



West Auckland Men's Rebus Club

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

Newsletter

AUGUST 2022

The next meeting will be at 10:00 am Friday 12 August at the New Lynn Friendship Hall, 3063 Great North Road, New Lynn

COMMITTEE

President	Bill Mutch	president@rebuswestauckland.nz	817 4721
Vice-President	Noel Rose	noelrose1976@gmail.com	828 1305
Immediate Past President	Bill Fairs	bill.fairs@gmail.com	627 8297
Secretary	Vince Middeldorp	secretary@rebuswestauckland.nz	828 5250
Treasurer	Charles Nicholls	treasurer@rebuswestauckland.nz	282 3104
Welfare Officer	Vacant		
Outings	Ian Smith	ismith435@gmail.com	027 4549343
Newsletter	Vacant		
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	Vacant		
Attendance	Stephen David	sj david55@gmail.com	21641717
Webmaster	Vince Middeldorp	vince@rebuswestauckland.nz	828 5250

CLUB BUSINESS



President Bill Mutch has been going through a rough patch. His report is on the next page.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(aka PRESIDENT'S PRATTLE)

Bill Mutch

It is Hello from me.

So many groups have shut down, please put an effort into the survey. It is your chance to let us know what you think.

I will not be attending the meeting as I have a hospital appointment I cannot change.

I have had a month of ill health, kidney issues, and shingles and I have had three trips to hospital with Covid-19 which it appears I got from my first visit.

So I have been out of touch.

Claudia and family have taken good care of me but all I wanted was to sleep.

Our Guest speaker sounds interesting.

August the 9th is my birthday so I will shout later.

Regards Bill Mutch

CLAUDIA'S CORNER

Did you hear about the actor who fell through the floor?

They were just going through a stage!!!.

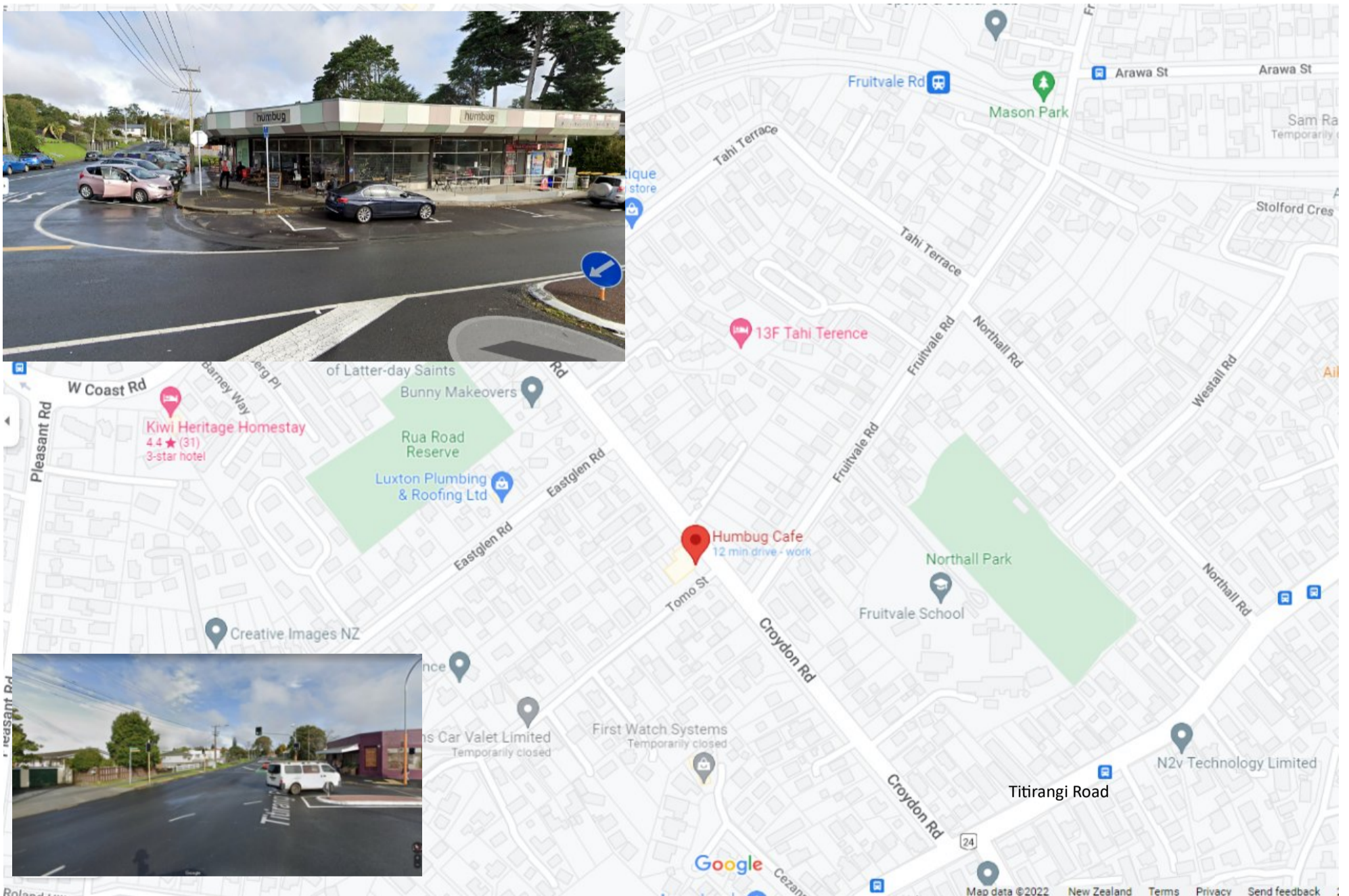
Why won't it hurt if you hit a friend with a 2 Litre bottle of coke?

