available on-line. See "Travel Insurance" button on our home page.*

Q. Are there regular communications between Rebus NZ and its affiliated Clubs?

*A. Yes there are currently two monthly publications which are emailed to the Officers of each Club which have provided email addresses.*

*The first is [Rebus Club News](#) which encompasses contributions submitted by individual Clubs consisting of reports on their activities and photos to illustrate. Clubs are encouraged to on-send Club News to their members as details of Speakers and Club activities can be very useful for local adoption.*

*The second is [Rebus Chronicles](#). This is intended for committee use only and is emailed to Club Officers as above. It deals with administrative matters.*

Q. Does Rebus NZ dictate how an affiliated Club runs its affairs?

*A. Provided club activities and objectives are conducted in accordance with the adopted obligatory Constitution. – No. Rebus believes in a "hands off" approach enabling Clubs to be self-governing.*

Q. Is Rebus NZ Inc financially secure?

*A. We consider absolute transparency is important and distribute a professionally reviewed annual Statement of Financial Performance to all affiliates within the month following our balance date. It is also uploaded to this website for public viewing and lodged with the Registrar of Incorporated Societies. See "Financial Report" button on our home page.*

Q. Does Rebus NZ hold an Annual General Meeting?

*A. Yes, in May each year attended by delegates from across NZ - as provided for and conducted as per our RULES.*



### ***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 December 2021  
COVID Permitting***

**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](mailto:vincemiddeldorp@gmail.com) or 828 5250). Vince is responsible for distribution, I for content. Any contributions are most welcome ([JohnMihaljevicNZ@gmail.com](mailto:JohnMihaljevicNZ@gmail.com)).

John Mihaljevic (Newsletter Editor)