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Hawke's Bay Branch Newsletter April 2020

This newsletter is being emailed to all our members with email addresses. We are unable to print and dispatch paper copies of the newsletter during the current Government emergency provisions. Please contact any member you know does not have email and let them know information from the emailed version.

Members will find updates on the GSA situation relating to Covid-19 on the GSA website – see the opening page for GSA' COVID-19 IMPACT UPDATE.”

As we write this newsletter we are entering week 2 of our national lockdown. We do hope you are all coping and that you have the support and companionship of family, friends and neighbours – albeit at a safe physical distance. Remember there is support available if you need it. The website covid19.govt.nz is a good place to start.

Vacancy for Branch Secretary/Treasurer. Are you worried about the prospect of a long and boring winter indoors? We have the solution if you are computer literate and well organised. Our Secretary/Treasurer role will be vacant from mid-June when Deb Renton-Green's contract finishes. Please contact the Chair, John Swinburn on 06 835 1534 or jbswinburn@gmail.com if you or anyone you know is interested in the role. There is a small honorarium. While it is helpful to be a GSA member, this is not necessary. Full training and support is provided by National Office.

AGM

GSA 2020 Branch AGMs around the country have been postponed indefinitely at this stage. Further information will follow once the Covid-19 physical distancing requirements have been lifted.

However we are including in this newsletter all the normal information we provide for the AGM to keep you up to date with activities and progress in the Branch. This includes the Branch Annual Report, Committee nominations for 2020/21, nomination for Reviewer, the Branch Financial Performance and the Minutes of last year's AGM.

Hawke's Bay Annual Report

Membership. As at 31 March 2020 we had 873 members, a drop of 5% from the same time last year. The reduction is almost entirely due to members or their

spouses passing away. We extend our sympathies to any of you who have lost a loved one.

Chairman's report. This is the GSA's 100th year and there will be details later in the year on recognition of that. The GSA History will be published and available later in the year. With membership declining the publication of the history will provide an essential record of "institutional" knowledge which is lost inevitably as membership declines by the attrition of age.

The Parliamentary Petition to secure 100% cost of living adjustments for pre 1985 retirees awaits decision after a positive Select Committee recommendation.

Your committee is thanked for its work on your behalf. Your committee is doubly fortunate in having two members Marjorie Thomas and Rob Brangwin who are also members of the GSA's Board.

Our Secretary Deb Renton-Green will not be seeking reappointment and she is thanked for her efficiency and member-focussed service over 4 years.

At our last Committee meeting, Ray Green advised he will not be available for re-nomination to the Committee. This was accepted with sadness but with understanding of Ray's medical situation and appreciation of the wonderful service he has given the Superannuitants' Association. Ray has served in various roles on the Committee for 20 years – initially with the Railways Superannuitants' Association Committee and then, after amalgamation, on the GSA Committee.

As members of this branch your support is essential for the existence and success of the Branch. You are thanked for providing that support by virtue of your membership and attendance at branch events.

John Swinburn

Chairman

The Committee. So far for 2020/21, we have the nominations below. We need more Committee members! If anyone is interested in finding out more, please contact Deb on hawbay@gsa.org.nz or 0800 888 472.

Nominations for 2020/21 Committee.

Chair: John Swinburn

Vice-Chair: Marjorie Thomas

Committee: Yvonne Whittle, Rob Brangwin, Dave Halliday.

Reviewer: At the last AGM the Committee was given the authority to appoint a Reviewer. We are delighted we have been able to secure the services of Gerald Best. Gerald works for Carlile Dowling as a Legal Executive. He is a JP and Treasurer for Riding for the Disabled Napier Group. Gerald is nominated again as our Reviewer for the 2020/21 year.

Hawkes Bay Branch Financial Performance for 12 months to 31 March 2020

Treasurer's Report.

Your Branch remains in a strong financial position, finishing the year with a surplus and with a good level of accumulated funds.

Nevertheless, there are some clouds on the horizon. Income was down 6%. While the number of people attending our Christmas function has remained strong, fewer have attended the AGM, bringing function income down. Subscription income has also reduced as membership numbers have reduced.