Because it's a soft drink.

Hope that makes a smile. Claudia.

NEXT COFFEE MORNING

The next coffee morning is at Humbug Cafe, 32 Rua Road Glen Eden. The date is Thursday August 18th; time 10:00 am.



If you are coming by car from New Lynn, drive up Titirangi Road and turn right into Croydon Road at the traffic lights. Croydon Road and Rua Road are the same road. It is Croydon Road at the Titirangi end and Rua Road at the Glen Eden end.

If you are coming by train, alight at Fruitvale Road Station and walk down Fruitvale Road. It is 700 metres from the Train Station to Humbug cafe. That should take less than 10 minutes to walk.

MEETING REPORT JULY 2022
Vince Middeldorp



Bill Mutch on the microphone welcoming members to the meeting .

Bill Mutch welcomed 16 members to the meeting and blamed the low turnout on the weather.

Apologies were recorded for Neil Castle, Mensto De Roos, John Corban and Ray Barrett. There were no visitors.

The minutes of the previous meeting were signed by Bill Mutch. There were no matters arising from the previous meeting.

Correspondence items were an email from Kay Thomas chair of the local Whau Board and a Rebus Chronicles asking us to think seriously about carrying on with all the Covid-19 around. Treasurer Charles Nicholls suggested we poll all members one week before the next meeting to see if they want it called off.

Charles Nichols reported that we currently have a net surplus of \$290.07 over the year's income. The bank balance in the current account was \$729.62; the money in the cash box \$113.60; the money on term deposit \$1220.78.

Ian Smith described the lunch at Cheltenham as a big success but more so for Waitakere Rebus than West Auckland Rebus. He said Gold Card trips resulted in only a few members going along.

Bill Mutch asked if there was any general business. Vince Middeldorp showed what he was doing to get new members on the Facebook and Neighbourly websites, Community Hall and Library notice boards and in the Western Leader. His idea is to advertise the meetings and not the club.

Noel Rose said the speaker for next month would be Raymond Barrett's brother Senior Sergeant Bob Barrett.

Bill Mutch said the next meeting would be second Friday of the month 12 August.

Trevor Pollard provided tea, coffee and biscuits for the morning tea break.

