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TARANAKI BANCH GSA NEWSLETTER

In 1920 the Superannuated Public Servants Association, the immediate forerunner of GSA was formed to protect the interests of Government Superannuitants. To mark our Centennial, the Board commissioned the writing of a book by Emeritus Professor Robert Openshaw. The result of Roger's extensive research, and writing skills is a great tribute to all those who have persevered through the years to bring about improvements for the benefit of all who contributed to, and draw annuities, from the GSF. It is interesting reading the book to see that right throughout our history; our members have fought hard to win concessions from successive Governments and in that respect, little has changed. Phrases such as "it is under consideration" are but one example of a Government ignoring an issue for as long as they possibly can. It is also very clear that numbers matter and our shrinking membership numbers will likely be used against us in the future.

We are fortunate to have secured Roger Openshaw to speak to us at our Centennial meeting on 2nd December and some copies of the book will be available.

By now we must all be looking forward to the end of 2020. It has been a very mixed year and plans for our usual meetings were blocked by the Covid lockdown. While the committee weren't able to meet physically, items that required action were circulated by email and dealt with as required. Our National Office provided timely guidance as the situation changed.

The annual Council meeting was set down for the first weekend in September and was to have included a celebration of our Centennial with a function at Parliament on 4th September. That was cancelled as a result of the second Covid lockdown, and in its place, there was a half hour event to launch the book prior to the Council Dinner on Saturday 5th September. Robert Openshaw gave us a brief account of all the research that he did to gather as much information as possible and refine it to achieve a balanced history of our organisation.

The most significant items of business dealt with by Council was to pass the Board's proposal for the amalgamation of Branches, should it be necessary, and an increase in the subscription from the current \$2.00 to \$2.50 per annuity payday.

Your Branch Committee decided to run a separate AGM to deal with the usual business as required in a forum separate from the Centennial/Christmas celebration. For the celebration, it was decided to increase the level of subsidy to enable as many as possible of you to come and enjoy the event. While we are starting a little later, it is intended that there be no formal meeting business transacted. Mike Smith is again our Board representative, and he intends to join us for the event. You will see that we have booked the Blenheim Room at the Plymouth International Hotel so that we will have plenty of space for increased numbers. This has incurred some additional cost, however, we haven't had any other functions this year and GSA won't have another Centennial to celebrate. We look forward to seeing as many as possible of you that can make it to this one!

2021 will be a new year, but Covid will still be around to limit our horizons. Hopefully you can keep out of its way, and make the most of the year enjoying everything that is available to you, your friends and loved ones within our borders.

Les Sharp
Chairman



Tony Hamilton and Roger Openshaw



2020/21 Board Members and Executive Officer
(photos: Kay Monks)

**Annual General Meeting and Morning Tea
Tuesday 10 November 2020**

Venue THE PLYMOUTH INTERNATIONAL HOTEL
Orangery Conservatory

10.00 am Morning Tea (supplied free of charge)
Cheese scones served with butter and berry conserve
10.30am 2020 Annual General Meeting

Please ring Doreen McCaffrey (753 3240) or email
taranaki@gsa.org.nz by 6 November 2020 if you are able to
attend. N.B. 20 members are required to form a quorum.

Centennial Celebration and Christmas Meeting and Lunch



GSA

1920 - 2020

Wednesday 2 December 2020

Venue THE PLYMOUTH INTERNATIONAL HOTEL
Blenheim Room

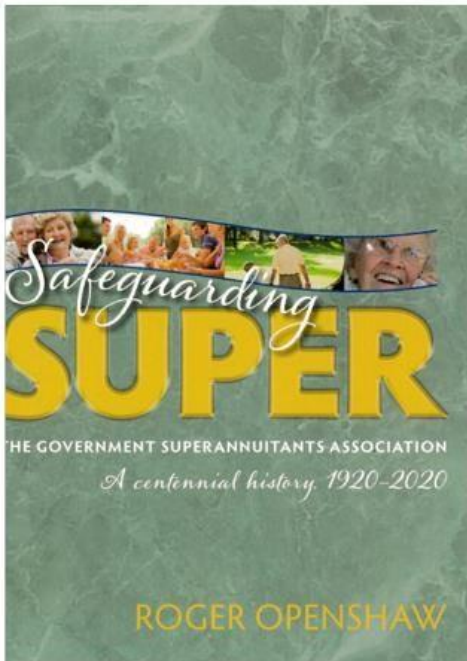
Format 10.30 am Morning Tea or Coffee and welcome
(please note change of time)
Fruit Muffins served with butter

Emeritus Professor Roger Openshaw, the author of
The Centennial book will be our speaker

12 noon Lunch served to the table.

Members, spouses and friends are invited to this meeting
The subsidised cost is \$15 per person which includes morning tea and lunch
If you are paying by cheque please make cheque payable to: Taranaki GSA
Or payment direct to 153953 0455999 00

Please ring Doreen McCaffrey, phone 753 3240 or email taranaki@gsa.org.nz by 27 November if
you are able to join us. We look forward to seeing you there.



G	government
S	superannuitants
A	association
Founded in 1920	

ORDER FORM

Number of copies: _____

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

\$40 per copy GST inclusive + postage

An invoice will be issued based on your order. Books will be supplied only on payment.

For any enquiries email national@gsa.org.nz or phone: 04 472 7006

Membership

Our current membership is 492. Since our AGM 27 have died and we have welcomed 4 new members to our branch.

Change of address

If you have a change of address please let Doreen know in order that we can ensure our records are correct, thank you.