



Secretary
PO Box 11993
Manners Street

Chair
Ian Clunies-Ross

Deputy Chair
Peter Chambers

2019 Council Delegates
Ian Clunies-Ross
Peter Chambers

2019 Council Observers
Kay Monks

Secretary
Jirayu Brennan

Newsletter Wellington Branch April 2020

Call Free 0800 888 472
Office Phone 04 472 7006
wellington@gsa.org.nz

Branch Committee

Kevin Duggan, Graham Hill, Kay Monks, Alan Peck, Elizabeth Smaal, Mike Smith, Bryan Whisker, Ray Woolhouse.

Life Members

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

Important Note to Members: 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 who does not have email and give them the information from the emailed version.

Dear Member,

How long we remain in lockdown is unknown however we are sending this Newsletter to inform you that the branch committee is active and will continue to conduct its business remotely. That is to look after the interests of member.

As the majority of us are over 70 years we are the most vulnerable demographic to Covid-19. Therefore the committee is making this reality the determiner for its decision making into the foreseeable future.

You have been emailed the Newsletter. In it we have tentatively set out arrangements for various social events. We are nothing if not optimistic! Of course these may be postponed or cancelled however we are keeping our bookings in place for the meantime.

Please note that the Branch can be contacted via the secretary Jirayu at wellington@gsa.org.nz.

All the very best

Ian Clunies-Ross
Chair
Wellington Branch
Government Superannuation Association

Annual Report

I am pleased to present the Annual Report of the Wellington Branch. This is the 99th report for the branch and covers the year ending 31 March 2020. I am pleased and grateful that our Committee has carried out the work of the Branch so very well. This last year the committee has been represented by Peter Chambers (Deputy Chair), Jirayu Brennan (Secretary), Kevin Duggan, Graham Hill, Kay Monks, Alan Peck, Elizabeth Smaal, Mike Smith, Bryan Whisker and Ray Woolhouse

Committee meetings were held at Anvil House, Wakefield Street every second month and the minutes of those meetings are posted on the GSA web-site. Newsletters were published in April and October and circulated to all members. Copies of these can also be viewed on the Wellington page of the Association's web-site. Through the year sub-committee meetings were convened for policy matters, finance, social organisation, and recruitment.

I particularly wish to thank our Deputy, Peter Chambers for his assistance and work with the policy and finance committees. To Elizabeth Smaal and Kay Monks for their work with the Newsletter and Social committee ensuring our events were well organized and enjoyable.

Annual General Meeting 2020

The Wellington Branch of the GSA has been advised by the President, Tony Hamilton, that all GSA Annual General Meetings to be held in May and June, should be postponed indefinitely. Accordingly, our AGM has been postponed in the meantime. Our hope is to be able to hold an AGM in conjunction with the Mid-Winter Luncheon in August.

Should the national situation not improve considerably the AGM and Mid Winter luncheon will be cancelled.

Watch the GSA website: www.gsa.org.nz or contact our Branch Secretary Jirayu Brennan on wellington@gsa.org or 021 100 7080 for any update.

These were the AGM at the Petone Working Men's Club attended by forty nine members. The Mid-Winter Luncheon in July at the Pines, South Coast where we were addressed by Hon Tracey Martin, Minister for Seniors with sixty members attending, and the Wairarapa meeting and luncheon held at the Masterton Club in September and attended by forty six members. The Christmas Function in November at the Te Marua Golf Club was enjoyed by sixty five members, an encouraging increase in participation.

The provision of free buses to events continued in the year, again financed by the reserved SuperTravel fund. The MacKenzie Trust Fund was again under utilised and the committee continues to explore ways the fund could better be used to assist members to travel to events.