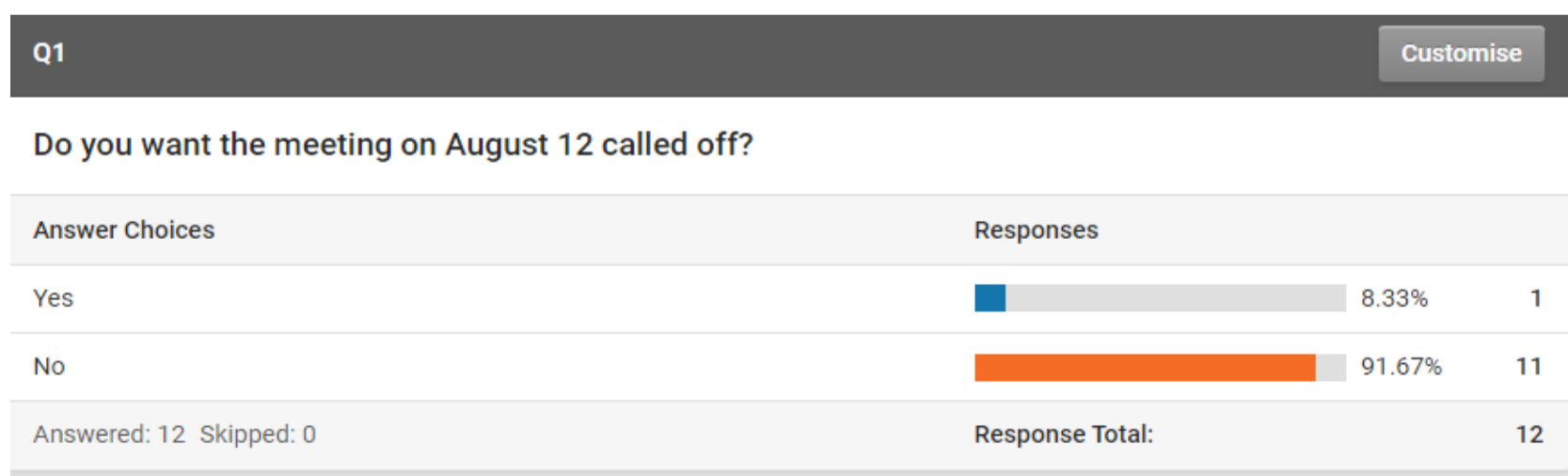
Guest speaker Phil Sai-Louie divided the members into four groups and conducted a 20 question quiz competition.

The meeting closed at 12.00 pm.

POLL RESULTS
Vince Middeldorp

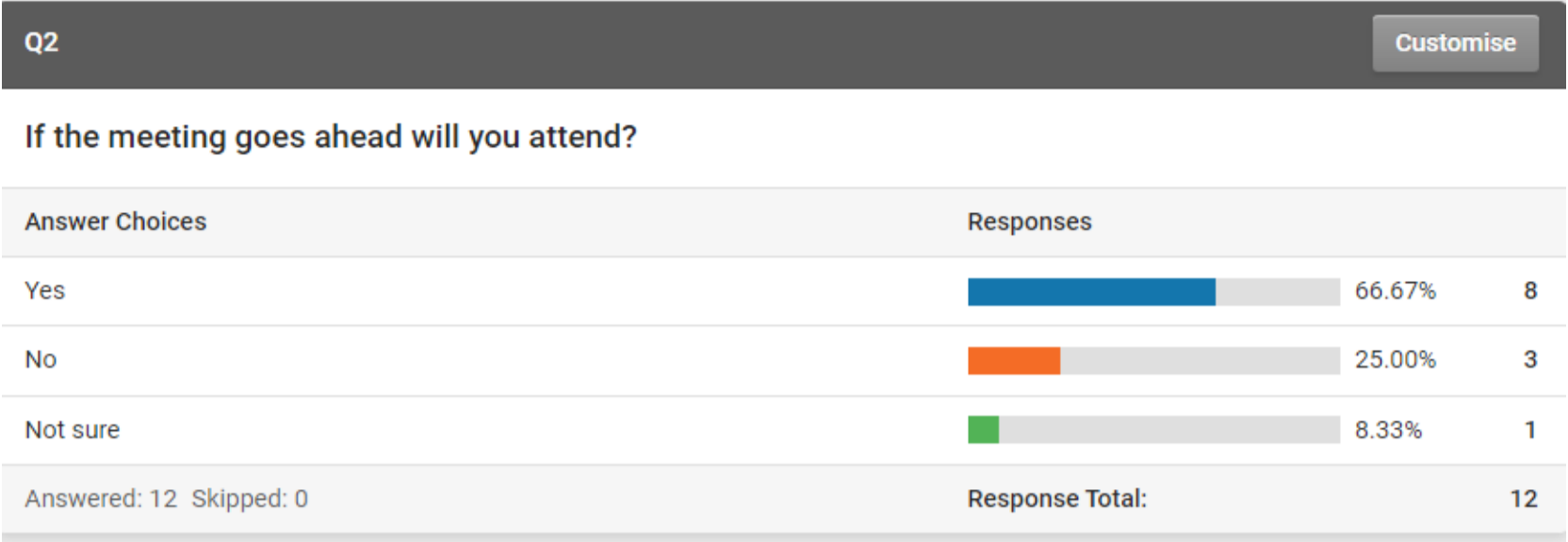
The suggestion was made at the July meeting to poll members by email one week before the August meeting. Based on the poll results the President and Secretary would then decide to whether to go ahead or call off the meeting.

