



## REBUS CLUB OF KHANDALLAH

AFFILIATED WITH REBUS NZ INCORPORATED ([www.rebus.nz](http://www.rebus.nz))

<https://khandallahrebus.wixsite.com/khandallahrebusclub>

### Newsletter

August 2023

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**REBUS MEETING: 25 August, 2023, at 10 am, at the Khandallah Bowling Club**

**SHORT TALK:** David Hutton

**Guest Speaker:** Sue Barker, director of Sue Barker Charities Law, - "Charities - the Tide of Change?"

**Vote of thanks:** Marilyn Morris

**REBUS MEETING: 29 September 2023, at 10 am, at the Khandallah Bowling Club**

**SHORT TALK:** Helen Kennard

**Guest Speaker:** Kelly Fox. "Let's Keep Wellington Traffic Moving." Kelly is one of two Managing Directors of The Traffic Fox Ltd, Admin of the Facebook Group "Traffic Updates - Horowhenua Kapiti Wellington."

#### FROM THE PRESIDENT

It always gives me much pleasure to induct new members because it indicates that your club is in good heart. That is thanks to enthusiastic members who bring their friends along and to the hard-working committee that you have elected for the activities they arrange for you. So again, welcome to our new members, Christine McKenna and Pradip Manchanda. I look forward to hearing more about your backgrounds and thus your likely contributions to the club. The regular stories that Heather Nelson manages to get into the "Independent Herald" also help to publicise our club.

At our August meeting, I hope to induct Kaye McKinlay as a new member. We also have had several visitors who may become members. All very encouraging signs.

Although the Prime Minister Chris Hipkins announced the "formal end" of all pandemic-related public health orders on 14 August, please remember that Covid-19 is still around and produces new variants. The latest ones are EG.5 and EG.5.1. See Dr Siouxie Wiles' article "The case for keeping mandatory isolation" in "The Post" on 14 August. Infectious diseases and pandemic expert Professor Michael Baker also says that smart precautions should continue. So if you feel vulnerable, please continue with your safety precautions, because nobody is bullet-proof.

At our most recent Committee Meeting, we resolved that:

*If Club Members wish to cancel after the date of tickets having been bought by the Theatre Coordinator, the ticket holder(s) will be responsible for finding someone else to take their ticket if they can no longer attend. This does not need to be a Rebus member. The Theatre Coordinator will not provide a refund.*

*If there is time, the Theatre Coordinator (Peter Clemerson) will ask the Communications Administrator (Heather Nelson) to send out an email to all Club Members advising them of the availability of the ticket(s). If someone steps forward, they will reimburse the original ticket holder(s) directly.*

Peter Clemerson emphasised that Circa Theatre does not give refunds either. See also the entry under "Theatre Visits" in this Newsletter.

Enjoy reading your Newsletter.

Looking forward to seeing you on Friday 25 August.

Best wishes,

Nick

## MEETING REMINDERS

- Please remember to wear your **name-tag**. And could you check – have you written contact details (in case of accident) on the reverse of your name-tag? If not, please do so.
- Masks are optional for our meeting, and yes, morning tea / coffee will be provided.
- We aim to keep the room well ventilated.
- Please, stay home if you are unwell.
- If you can, send an apology to **Vice President Judy Whiteside**,  
Phone: 027 607 5114, or 479 5051; or email: [judy.whiteside@xtra.co.nz](mailto:judy.whiteside@xtra.co.nz)  
Judy will also welcome advance notice of any visitors to our meetings.

## VISITS/EVENTS

A visit to **Bench Space** is planned for **Thursday 21st of September at 10:30 am**.

Address: *21 Brooklyn Rd, Mt Cook* (situated in the Central Park Apartments at the bottom of Brooklyn Hill). The entrance is up a flight of stairs.

There is coupon parking on Brooklyn Rd, free for 2 hours at this time of day, or use public transport.

**Bench Space** is a new, Council supported, initiative created by volunteers which provides a community woodworking space. They built planter boxes and pallet furniture for the FIFA World Cup. Our hosts will be Ted Cizadlo, who has a background in instrument making, and possibly John Schmidt, a violin maker, who will talk about their craft and show us what Bench Space hopes to offer the community.

We suggest a Koha of \$10 pp to go towards the funding of this enterprise.

To register for this visit, please do so at the Rebus meeting on August 25th or contact Jenny:  
email: [corneliusj746@gmail.com](mailto:corneliusj746@gmail.com) Phone 479 8669 or 027 272 5659

New members please note: spouses/partners are welcome on most trips, visits, and events.

