



Newsletter
Waikato-King
Country Branch
October 2022

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SEASONS GREETINGS

Your Committee extends very warm greetings to all our members.

At both the national and branch levels, the GSA has continued to deal with issues raised by individual members. Notwithstanding Covid restrictions and understandable hesitancy on the part of some members, your local branch has held very successful coffee meetings and luncheons, most recently in Cambridge, Hamilton, Matamata, Taumarunui, and Te Kuiti.

We now look forward to our annual Christmas Luncheon.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

The Pavilion, Hamilton Workingmen's Club, Frankton
FRIDAY 25 NOVEMBER
(Full details pages 3 and 4)

After all the Covid disruptions, our Christmas Luncheon offers all of us a great opportunity to get together again with our fellow GSA members. Spouses, friends and any potential members are welcome. If you know of someone who is receiving Government Superannuation but who is not a member of the GSA, please encourage them to come to the luncheon and to join our Association.

BRANCH COMMITTEE 2022

The Waikato-King Country Branch continues to enjoy a very stable Committee membership. However, we would also welcome interest from some of our younger members in order to ensure continuity.

A feature of this year's AGM was the election of our first woman chair, Joan Currie. With an employment background in the private sector and as the spouse of a GSF annuitant, Joan brings unique insights to GSF deliberations, both locally and nationally.

Other members are:

John Cameron (Deputy Chair)
John Evered (Secretary)
Jeremy Maysek (Immediate past Chair)
Judy Benton
John Law
Michael Law
Barry Maughan
John Moodie
Keith Wooderson

GOVERNMENT SUPERANNUATION FUND (GSF) WARNING: BEWARE OF SCAMS

Datacom and/or the NZ Government Superannuation will never ring you and ask for personal information.

This was the very clear warning given by the retiring CEO of the GSF, Simon Tyler, when he addressed the GSA National Council (AGM) meeting in Wellington in September.

There are hundreds of scams out there. Many involve calls from people who seem to be authentic and who seem to know a lot about you. If someone calls you, claims to be from Datacom, and requests personal information, the call will be a scam!

REPORT ON GSA NATIONAL COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING

At a members' morning tea on 21 September, our Branch Chair, Joan Currie, reported on the GSA's recent national Council (AGM). This is a summary of her report.

The GSF scheme: In an address to Council, retiring GSF CEO, Simon Tyler, noted that:

- As at 30 June 2022, there were 48,628 people receiving annuities. However, there were only 1,300 people still working and contributing to the scheme;
- Last year, Datacom paid annuitants \$920 million; and
- Each year, Datacom staff handle over 24,000 pieces of correspondence and over 7,000 phone calls.

The GSA's Constitutional Changes: Joan reported that as a result of Covid, the GSA needed to change a number of clauses in its Constitution in order to enable the organisation to function effectively when members couldn't physically attend a meeting in person. The changes allow members to be counted as being 'present if they join the meeting via an internet link, such as Zoom.

Other Constitutional changes tidied up the provisions concerning the distribution of subscriptions to branches.

Board (the GSA's National Executive) elections: Joan noted that a Waikato-King Country Branch member, Michael Law, had been elected to the National Board. Another new member was the Auckland Branch Chair, Sandra Gusscott, who has extensive governance experience. The full results of the elections will be reported in *Annuity News*.

Guest Speaker: Greg O'Connor MP, Parliament's Deputy Speaker and former President of the Police Association was the guest speaker. He told Council that as far as he was aware there were no murmurs around Parliament that threatened the GSF scheme. In answer to questions, he said that the most important thing the GSA could do to protect the scheme and its members was to stay in existence.

Other Branch Representatives: John Evered (Branch Secretary), Michael Law (Life Member), and Keith Wooderson (Life Member).

JOIN US FOR OUR CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

We invite you to join your fellow superannuitants at this year's annual luncheon. This invitation is also extended to your spouse, your partner or a friend. Intending members are also welcome. We are happy to meet reasonable requests for help with transport: ring John Evered Ph 0800 888 472.

Note: Lunch will be a buffet; committee members will assist or serve those with mobility issues.

Date:	Friday 25 November
Time:	11.00 am – 2.30 pm
Cost:	\$ 25.00 per head
Venue:	THE PAVILION HAMILTON WORKINGMEN'S CLUB, FRANKTON (See directions on Page 4)

We hope you will be able to join us on this happy occasion. The venue has adequate parking. The bar will be open if you wish to share a convivial drink with friends.

Please reply by *Tuesday 8 November* by selecting one of the following three options:

- Fill in the reply slip and post it to: The Secretary (address below); or
- Email your response, including dietary requirements, to: The Secretary (waikatokc@gsa.org.nz).

Payment:

- Make a direct payment to the GSA Waikato-KC bank a/c (details below); or
- Arrange with John Evered to make a cash payment on the day

Direct payment details: Account no: 02 0316 0159181 00 Code: *Lunch* Reference: *Your name*

✂

I/We will attend the Christmas Lunch No attending: ___ @ \$25.00 = \$ _____

Name(s) (for name tags):

Special diet requirements: (please specify for each person requiring a special diet)

Payment - tick the appropriate one: Cash on the day Direct Payment

DIRECTIONS TO HAMILTON WORKINGMEN'S CLUB

The Hamilton Workingmen's Club is located at 45 Commerce St, Frankton.

It is best to enter Commerce Street from Norton Road. The Workingmen's Club is approximately half way down the first block, on the left-hand side. There is plenty of parking. From the parking area, good signage indicates the path to the Pavilion, which is to the right as you drive in.

From the North: Take Te Rapa Road into Ulster St. Turn right into Mill St. Turn left into Norton Rd. Turn Right into Commerce St.

From the West: Take Massey St. to Norton Rd. Turn right into Norton Rd. Turn right into Commerce St.

From the South: Drive to Tristram Street. Turn left into Tristram St (at Pak'n'Sav). Continue on Tristram St to Ward St. Turn left into Ward Street which becomes Seddon Road. Continue along Seddon Road to Norton Road. Turn left into Commerce St.

From the North-East, cross the Waikato River at a preferred bridge. Drive West down Mill Street to Norton Road. Turn right into Norton Road. Turn right into Commerce Street.

WAIKATO-KING COUNTRY BRANCH CONTACT DETAILS

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