



Secretary  
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Wellington 6142

## Newsletter Wellington Branch April 2018

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[www.gsa.org.nz](http://www.gsa.org.nz)

### Chair

Ian Clunies-Ross

### Deputy Chair

Peter Chambers

### 2017 Council Delegates

Ian Clunies-Ross  
Peter Chambers

### 2017 Council Observers

Elizabeth Smaal,

### Secretary

Maggie Lee

### Branch Committee

Janice Campbell, Kevin Duggan, Wilf Haskell, Graham Hill, Colin Macintosh, Kay Monks, Mike Smith, Bryan Whisker and Ray Woolhouse.

### Life Members

Virginia Breen, Marie Byrne, Peter Chambers, Allen Hair, Bruce Kelly, Brian McKeown, Alan McMaster, Gray Nelson, Jack Price, Bill Robertson, Elizabeth Smaal, Mike Smith, Leicester Stewart, Peter Stewart, Terence Stock, Ian Swift, David Thorp, Bryan Whisker, Priscilla Williams, Ray Woolhouse.

## Annual General Meeting

All members are cordially invited to the Annual General Meeting to be held at the **Petone Working Men's Club**, 47 Udy Street Petone at 11 am on Wednesday 23 May 2018 followed by a luncheon.

The agenda for this meeting and the minutes from the last meeting will be emailed to those who provide an email address on receipt of your booking to attend the AGM and luncheon.

If we have no email address you will be rung to confirm your booking and the papers will be ready to pick up at the meeting. All members are entitled to attend the AGM and the lunch.

## Annual Report

I am pleased to present the Annual Report of the Wellington Branch of the Government Superannuation Ass. This is the 97<sup>th</sup> report for the branch and covers the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018.



It has been a very interesting and busy year with much attention and discussion focused on the Future of the GSA. The Board led the way by setting up a Working Party to consider the long-term outlook for the association. All branches were invited to (contd.page 2)

## Annual Report contd.

submit their views and the Wellington branch actively participated. The subsequent report became the focus for the September Council and resulted in a number of decisions taken to strengthen the association to meet the challenges ahead. These included further initiatives to recruit new members and follow-up action where memberships have lapsed. To these ends the State Services Commission has recently agreed to assist by facilitating our contact with pre-annuitants and branch secretaries began contacting lapsed members. Winning 100% CoLA (Cost of Living Adjustment) is a priority and, at the time of writing, the Minister of Finance has invited the association to discuss this matter in the light of the petition collected during the year. Council's decision to centralize financial reserves is intended to strengthen the Boards ability to support branches that are likely to experience financial stress in future. The subscription rate was increased to \$2 each annuity payment (\$26 per annum) and the CoLA as at the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017 increased by 1.59%. The Chair and Deputy Chair represented the branch at Council. Our position as a branch is to actively support and implement national policy and initiatives in the interests of the membership.

There were no changes to the branch committee of 10 members and is strengthened by the inclusion of three board members as well as representation from the railways association. The committee meets every second month at Anvil House, Wakefield Street. Minutes of those meetings are available on the GSA website at [www.gsa.org.nz](http://www.gsa.org.nz).

The passing of two of our life members during the year saddened us. Jim Turner and Howard Halley. Both made lasting contributions to the association and our condolences are extended to their families.

Recruitment continues a priority and the branches membership numbers exceeds 5000 and it is the largest in the country. Currently this number stands at 5375 up from 5096 two years ago but slightly down from this time last year. This compares with 27,311 members nation wide. All overseas members are counted as members of the Wellington branch – approximately 20% of the membership. At the 31 March these totaled 1048 of whom 796 reside in Australia.

The following table shows the change in branch numbers in the last 12 months.

Comparison	2017 31 March	2018 31 March	Change
Annuitant	2927	2828	-99
Annuitant spouse	1539	1522	-17
Surviving spouse	798	794	-4
Pre-annuitant	105	132	+27
Pre-annuitant spouse	72	99	+27
<b>Total</b>	<b>5441</b>	<b>5375</b>	<b>-66</b>

Enjoyable social events were held during the year and attendance increased somewhat with 90 to 100 members attending the AGM, Pines and Christmas luncheons. It is hoped numbers will continue to increase especially now funds are available to assist with travel. The highlight at the Pines was the talk given by Professor Roger Openshaw of Massey University who outlined his work for the publication to mark the 2020 centenary of the Association. The calendar of up and coming social events is set out in the branches Newsletter published twice yearly in April and October.

The finances of the branch are strong and a surplus of revenue over operational costs was recorded. We thank Kevin Duggan for his preparation of the accounts during the year and the annual accounts and Maggie for administering the financial business of the branch. The annual accounts include the financial assets of Supertravels. These were transferred to the branch (as required by its constitution upon cessation of operations and the deregistration of Supertravels Inc.) and have been set aside for the benefit of members in need of assistance to attend branch social events, meetings and travel. Details of this will appear in future newsletters. The Mackenzie Trust accepted its first application for financial assistance at the end of the year.

Finally I wish to thank the branch committee for their contributions and strong support throughout the year. Ian Clunies-Ross (Chair)

## Wellington Branch Railway Social Club

*This is an informal group of former employees of Railway. GSA members wishing to attend our functions will be most welcome.*

Our Mid-Winter luncheon will be held at Petone Workingmen's Club on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>. June 2018 at 12.15pm. Cost \$18.50 per person.