The main increase in expenditure was in Communications. This is because the Branch (instead of National Office) now funds the printing of this newsletter – reflecting the need for National Office to trim its costs.

The accounts have not yet been signed or reviewed, but will be before an AGM is held.

| Year to 31 March 2019 | Year to 31 March 2020 | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| \$ | \$ | Income |
| 6443 | 6118.72 | Subscriptions |
| 3760 | 3385.00 | Functions |
| 435 | 530.02 | Interest |
| 12 | | Other Income |
| 10,650 | 10,033.74 | TOTAL INCOME |
| | | |
| | | Expenditure |
| 6,975 | 6,806.27 | Functions |
| 0 | 626.17 | Communications |
| 509 | 257.89 | Organisation |
| 1,600 | 1,600.00 | Sec/Treasurer expenses |
| 150 | 150.00 | Review of accounts |
| 30 | 39.00 | General |
| 9,264 | 9,479.33 | TOTAL EXPENDITURE |
| 1,386 | 554.41 | <i>Surplus (deficit) for year</i> |

Financial Position as at 31 March 2020

| 31 March 2019 | 31 March 2020 | |
|---------------|------------------|------------------------------|
| 22,169 | 23,554.91 | Accumulated Funds |
| 1,386 | 554.41 | Surplus (deficit) |
| 23,555 | 24,109.32 | |
| | | Represented by assets |
| 5,914 | 6,433.79 | Kiwibank cheque account |
| 2,641 | 2,675.53 | Kiwibank on call account |
| 15,000 | 15,000.00 | Kiwibank term deposits |
| 23,555 | 24,109.32 | Total cash/bank |

Minutes of the 71st Annual General Meeting

Hawkes Bay Branch of the Government Superannuitants Association

East Pier Hotel, Napier. 23 May 2019 at 11.30 am

- 1. Welcome.** Marjorie Thomas opened the meeting, welcomed everyone, and introduced the Committee, life members and speaker Tony Hamilton. The Chairman reminded the meeting that while all were very welcome, only members could move or second a motion or vote.
- 2. Attendance and apologies.** 62 people attended the meeting. Attendance list attached. Apologies were received and sustained from 11 members. This included Rob Brangwin who was representing the Board at the Taupo Branch AGM, John Swinburn who is overseas, and Ray Green, our Chair, undergoing heart surgery in Wellington. Moved Dee Hibberd / Seconded Rex Proctor
- 3. Bereavements.** All present stood in memory of those members who had passed away.
- 4. Minutes of last meeting.** The minutes of the 2018 AGM were circulated to all members in the newsletter and taken as read. Confirmed as accurate. Moved Patricia Wawatai / Seconded Erica Tenquist.
- 5. Matters arising.** No matters arising.
- 6. Branch Annual Report.** The Branch Annual report was circulated to all members in the newsletter and taken as read. The annual report was adopted. Moved Bob Denby / Seconded Ian Holyoake.
- 7. Financial Report.** The report on income and expenditure and the financial position of the Hawke's Bay Branch, together with the Secretary/Treasurer's report was circulated to all members in the newsletter and taken as read. The financial report was adopted and approved. Moved Deb Renton-Green / Seconded Rex Proctor

- 8. Election of Officers.** The following were confirmed duly elected.

| Position | Name | Proposer | Secunder |
|------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Chairperson | John Swinburn | Marjorie Thomas | Rob Brangwin |
| Vice-Chairperson | Marjorie Thomas | Rob Brangwin | John Swinburn |
| Committee member | Rob Brangwin | John Swinburn | Ray Green |
| Committee member | Yvonne Whittle | Marjorie Thomas | Ray Green |
| Committee member | Ray Green | John Swinburn | Marjorie Thomas |
| Committee member | Dave Halliday | Yvonne Whittle | Marjorie Thomas |

- 9. Election of Reviewer.** The Committee is currently seeking a reviewer. The Chair asked that the Committee be given the authority to appoint a suitable person for the 2019/20 year. Moved Marjorie Thomas / Seconded Chris Young. All in favour.

- 10. General Business.** No matters of general business were raised
The meeting closed at 11.45 am

Confirmed: Chairperson.....

Date:.....