



REBUS CHRONICLES

January 2020

Dear Presidents, Secretaries and Officers,

The Year ahead – *some important items for your information and attention:*

Statement of Financial Performance for the year just ended 31 December 2019. A copy is attached from which you will see that our Reviewer, Bryan Wentworth, completed his work in a very timely manner on the 6th January. We will comment more fully at the May AGM but in the meantime, you will note that our cash position at \$9798.53 is close to the prudent target we earlier set of \$10K. However, this is still less than one year's anticipated expenses – our preferred target.

Clearly the surplus from the Calendar project has greatly contributed to the result and we wish to pay a tribute to those Clubs whose participation to a greater (or lesser extent), made this result possible. With sales of 775 Calendars, which equates to only 1 calendar for every 5.5 members, there is clearly a huge potential to lift sales, resultant profits and avoid or limit any future affiliation fee increases. This subject will be an Agenda item for the May AGM and we encourage Clubs to contribute to the discussion.

New affiliation fees set for the current year. If the trend which has been apparent over the two past years continues, revenue from affiliation fees will diminish as some Clubs experience a loss of membership. As I look back over past Chronicles, I see we have been regularly emphasizing the need for membership rejuvenation. We are no exception, as like organizations are experiencing the same loss. However, a good number of our affiliates are bucking this trend which has only been achieved by a conscious campaign of recruitment. ***And we have of course welcomed a new Club into our midst- Rebus Club of Gulf Harbour – see www.rebus-gulpharbour.nz***

Those Clubs which have remained with Australia are facing an increase in their fees – up from \$7.25 to \$7.95. For a Club with a membership of 100 their bill will be NZ\$795 against a Rebus fee of \$275. We hope this might encourage them to re-think their affiliation options and an invitation to reconsider Rebus is currently being made to Probus Clubs for whom we have current contact details.

Your Board has decided that fees will be lifted from \$2.50 to \$2.75, this will ensure that our financial strength will be maintained. Whilst any increase is regretted, the amount is nominal and provides approximately a further \$1000 of revenue.

The affiliation Renewal Form to be sent out in February will reflect the change.

Annual General Meeting – Taupo 1-3 May 2020. An interesting program has been put forward by the hosting Club, Taupo Moana. Early indications are that we can expect a good attendance because of the central location.

Attached is a Registration Form which needs to be completed and back in our hands no later than the 20th April. You will see that apart from attendance at the Meeting itself at 1.00pm on the 2nd May, there are 3 optional add-ons, payment for which must accompany the Registration form – or be lodged directly into our Rebus Bank account.

Please note that accommodation reservations should be made direct to your chosen Motel/Hotel etc without delay, payment for which, is a matter between attendees and the provider.

We and the hosting Club look forward to welcoming as many delegates as possible and feel sure you will have a very enjoyable social occasion additional to the formality of an AGM.

Photographic Competition 2021 – for Rebus Pictorial Calendar. We hope that some of you shutterbugs have already put aside your entry to this year's competition. As we like to have seasonal shots related to the months on which they appear, don't let the summer, autumn or winter go by without getting that special shot. A copy of the 2021 Rules follow:

- Photos to be submitted in **jpeg** format to admin@rebus.nz
- Aspect Ratio 16:9 (not 4:3 as cropping to achieve 16:9 can eliminate photo from selection). Check your Camera/phone settings.
- Format to be Landscape **NOT** Portrait. (Horizontal width greater than height)
- They need to be reasonably high resolution for good reproduction – not less than 3 MB.
- Photo subject to be an eye-catching scene found **only** in your Club's district.
- The photographer to be either a member - or member's spouse.
- Date photo taken to be between 15th Sept 2019 and 15th Sept 2020.
- Entries closing date is 15th Sept 2020 – **but feel free to send them in earlier please.**
- Judging will be by the Rebus Board with any member who may have entered a photo, not participating in the selection.
- In addition to the 12 photos selected, 12 highly commended miniatures with attribution to the photographer, will be published on the rear page.
- Members' Photos may be submitted directly to Rebus, but if a competition is being run by a Club internally, a maximum of 5 entries will be accepted from the Club after local judging.

It is anticipated that the price per Calendar will remain at \$10 with orders being sought later in the year.

Apart from their use in our homes, many members bought additional copies for family and overseas posting. (10 in one case).

So, if you have a flair for photography, please get out there and capture that priceless image - ***and think about how many copies of the Calendar you will order.***

Surplus 2020 Calendars. As circulated prior to Christmas, the accidental over-run by our Printers resulted in a number of surplus Calendars. Some Clubs took up our offer but we still have some more in stock. We will be willing to discount remaining copies at \$5 each with a minimum order of 5 plus post \$5 – a total of \$30. First in first served.

Warm regards,

Graeme McIntosh (Chairman)