The results of the poll are shown below.



The number of members who took part in the poll was disappointingly low. However those who took part voted overwhelmingly for the meeting to go ahead.

The only member who thought the meeting should be called off, said in response to the next question that he still might come along if the meeting was held.



You can’t read too much into three members saying they will not attend. Because of their circumstances two of these members never attend our meetings. It is good to see them still taking a keen interest in the club via our email correspondence and monthly newsletters.

When the Sendinblue dashboard is looked at it can be seen that the low response rate was not because members did not read the email. Twenty-two members opened the email and only eleven clicked on the link to take part in the poll.

Previous Campaigns

ID	NAME	RECIPIENTS	OPENERS	CLICKERS	UNSUBSCRIBED	SENT DATE	ACTIONS
#121	Survey	31 100%	22 71.43% Details	11 35.48%	0 0%	04 Aug, 2022	<div><div>Report</div><div>Preview</div></div>
#120	Rebus Club News July 2022	31 100%	23 75% Details	7 22.58%	0 0%	02 Aug, 2022	<div><div>Report</div><div>Preview</div></div>
#119	Coffee Morning	31 100%	23 75% Details	0 0%	0 0%	26 Jul, 2022	<div><div>Report</div><div>Preview</div></div>
#118	July 2022 Newsletter	39 100%	35 90.91% Details	18 46.15%	0 0%	05 Jul, 2022	<div><div>Report</div><div>Preview</div></div>

The reason there are twelve responses and only eleven members shown as having clicked the link to take part in the poll, is that one member was asked in person what he wanted to vote for and his response was entered manually.

For those that are interested in this dashboard, there are two mailing lists, one with 31 names and the other 39 names. The one used for the newsletter has more names because it includes former members of the club.

Openers are people who we can assume are reading the emails we send to them. The way it works is that there are images (e.g. photos) in the covering emails sent out with the newsletters or in this case with the link to the poll webpage. These images are not part of the email. They are instantaneously downloaded into the email from a server when the email is opened. The server records who the image was supplied to. Clicking on the blue Report button generates a list of names showing who has, and who has not, read the email. In this case we only went so far as to look at the tally of those who read the email.

EVENT REPORT

SENIOR NETWORK PROVIDERS EVENT

Vince Middeldorp

Next time there is a Senior Provider’s Network day at the New Lynn Community Hall, I will be telling all our members to go along and have a look around.

Various organizations such as The Heart Foundation, Bowel Cancer NZ, Prostate Cancer Foundation, Age Concern NZ and Communicare were there providing information.

There were plenty of tables and chairs where people could sit down and free morning tea and coffee was provided during the whole of the two hours.

Treasurer Charles Nicholls and I were at the event with information on West Auckland Men’s Rebus Club. We had no competition from either the Probus Clubs or Friendship Clubs.

It turns out that Charles is an excellent hustler. We ended up with five names and email addresses of potential new members. All resulted from his button-holing men in the Community Hall who looked like membership prospects.

Auckland City Councillor Tracy Mulholland told me that it was good to see Senior Network Provider's Day, which was started during her time as Chair of the Whau Local Board, being carried on by the current Local Board.



Auckland City Councillor Tracy Mulholland speaking at the Senior Network Provider's Day. Charles Nicholls in the grey jacket and blue mask is standing in front of our information table.

GUEST SPEAKER

JULY MEETING

Vince Middeldorp

Phil Sai-Louie's estimate is that he has given around 300 talks to Probus, Rebus, Friendship and historical societies.

That explains how, when July's scheduled speaker needed to be replaced, Phil Sai-Louie was able to step into the speaker's slot at virtually a moment's notice.



Phil Sai-Louie explaining how the quiz will be conducted. Note the blue and yellow crunchie box on the table.