## Theatre Visits

Two theatre visits are planned for the near future, both to circa:

1. ***The importance of being Ernest*** by Oscar Wilde on the 2<sup>nd</sup> November.
2. ***The Bicycle and the Butcher's Daughter*** by Helen Moulder & Sue Rider on the 9<sup>th</sup> November, directed by Sue Rider and with a solo performance by Helen Moulder.

Members interested to going to either of these performance will be invited to give their names to Peter Clemerson at the September meeting.

## Cancer Society - Daffodil Day - Friday 25th August



Daffodils from the Cancer Society will be available at our REBUS meeting on Friday.

If you would like to make a donation to the Cancer Society please remember to bring some cash to the meeting.

## REPORTS

### 28 July MEETING

**SPEAKERS:** Susan Guthrie and Susanna Berry, from the Reserve Bank of New Zealand. *(This report was not available in time for the previous Newsletter).*

We were privileged to have two speakers from the Money and Cash Directorate of the Reserve Bank at our June meeting: Susan Guthrie, Senior Advisor and her colleague Susanna Berry, a Senior Policy Analyst.



Susan Guthrie

The Money and Cash Directorate (M&CD) was created in 2020, following public consultation on the future of cash. It has been carrying out work on the future of money, which includes redesign of the cash system. But before we worry about what this might mean, both speakers emphasized that the Reserve Bank is determined that cash remains available.

Susan and Susanna spoke about the role of the Reserve Bank in NZ's money and cash; some general trends; the cash system redesign project; digital innovations; and wider developments beyond the RBNZ. As we're all aware, money has changed from pocket cash to cards – to digital money, held at the bank, which retains the functionality of cash but in digital form.



Susanna Berry

The Money and Cash directorate's role in the RBNZ is to ensure the cash system is fit for purpose. They design, arrange production, and issue NZ banknotes and coins. They're responsible for removing counterfeit cash. They are also exploring the case for a central bank digital currency, while monitoring private innovation in money. Their over-reaching role is of stewardship: ensuring that NZ has reliable, efficient and sustainable money and payments systems that support inclusion and innovation. Of course the 2021 Cash Use Survey and other research has identified that cash payments are decreasing. So not surprisingly there's been a considerable reduction in bank branches and ATM's. From 2011 to 2021 bank branch closures by the five main banks almost halved the number of bank branches. With banks choosing to exit the cash system, because it costs them too much, might the Reserve Bank have to force them to go back? The economic challenge is that individually we use plastic cards, but collectively we want to have access to cash.

Interestingly the latest data on Cash statistics revealed growth in cash in the hands of the public – to an amount valued in 2021 as worth over two and a half times more than the cash held per person in 1995.

Following consultation on the future of money, RBNZ is developing a business case for Cash Trials, engaging with bank and non-bank participants. The purpose of the proposed cash trials is to see if a cash distribution system that relies solely on non-bank cash infrastructure is feasible and viable. One result is the development of "white ATMs." These are not associated with specific banks, but charge each bank per customer served. RBNZ is also encouraging "human cash machines", e.g. supermarkets, which allow customers to add on a sum to their grocery payment in order to get cash back. This of course only works as long as the supermarket still has customers who pay in cash.

Digital innovation in money, a hot topic globally, was mentioned briefly. M&CD consultation on a potential Central Bank Digital Currency revealed concerns about privacy, reflecting underlying anxieties about personal autonomy and control.

We were left with much to consider, but relieved that we will still have a cash system. -Sharon Major

## 25 August MEETING SPEAKER

### Len Cook CBE - Statistician

Len Cook CBE was Government Statistician of New Zealand from 1992 to 2000, and National Statistician and Director of the United Kingdom Office for National Statistics, and Registrar General for England and Wales from 2000 to 2005. He served as Families Commissioner in New Zealand from 2015 to 2018.

Born in Dunedin in 1949, Len was educated at Bayfield High School and the University of Otago where he did a BA (Hons) in Maths and Stats. He attended Henley Management Centre in 1989. He was elected a Chartered Statistician of the Royal Statistical Society in 1973 and a Companion of the Royal Society of New Zealand in 2005. He served as one of three vice-presidents of the International Statistical Institute from 2005 to 2007 and is a visiting fellow of Nuffield College, Oxford.



Len has had a particular interest in social policy, demography, statistical methodology and the application of information technology in statistical systems. He was interested in the promotion of research methodology in public policy analysis and decision-making with past interests particularly in retirement provision and taxation policies.

After joining the Department of Statistics, New Zealand in 1971 and rising up the ranks, he was appointed as Government Statistician in 1992. He was a member of the secretariat of the Prime Minister's Task Force on Tax Reform in 1981/82 and a member of the Royal Commission on Social Policy in New Zealand in 1987/88.