For bookings please contact Leicester Stewart, Wellington (ph. 04 567 2484 or mob. 027 345 5030).

A booking is essential and must be made at least two days before the function— late bookings are not accepted.

## GSA Recruitment Drive

Recruitment is a very high priority for the GSA and the Wellington Branch is actively engaging in a recruitment drive. Our GSA membership is around 27,000 whilst the total number in the Government Superannuation Scheme is around 53,000. Over the last 3 years our recruiting efforts have been rewarded as the membership of the GSA reached its highest level last year. But to keep the GSA strong and effective we must continue our efforts to increase our numbers and proportional representation.

The chief obstacle to our efforts to recruit is our ability to make direct contact with those non-members. We do not have access to their contact details (Privacy law) and therefore we must find innovative ways to get in touch. Word of mouth is a powerful method to make others aware of how vital the GSA will be in future. Your conversations with past or present colleagues should never be underrated and if you know someone who our recruiting team might contact please don't hesitate to let us know through the Wellington office.

Further efforts are in the pipeline especially to contact working non-members (pre-annuitants). At a recent meeting the State Services agreed to assist the Association to make contact with this group who number around 8,000 but who have very low representation in the GSA.

We can all help strengthen our membership. If you find yourself talking to a non-member make it your mission to promote our association.

## SuperTravels

SuperTravels organised tours lasting several days, and also day trips for many years. However, at the Annual General Meeting on 30 June 2017 the meeting decided that SuperTravels be disbanded. This was the inevitable consequence of insufficient people being willing to fill important positions on the Committee to assist with the planning, and arranging tours and trips. If you were involved with SuperTravels (and its predecessor Super Tours) the Committee thank you for your support in several ways, such as attending annual meetings, serving on the committee, acting as a tour leader, and as a participant on the many tours that operated over many years.

## Contacts for annuity matters

### GSF enquiries

GSF Administrator, Datacom Employer Services Ltd, PO Box 3614, Wellington 6140

Phones: 04 470 6348  
0800 654 731

Email [gsf@datacom.co.nz](mailto:gsf@datacom.co.nz)

Website [www.datacomgsf.co.nz](http://www.datacomgsf.co.nz)

### NPF enquiries

NPF Administrator, Datacom Employer Services Ltd, PO Box 1036, Wellington 6140

Phones: 04 381 0650  
0800 628 776

Email [npfenquiries@datacom.co.nz](mailto:npfenquiries@datacom.co.nz)

The Annuity News and this Branch Newsletter are sent to you together. If you are missing it contact the Branch secretary. If you require further clarification you may contact the GSA Executive Officer, Jenny Barclay.

## Change of address

Please let the Secretary know if there are any changes to your personal details to.

### Maggie 0800 888472

You can update these yourself at [www.gsa.org.nz](http://www.gsa.org.nz). From the homepage select "Update Details" and enter your annuity number and last name, then select the 'update details' box. Note that while your changes will be recorded, they will **not** be updated immediately as they will be checked for consistency before being implemented.

Finally, have you put the AGM at Petone Working Men's Club 23 May in your diary?

**Bryan Whisker** (2003-2018) is stepping down from the branch committee to focus his energy on Board matters. He represented the Wairarapa during his time and his departure leaves this position vacant.

**Nominations for the 2018/2019 Branch Committee** will be accepted for the May AGM. If any member from the Wairarapa is interested please contact the Secretary ( ph: 0800 888472). Nominations will be accepted at the meeting May 23.

## Financial Report - Wellington Branch GSA

### Financial performance Year ending 31/3/2018

2017	2018	
\$	\$	Income
29,160	28,359	Subscriptions (deducted GSF)
1,360	1,303	Subscriptions (deducted NPF)
1,012	1,215	Subscriptions (paid direct)
6,971	8,668	Functions
881	915	Interest
0	0	Donations
<b>39,384</b>	<b>40,460</b>	<b>income</b>
		Expenditure
8,615	9,972	Functions
3,082	184	Communications
2,332	1,581	Organisation
15,107	14,432	Remuneration
3,013	3,227	Office function
500	500	Review
528	1,585	Computer
34	1,231	General
<b>33,211</b>	<b>32,712</b>	<b>expenditure</b>
6,173	7,748	<b>surplus (deficit) for year</b>

2017	2018	Financial position as at 31 March 2018
\$	\$	
37,631	43,804	Accumulated funds 1 April 2017
	20,023	ST Trust
6,173	7,748	Surplus (deficit)
<b>43,804</b>	<b>71,575</b>	
		Represented by
		Assets
11,905	41,241	Cash account
30,000	30,000	Term deposits
<b>41,905</b>	<b>71,241</b>	<b>total cash/bank</b>
599	619	Accrued interest
1,585	0	Computer
215	215	Accounts receivable
<b>44,304</b>	<b>72,075</b>	<b>Total Assets</b>
		less liabilities
500	500	Accounts payable
<b>43,804</b>	<b>71,575</b>	

Chairperson

I Clunies-Ross April 2018

I have reviewed the financial statements above for the year ended 31 March 2018.

A review is limited primarily to enquiries of branch personnel and an analytical review of compliance with policy and procedures as applied to the financial data. I have not performed an audit and accordingly I do not express an audit opinion.

On the basis of my review, nothing has come to my attention that causes me to believe that the above financial statements do not give a true and fair view.

Reviewer

K Duggan April 2018

Government Superannuitants Association of New Zealand Incorporated