

Steering a safe course



through our retirement years

REBUS NZ INCORPORATED

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NEWSLETTER NO 34

Dear Club President and Officers,

In Newsletter No 33 dated 12 November 2017, we announced that our Affiliation levies for 2018/9 were to remain unchanged at **\$2 per member**. Click on- <https://www.rebus.nz/> (see newsletters button). **No Password is needed.**

This was made possible by careful budgeting adopted throughout the past year during which a strict focus was maintained on our role as a “Service Centre”, as opposed to a Governing Body. Many donations were also received and made a welcome contribution to a very successful year during which **REBUS incurred no legal costs, nor had the need to provide for an expensive defamation case.**

Finance.

In keeping with the **REBUS** philosophy of transparency, immediacy and good communication, we have provided our Affiliated Clubs with a Statement of Financial Performance for the year ended 31 December 2017 which reveals a surplus of income over expenditure of \$2093.24. When added to the 2016 surplus of \$1400.60, accumulated funds total \$3493.84. The Review of our Accounts was conducted by D.H. Flavell. C.A. (Hon Ret) on the 8th January 2018 – just 8 days after the balance date.

Key points to note were the payments made towards the cost of running the **REBUS** Office instead of total reliance on voluntary support, the acquisition of a dedicated **REBUS** Computer upon which all records etc have been placed and the steps taken to secure the Trademark rights to the **REBUS** name in Australia.

Affiliation options for 2018/9.

This newsletter is being sent to Clubs who have retained their connection with Australia, those who have currently chosen an alternative Affiliation provider in NZ and others who for the meantime are “going it alone”. We hope that the manner in which **REBUS** has conducted itself since incorporation in December 2015 and the financial security which has been achieved, will firmly establish that we are here to stay. We have received a number of positive indications that more Clubs will seek to become a **REBUS** affiliate in the year ahead. **(An application to affiliate is attached).**

From PROBUS to REBUS

The Rebus Club of Hibiscus Coast recently celebrated its 35th anniversary. To mark the occasion, a book outlining the history of the Club was produced and made available to all its members. Given the role which the Club, formerly known as the Probus Club of Hibiscus Coast played in the move to establish independence for NZ Clubs, it was considered appropriate to devote a section of the book to this subject. It is a useful chronology of the various steps which took place and for readers who may otherwise not be entirely clear of how events unfolded, it is included as an attachment to this Newsletter. It provides a solid background to the way in which the Probus movement in this country became so fragmented. You may draw your own conclusions as to who should bear the greater responsibility.

What's in a name?

The affection which so many of us had for the Probus name needs no elaboration. Indeed, it is for this reason alone that some Clubs have resisted the temptation of breaking away from Australia. Given the ever-increasing levies being charged for this so-called privilege, they are paying a high price. The majority see no other benefit from affiliation with PSPL than the right to call themselves a Probus Club.

But for those who may be skeptical, be assured that there is life after PROBUS. Clubs who have taken the plunge and selected **REBUS** as an alternative name, have found that the sun still rose the next day and in fact, in many cases has given a new lease of life. The very name – similar to the one we knew so well, is largely unique. There are no other similar organizations with the same name. So **REBUS** is rapidly creating its own reputation with name recognition well advanced. It also avoids any of the confusion created by the adoption of a generic name in common usage by an alternative affiliation provider.

REtired BUSINESS from which the name is derived, does not perfectly describe our typical membership, but neither did **PROfessionalBUSINESS**. **However**, it is closer and not subject to confusion.

Can a Club become an Independent Associate of Rebus NZ without being obligated to change its name?

Yes, and it will still receive all the benefits as if it is a full affiliate - such as Public Liability cover of \$10m and access to Seniors Travel Insurance. This may be particularly appropriate for Clubs who to date have chosen not to affiliate with any organization. Affiliation Levies are the same.

Information Day – for Bay of Plenty Clubs – 14th February at Tauranga.

Following upon the very successful day in Hawkes Bay last November, a further day is being held for Bay of Plenty Clubs next month. The event is being co-hosted by three **REBUS** affiliated clubs in the area and invitations have been sent to all current or former Probus Clubs in the region to attend.

Five members of the **REBUS** Board will come to Tauranga for the occasion and will be available to meet with and answer any questions from those attending. If your Club is one of these, an Agenda will shortly be forwarded to you.

REBUS Photographic Calendar Competition.

In keeping with our desire to further enlarge our “family” approach to **REBUS** affiliated Clubs, a competition was recently conducted with entries invited from members illustrating outstanding scenic features from their region. Well over 50 entries were received and 12 selected for the production. Copies were distributed to Clubs in the first week of this month. It was so successful, that it will likely become a permanent annual event.

Communication.

We have constantly stressed our commitment to timely communication. During the past 12 months, we have issued 11 **REBUS Chronicles**, a Newsletter for Affiliated Clubs, as well as a similar number of a production entitled **Chronicles Club News**. It includes photos from Club activities and news items are showcased. As well, our promise of a maximum 24 hour response time to all emails, letters and phone calls has been fully honoured – 24/7!

May we wish your Club ongoing good fortune and success in the year ahead.

Graeme McIntosh (Chairman)