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Marlborough Branch Spring 2020 Newsletter

Message from Chairperson- Alan Straker

Greetings to all Marlborough Branch GSA members. I trust this communication finds you in good health and coping with the issues we have all been faced with this year. Like other organizations, our operations have been severely disrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic. Our AGM which was to be held in June was postponed and will now be held for half an hour prior to our Centenary Luncheon planned for Monday 23rd November.

It's our birthday... GSA celebrates 100 years this year. Sadly, a book launch at Parliament, planned to coincide with the council meeting held in Wellington in September had to be cancelled two weeks out because of the change to level 2. The official launch was then held at the Council dinner and went well although not as grand as we were hoping for.

But we are not letting that stop Marlborough celebrating...

Your committee have planned a belated AGM to be combined with our annual Xmas Luncheon as follows:

Date: Monday 23rd November

Venue: Scenic Circle Hotel, 65 Alfred Street

Time: AGM 11.30am until 12 noon. Then a 15 min break followed by a sit-down Xmas buffet Smorgasbord at 12.15pm

But wait there's more... In recognition of our 100 years and your support for GSA, lunch this year is on us! BUT numbers are strictly limited to 70 so you need to register by completing the rsvp information at the end of this newsletter.



As there will only be another 7 months until the 2021 AGM your current committee has resolved to stand for reelection to continue through to June next year. This does not prevent some new blood coming on board so please give some thought to this.

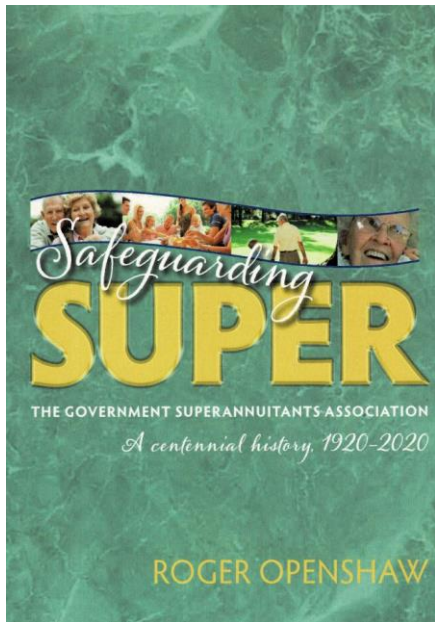
Picton & Kaikoura Visits... Normally we visit our members in these towns each year. Given the disruptive year the committee have resolved to suspend these visits in 2020 and encourage members in these areas to try and attend our AGM and luncheon.

I'd like to acknowledge the work of your local committee over the past year and a half and the contribution they make to the running of our Branch. We had Mary Griffiths join the team earlier in the year and we welcome her contribution. Other committee members are Barbara Hutchinson (secretary), Noel Frater (treasurer), Alan McEvoy, Brian Bridgman, Joan Palmer, Peter Sangwine and David Jones.

As I've said before our organization is only as strong as the members who support it. We must ensure we are attracting new members to our organization and new blood to our local committee. So, jump on board for a year and see how you enjoy it.

Barbara attended the Annual Council meeting held in September as your representative. She has provided a report further in the newsletter
At Council I was reelected to the position of Vice President for a further 12 months and serve on the National Board on various sub-committees.

The Annuity News that accompanies this newsletter will have more detail about national events and Board activities.



Book Launch...

As mentioned earlier the book “Safeguarding Super” was launched at the Council dinner on Saturday 5th Sept. It’s a fascinating insight into the history of our organization over the last 100 years and contains accounts of the battles we have faced with various governments as we protected the conditions of our annuities. Members are able to purchase a copy for themselves at \$40 plus postage. These are available to order from the GSA website gsa.org.nz or an order form will be available at the luncheon for your use.

In closing thank you for continuing to support GSA. It has a vital role to play in holding the Government of the day to account in fulfilling its obligations and in supporting our members with any issues they are faced with.

I look forward to seeing many of you at our AGM and luncheon.

Alan Straker

Chairperson

Marlborough Branch GSA



In loving memory of those members and family members who have passed away since Spring 2019.

Council Report from Barbara Hutchinson...

Thank you all for once again sending me to the annual council meeting that was held in Wellington on 5th & 6th September 2020. There was the disappointment that, because of Covid, we did not have the 100 years anniversary function at Parliament on the Friday evening. (I had to put away my ‘glad rags’ that I had looked forward to wearing).

The council meeting also had smaller number of attendees, again because of Covid. I was pleased to see the 2 delegates who drove down from Auckland so

they could attend. Covid distancing restrictions and mask wearing for them, were in practice but many of us took the opportunity to welcome and speak to them. My congratulations must go to the Chair, to the members of the Executive and to the Staff for an excellent meeting. The work undertaken by all these people during the year gave us a smooth, informative and extremely well-run meeting. Some people like an annual meeting to be full of questions and a little bit of dissatisfaction with the year's work, but to me, the mark of a good organization is when it is obvious that all members of the executive have combined their efforts and pulled their weight and the membership attending is congratulatory and happy. May it long continue.

GSA MARLBOROUGH

RSVP AGM and XMAS LUNCH AT SCENIC CIRCLE HOTEL

I /we would like to attend the AGM and Lunch on **Monday 23rd November, 2020**

Name _____ (please print clearly)

I will be accompanied by _____ (if applicable)

Please return to: GSA Marlborough
P.O. Box 4033,
Blenheim, 7201.

Please reply by 16 Nov 2020

or

Email: lyn.noel@xtra.co.nz

If you wish to record an apology for this function you can do so to the same address or email.