

Newsletter

Manawatu Branch

October 2020



Branch Secretary
0800 888 472
302C Kimbolton Road
Feilding 4702
Manawatu@gsa.org.nz

Branch Committee

Chair: Gordon Batchelar.
Deputy Chair: Roger Openshaw
Committee: Annette Beasley, Robert Crawley,
Arthur Evans, Ros Hallam, Russell Hallam,
John Lowen, Sid Murdie.

Delegates to Council 2020

Russell Hallam
Ros Hallam

Secretary/Treasurer: John Lowen
Reviewer: Meg Vining

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Annual General Meeting and Christmas luncheon

All members, spouses, and partners are welcome to our Annual General Meeting and luncheon, details below:

Date: Wednesday 25th November 2000

Meeting time: 10.10am

Mealtime: 12 noon

**Venue: Hunterville Room. Hotel Coachman. 140 Fitzherbert Avenue.
Palmerston North**

Chairperson's Report. October 2020

This will be my last report as the Chairperson of the Manawatu Branch of the GSF as I will be tending my resignation at the AGM in November. For many of us this year has been frustrating, especially as planned meetings and social events were cancelled due to COVID-19. The Committee hopes you have all remained fit and well over the lock-down period and were well supported by family and friends. Now that we are back at Level 1, the Committee can go ahead with the delayed Annual General meeting which will this year precede the annual Christmas luncheon at the Distinction Restaurant, Coachman Hotel.

An ongoing, urgent concern is our ageing committee! We desperately need new, particularly younger members to volunteer. Please consider joining the Committee. The role is not onerous! We meet four times a year for around an hour to and an hour and half, attend the mid-year AGM and the meeting that precedes the Christmas lunch. At present Committee

meetings are held on a weekday morning but can easily be rescheduled to evening meetings. So please, particularly younger members, do seriously consider joining our committee. New committee members will not only allow those who have so generously given of their time over the years to step down but also ensure the committee remains proactive and vibrant advocates of your superannuation entitlement into the future.

Meanwhile stay safe and well and enjoy the forthcoming festive season.

Gordon Batchelar.

The Committee would like members to join with them in thanking Gordon for his twenty years' service as Chairman of the Manawatu Branch of the GSA and wish him good health and enjoyment in his retirement from this role.

Secretary/Treasurers Report.

In the April newsletter Meg Vining, our then Secretary, commented that:

"The 2019-2020 year had been ticking along quite nicely until January 2020 when the world hit a very big bump in the road in the form of covid-19. By the time you read this, I hope everything will be starting to revert to normal". Our situation has I guess progressed to a "new normal", the hiccup in Auckland notwithstanding.

As noted in the April newsletter, Meg stood down as Secretary after several years of exemplary service to the Committee and I have taken over the reins. While still on a rather steep learning curve I have enjoyed the experience to date and having Meg available has greatly assisted me in carrying out both my Secretarial and Treasurer responsibilities.

Our finances remain sound and we should have a very positive result for the year ending 31 March 2021. Meg Vining has been appointed as our "Reviewer" and has reviewed our accounts for the period 1 April – 31 August 2020.

On a personal note I have been a member of the GSA since 1985 and a member of the Manawatu Br since June 2004, having moved here from Wellington after 33 years-service in the RNZN, followed by 11 years-service as a civilian in Defense Headquarters.

John Lowen.

Membership

As of 30 September 2020 membership totaled 954

Member Categories	31 st March 2020	30 th September 2020
Annuitant	509	487
Annuitant spouse	272	267
Surviving spouse	149	143
Pre-annuitant	28	26
Pre-annuitant spouse	23	21
Total	981	954

Annual General meeting and Christmas Function

Due to the COVID lock-down the Annual Meeting was postponed and will now be held at the Coachman prior to the Christmas function.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND LUNCHEON

AGENDA

10am WELCOME and APOLOGIES
Previous Meeting Minutes
President's Report
Secretary/Treasurer's Report
Election of President and Committee Members
Guest Speaker (To be arranged)
"Safe Guarding Super" – the book

12 noon Luncheon

MENU

Bread rolls

Salad selection

Chicken & Cranberry Salad (GF)

Rigatoni Pasta Salad (V)

Hot Selection

Moroccan Roast Chicken

Baked Fish on a bed of Spinach & Lemon dressing (GF)

Roasted Vegetables with Honey & Balsamic Dressing (GF/DF)

Steamed Seasonal Vegetables with olive oil infused with lime (GF/V)

Dessert Selection

Mixed Berry Crumble with Custard

Fruit Salad (GF/V)

Tea & Coffee

*GF = Gluten Free

*V = Vegetarian

Cost of Luncheon

The full cost of the meal is \$40.00 however, the Committee have agreed to subsidising the meal by 50% reducing the cost to members down to just \$20.00. The subsidy recognizes that this is the only social event arranged for this year.

Please Complete the form below and return to the Secretary by no later than Friday 20th November 2020.

Luncheon payment

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I/We will be attending the Luncheon on Wednesday, November 25 th at Distinction/Coachman hotel.
Name(s).....
Address.....
Phone ().....
Number attending
Cost \$20.00 person
Payment may be made by:
Cheque; or
alternatively, payment can be via Internet banking , to
<u>Manawatu Branch Government Superannuants Association of NZ (Inc)</u>
Westpac account: 03 0726 0578952 00
(Please ensure enter your name in Particulars panel)