As mentioned earlier in the meeting report, fears of catching Omicron and a wet winter's day resulted in only sixteen members attending the meeting. Remarkably Phil knew two of them. Trevor Pollard was on a seven day historical society trip to the Wairarapa which Phil went on many years ago. Charles Nicholls was in the same cricket team as Phil at Auckland Boy's Grammar.

The expectation was that Phil would give one of his regular talks, such as surnames of the British Isles. However he chose not to do that and instead organised a quiz.

Everyone in the room was put into one of four groups and the groups competed against each other. All the quiz questions were multi-choice. The group with the most correct answers was promised a “fantastic prize.”

After asking a question, Phil asked each group which answer they had selected. He periodically gave out the current score. The group leading early in the contest did not hold on to win. After the first five questions all the groups were equal on two points.

It was possible to game the system a little because each group would be asked in turn for an answer. The last group to answer had the benefit knowing what answer the other groups had chosen and making a last minute change. To mitigate against this unfairness, Phil alternated the order in which the groups were called on for their answers.

My expectation, based on what I observed in the quizzes conducted by Tom Miller, was that the team with John Mihaljevic in it was a shoe-in to win. John knows the answer to things that no one else would ever know. However that did not happen.

The group that won consisted of Ian Smith, Peter Cox, Andrew Narayan and myself. There was a question involving Lotus cars which Ian Smith nailed and two UK pop music questions which Peter Cox was sure about, having lived in England during the pop music era.

The quiz was lively and a lot of fun. There was even some mayhem when Phil made the final question worth six points, so that the team running last could get up to win. To everyone’s surprise not one team got the last question correct. That meant the team in the lead with one question to go, and who had protested loudest about awarding six points for the last question, ended up winning.



*The team that won the blue and yellow box of crunchie bars.
Ian Smith, Peter Cox, Vince Middeldorp and Andrew Narayan (obsured)*

The following are the questions from the quiz.

- (1) Which country was invaded by Soviet forces in 1968? Was it Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Afghanistan, or Georgia.
- (2) What is it called in golf when the score for a hole is two below par? Is a birdie, eagle, bogie, or albatross.
- (3) Which type of snake is responsible for 82% of snake bite fatalities in the United States? It is the rattlesnake, copper-head, cotton-mouth, or coral snake.
- (4) Which country is regarded as the primary practitioner of the sport of polo? Is it the England, United States, India, or Argentina.
- (5) In the 1960’s who did Jane Asher have a five year relationship with? Was it Paul McCartney, Ringo Starr, Bill Wyman, or Adam Faith.
- (6) Who played the part of Spartacus, the rebel leader of the Roman slaves, in the 1960 movie? Was it Charlton Heston, Tony Curtis, Kirk Douglas, or Burt Lancaster.
- (7) The song, “You’ll never walk alone,” came from which Rodgers and Hammerstein musical? Was it South Pacific, The King and I, Carousel, Oklahoma, or Cinderella.
- (8) Pattie Boyd left her husband Beattle George Harrison for which other musician? Was it Eric Clapton, Rod Stewart, Manfred Mann, or David Bowie.
- (9) The movie Braveheart was about which historical person. Was it William Wallace, Robert the Bruce, Bonnie Prince Charlie, or King William the third of Scotland known as The Lion.
- (10) After World War 2 some Nazis went on trial for war crimes in which place? Was it Berlin, Hamburg, Potsdam, Nuremburg, or Auschwitz.
- (11) Which war time pin-up insured her legs for one million dollars? Was it Betty Grable, Hedy Lamarr, Veronica Lake, Rita Hayworth, or Jane Russell.
- (12) What was the Lotus Climax of 1960? Was it a type of water plant, a grand prix car, a rock band, or a book about sexual technique.
- (13) The eleventh of November in the United States is known by what name. Is it veteran’s day, remembrance day, armistice day, patriot’s day, or thanksgiving day.
- (14) In which country did Butch Cassidy and Sundance die? Was it Peru, Paraguay, Ecuador, or Bolivia