From 2000 until 2005 Len held the post of National Statistician and Director of the Office for National Statistics, United Kingdom. He was the first to have the title of National Statistician. He returned to New Zealand in September 2005. Probably his most publicised act in his time in the United Kingdom came in February 2005, when as Registrar General, he had to rule on the legality of the wedding of Charles, Prince of Wales and Camilla Parker Bowles.

Natasha Nahkies introduced Len who began with a question. "What is a Population Census for?" Using a series of charts, his simple answers included, a healthy democracy, so we all know who we are and how we are changing, trustworthy public services and knowledgeable foresight. He went on to explain the key needs met by a Census, prominent amongst them being constitutional integrity of the State and public confidence, the integrity of the electoral boundaries, the quality of decision making and trust in government institutions.

Len explained the key issues for Census Takers, such as how those which characterised population structure and how dynamics some twenty years ago could have significance in the present day and, likewise this year's census could predict needs twenty years into the future.

Population aging was shown to be trending in four dimensions namely, numerical ageing increase in numbers and proportion of elderly, with increased life expectancy as against falling birth rates traced back to the contraceptive pill. The consequences of this demographic shift have had a major effect on our health services. Where once education for schoolgirls was often focussed on the future occupations of nursing, teaching and typing, many other occupations opened up encouraged by equality. Thus, numbers for nursing and teaching declined and computers overtook typing.

The progressive reduction in fewer New Zealand born nurses entering the profession, when other employment options have opened up, has been balanced by overseas trained nurses now reaching half the nursing workforce. Meanwhile, the ageing proportion of the elderly has escalated the needs. Similar trends are evident throughout the health service and also noticeable in the teaching

profession. Although the census provides the wherewithal to predict future trends, it is frequently not acted upon until it becomes a crisis.

Other similar areas covered in the talk included housing stock and regional population trends. Auckland, Bay of Plenty and Canterbury would lead growth followed by Wellington and the northern South Island. The East Coast of the North Island and the West Coast of the South Island plus Southland indicated future declines in population.

Len Cook finished his highly informative talk with public policy challenges reliant on population census statistics.

Bill Paterson gave the vote of thanks

*Thanks to Morris Robertson for this report in the absence of Sharon, our editor.*

## **FOR THE RECORD**

**Attendance figures for our 28 July meeting:** we welcomed 69 members, and had one visitor. We received apologies from 26 members, and noted 15 members were silent.

## **SHORT TALK**

### **Judith Littlejohn**

Judith was born into a Southsea Naval family, which faced 3-yearly moves within the UK, including Portsmouth and Cardigan Bay. From the age of twelve she was at boarding school in Staffordshire before attending Wolverhampton Polytechnic. As part of a bilingual secretarial course, she worked in a Swiss resort for 6 months.

Later, whilst living in London, Judith met a kiwi who encouraged her to visit NZ to start anew. In 1974 she immigrated to Wellington and they married. Two year's work included McKenzies head office and Shell Oil where she eventually met David, her first marriage having been dissolved.

In July 1980 David and Judith left for a 3-year overseas working holiday. They were married in Derbyshire and moved to London,

where both found work at Sainsbury's. Other temporary roles Judith had included working for a kitchenware company and for an international lawyer. They returned briefly to Wellington in 1983, before moving to Christchurch. Judith worked at Waitaki Refrigeration until July 1985 when their first child, Emma, was born. Second child, Jack, was born in December 1988. Judith helped out as a teacher aide in Emma's class at Elmwood School, joined the PTA and also enjoyed the various activities and playgroups. Later, Judith took the children to UK to meet their vast family and David joined them for Christmas. Back in Christchurch, Judith returned to work, initially for a tax consultancy and later in a Merivale café.

After 15 years in Christchurch, they moved north to Hamilton, settling in Hillcrest to be near good educational facilities. Judith worked in a small shoe store in Hamilton East. Meanwhile, Judith's mother immigrated to Hamilton where she remained for the rest of her life.

Grandsons were born in 2017 and 2019 respectively. Four years ago their daughter and family relocated to Wellington. When Covid struck and David's work ended, they moved to Wellington after 23 years in Hamilton. They are enjoying Wellington and new friends.

*Thanks to Morris Robertson for this report in the absence of Sharon, our editor.*



## **COMINGS AND GOINGS**

Nick Lambrechtsen, our President, welcomed two new members into Rebus at the August Meeting. Christine McKenna and Pradip Manchanda.