- (15) Mabel Howard the New Zealand MP is famous for holding up what item of woman's clothing in the New Zealand Parliament in 1954? Was it a brassiere, corset, bloomers, men's Y front underpants, or suspenders.
- (16) What did John Harrington install for Queen Elizabeth 1st at Richmond Palace in 1591? Was it a bay window, French doors, flushing toilet, or central heating.
- (17) How did Brian Jones of the Rolling Stones die in 1963? Was it a drug overdose, car crash, cancer, or drowned.
- (18) Who did Floyd Patterson beat to win the world heavyweight boxing title in 1960? Was it Mohammed Ali also known as Cassius Clay, Sonny Liston, Sugar Ray Robinson, or Ingemar Johansson.
- (19) In 1960 Penguin Books were tried under obscenity rules for publishing which book? Was it Lady Chatterley's Lover, Fanny Hill, Loleta, The Country Girls, or Kama Sutra.
- (20) According to bra manufacturers, women from which country have the biggest busts? Is it Samoa, Italy, United States, New Zealand, or United Kingdom.

Answers (1) Czechoslovakia (2) eagle (3) rattlesnake (4) Argentina (5) Paul McCartney (6) Kirk Douglas (7) Carousel (8) Eric Clapton (9) William Wallace (10) Nuremburg (11) Betty Grable (12) a grand prix car (13) veteran's day (14) Bolivia (15) bloomers (16) flushing toilet (17) drowned (18) Ingemar Johansson (19) Lady Chatterley's Lover (20) United Kingdom

ERIC STRICKETT

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR NZ HERALD 29 JULY 2022

Vince Middeldorp



Eric Strickett leans on his walking stick as members set out to leave from a coffee morning at The Falls Bistro on 1 July 2022

Those of us who look through the letters to the editor in the NZ Herald might have noticed a letter from Eric Strickett published on Friday 29 July 2022.

When West Auckland Rebus Club was meeting at the Kelston Community Hall, Eric was always there giving out the name badges and collecting them in at the end of the meeting.

Eric can't walk on his old legs from the New Lynn Station to the Friendship Hall for the monthly meetings but does his best to catch up with members and wives when coffee mornings are held at venues close to Waitakere Gardens. Eric was the first member to reply to the survey when it was sent out.

Well coached
Regarding the letter "School scruffiness" from Anna Murphy (NZ Herald, July 28), I travel by train on the Western line in Auckland and I would say it depends on