**Christine** was born in Auckland, spent her school years in Rotorua and lived in Fiji for 2 years. She studied Occupational Therapy in Auckland, where she met and married Brian McKenna. Christine has worked in a variety of clinical areas such as mental health, rehabilitation of the elderly, palliative care, and in management roles, while also undertaking voluntary roles. She currently enjoys quilting and other forms of stitching, and works on keeping fit.



**Pradip** was born in the northern state of Punjab, India, and obtained a Master's degree in Mathematics from the Punjab University. He became interested in computers and joined Tata Consultancy Services. TCS introduced him to New Zealand in 1983 where he worked at The NZ Post Office. When he returned to India in 1984, he missed NZ and decided to emigrate in 1986 and has been here ever since. He says that he is happy to join Rebus, unlike Groucho Marx.

### **GROUP ACTIVITIES:**

**Please contact the group co-ordinator if you would like to join one of our groups.** A timetable of when all the groups meet is on the Website (under Interest Groups). It also shows photos of various group activities.

### **Rebus Lunch Group:**

The Rebus lunch group is having a lunch outing to **TQ Cafe in Thorndon Quay** midday on **Wednesday, 30th August 2023**. Please get in touch with Raey if you would like to attend, or be put on the mailing list for further outings.

*Raey Butterworth*

### **Warblers Singing Group:**

The WARBLERS met at Pat and Peter Isherwood's home on Tuesday 8th August for their monthly sing. Due to the most unfortunate accident suffered by our pianist Merrilyn Lander we were faced with the challenge of singing "A'Cappella". Whilst there was only 10 of us, I believe that we managed to produce some sweet music! We are hoping that Merrilyn has a speedy recovery as we would still prefer to have her wonderful accompaniment to assist with and enhance our mellow tones. As we are not sure how long Merrilyn will be out of action I wonder if there are any pianists out there who could possibly assist on a temporary basis? If so please get in touch with me.

*Ken Nelson*

### **ROMEO Men Lunching:**

Twelve ROMEOS met at "The Sprig and Fern" in Tawa for their monthly luncheon on Wednesday 9th August. As usual there was plenty of healthy discussion around the table on current affairs and how to solve the world's problems!!! Any Rebus men who would care to join us are welcome to come along to our next luncheon scheduled for 20th September. Let me know if you would like to be advised of lunch details each month.



*Ken Nelson*

### **Dinner Group 1:** *Judith Littlejohn*

A small group of five diners attended the Cashmere Lounge on 3 August keeping close to home on a wintry night. The restaurant was warm and convivial. The group thoroughly enjoyed their evening and are keen to go again.

### **Interest and Activity Groups and Co-ordinators** (NV = no vacancies)

<b>Book Group 1:</b>	Geraldine George	479 0004
<b>Book Group 2:</b>	Ros Paterson	479 3131
<b>Craft Group:</b>	Penny Harrison	479 9302
<b>Garden Group:</b>	Viv Forrest	021 069 0397
<b>Warblers Singing Group:</b>	Ken Nelson	939 9166
<b>ROMEO Men Lunching:</b>	Ken Nelson	939 9166
<b>Lunch Group:</b>	Raey Butterworth	461 6673
<b>Walking Group:</b>	Bernie Brown (Local) Bill Goldstone (Gold Card)	479-2804 478 2288
<b>Dinner Group 1: (NV)</b>	Judith Littlejohn	027 361 3338
<b>Dinner Group 2:</b>	Beverley Telfar	479 2165
<b>Dinner Group 3:</b>	Jenny Middlemass	479-2638

### **Office Holders**

<b>President</b>	Nick Lambrechtsen	938 5911
<b>Vice President</b>	Judy Whiteside	479 5051
<b>Secretary</b>	Stella Thorp	021 299 4052
<b>Treasurer</b>	John Preston	479 2924
<b>Past President</b>	Vish Sarma	973 5527 or 022 1593421
<b>Speakers</b>	Natasha Nahkies	027 240 4402
<b>Visits</b>	Jenny Cornelius	479 8669
<b>Theatre</b>	Peter Clemerson	938 5928
<b>Morning Tea</b>	Emma McCallum Angela Hill	479 4439 479 5580
<b>Short Talks</b>	Liz Beresford	022 598 7176
<b>Newsletter</b>	Sharon Major	479 5104 or 021 884 611
<b>Interim Almoner</b>	Ngaio Taylor	479 3183 or 021 0242 2150
<b>Web &amp; Communication</b>	Heather Nelson (Outside committee)	939 9166
<b>Audio Visual System</b>	Michael Harrison (Outside committee)	479-9302