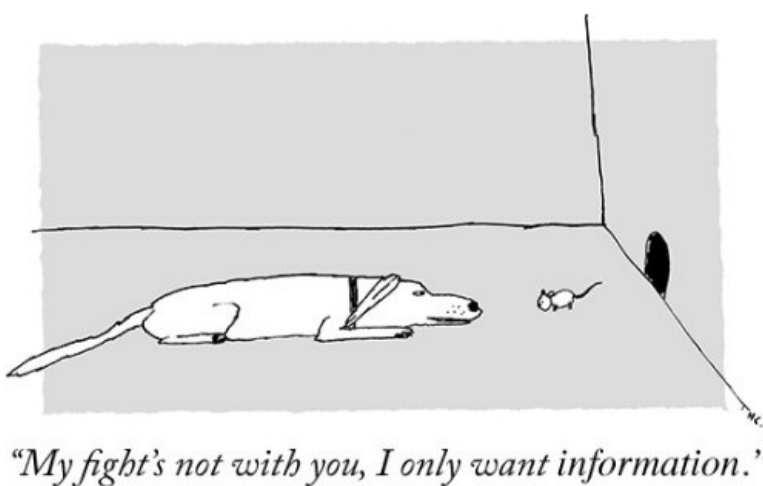
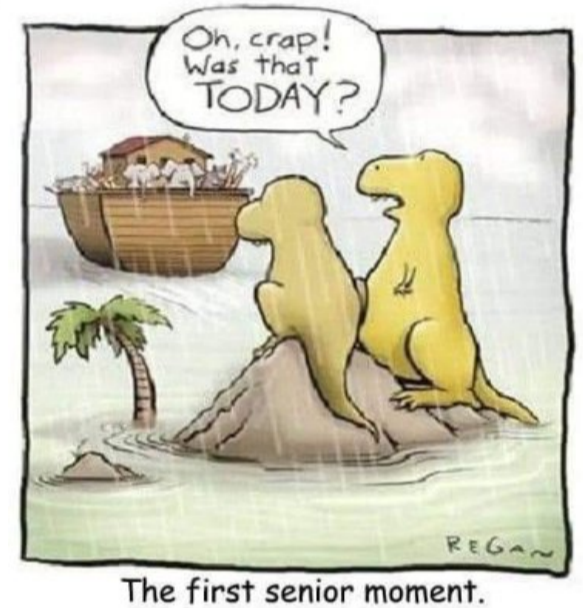
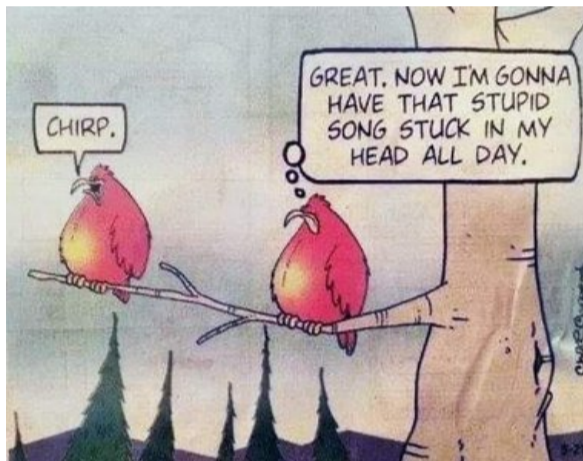
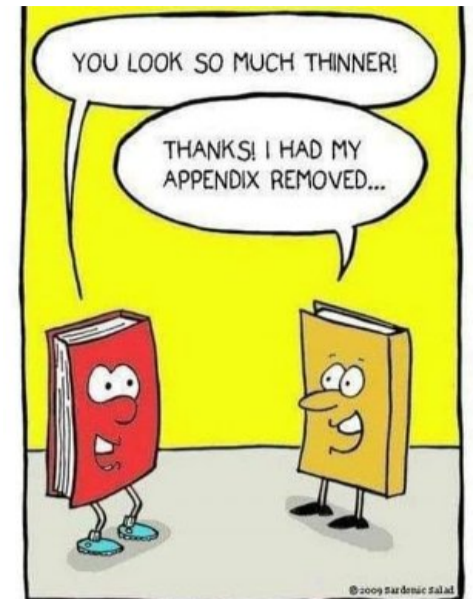
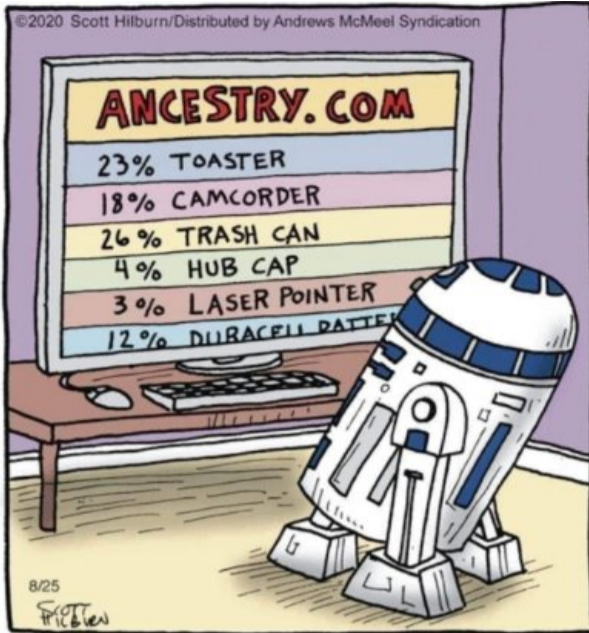
what school students go to.

In my opinion, nearly all students are tidy and well-mannered – a credit to themselves, schools and parents. Sure they can be noisy but that's to be expected, having been inside classrooms most of the day.

To all students travelling on the Western line, I say, "you are a great group of young adults".

Eric Strickett, Henderson.

CARTOONS



OTHER

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 <https://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.

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. It is held in the Red Poppy Room at Henderson RSA. A \$2 donation will give you morning tea and 3 chances of a small prize.

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.

SUPERSENIORS

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

SUPPORTERS

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



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



We are all grateful for their support.

***Our meetings are held on the second Friday of the month
at the New Lynn Friendship Hall 3063 Great North Road***

The September Meeting date is Friday 9 September 2022

If anyone has any views, opinions, information, requests or questions they want to share with members, please do not hesitate to send them to vince@rebuswestauckland.nz, so that they can be included in the Newsletter. Remember, it is YOUR Newsletter: feel free to contribute to it as you will.