GSA members enjoyed Christmas Lunch at Te Marua Golf Club

Key matters concerning the branch during the year were:

1. The production, with support from National Office, of a Recruitment Poster. Members of the committee had copies of it placed on targeted noticeboards around Wellington and it was distributed for other branches to use as a resource for their recruiting efforts.
2. A GSA National survey confirmed the Wellington branch was in very good health in the areas of administration, committee participation, policy development and finances.
3. The branch commenced planning for the Centennial celebrations, 2020.
4. The Kiwibank's decision to cease accepting cheques encouraged the branch to explore alternative ways members could pay for their participation in events.

The GSA Council was held on 7/8 September. Peter Chambers and I represented the branch with Elizabeth

Smaal, Kay Monks and Ray Woolhouse as observers. Tony Hamilton was re-elected President. Mike Smith and Alan Peck were elected to the Board giving Wellington strong representation. The Council proceedings are reported in the Annuity News. The following table shows the change in branch numbers in the last 12 months:

Comparison	2019 31 March	2020 31 March	Change
Annuitant	2,722	2,594	-128
Annuitant spouse	1,467	1,426	-50
Surviving spouse	770	773	+3
Pre-annuitant	157	141	-16
Pre-annuitant spouse	120	109	-11
Total	5,245	5,043	-202

The finances of the branch were very strong as at 31 March 2020. However there was a somewhat reduced surplus from the previous year. The two causal factors for this were firstly, the branch resumed paying for the printing of the Newsletter. However we retained the advantage of free postage with the Annuity News. Secondly, the lunch costs for the two business meetings, the 2019 AGM and the September Wairarapa meeting, were subsidised. Subscription income is strong and will continue so through the coming year.

Thanks to our secretary Jirayu Brennan for her excellent work in ensuring the administration of the Branch worked very efficiently and productively. We farewell Graham Hill a member of the committee for the last 4 years and former Principal Officer of SuperTravels and thank him for his dedicated service to the branch. This was my last year of a three year term as Chair and Convenor for the Branch. Thank you all for your support.

Finally, please note the call for nominations for Branch Committee, Deputy Chair, and Chair for the 2020/2021 year.

Ian

Ian Clunies-Ross, Chair

Branch Committee Election:

Reminder: Nominations for the Wellington Branch Committee normally close one week before the Annual General Meeting. Due to the Covid-19 situation, please watch the GSA website www.gsa.org.nz and/or contact our Branch Secretary for any update on the meeting at 021 100 7080 or email wellington@gsa.org.nz

Mid-Winter & Wairarapa Luncheons

We plan to hold both these luncheons (details below) but it may be necessary to cancel or delay them based on the best available information from official sources, nearer the time. We will make every effort to keep you informed but, as stated above, please watch the GSA website and/or contact our Branch Secretary for any update.

Mid Winter Luncheon:

This luncheon will be held at the **James Cook Hotel Grand Chancellor** on The Terrace on **Wednesday 26 August at 12noon**. There will be some parking available but members are encouraged to use public transport as the hotel is easily accessed from Lambton Quay via the lifts in James Cook Arcade opposite the main National Bank on Lambton Quay. Take the lift to the hotel foyer followed by an internal lift to Level 17 where the luncheon will be held. Members and spouses \$30 pp. Non-members are welcomed.

Wairarapa Luncheon:

This luncheon will be held at the Masterton Club, 98 Chapel Street, Masterton on **Thursday 24 September at 12noon**. As this is considered a governance meeting, the luncheon is subsidised by the branch. The cost to members attending is \$10 pp.

2020 Christmas Luncheon:

Thursday 26 November

Your branch has plans to make this a special celebratory occasion to mark the 100th anniversary of the GSA, founded in 1920. In September, a book written by Professor Roger Openshaw will be launched. This publication, covering 100 years of GSA history will be available for purchase. More detail will be provided in our October newsletter but in the meantime please note this date in your diary and plan to join us in celebration.

Attendance at Social and Governance Functions

The Wellington Branch organises four outings per year – two are social: mid-year lunch and the Christmas function. The other two could be classed as governance (working) meetings i.e. AGM and the September Wairarapa meeting.

The meals at the two social functions may be subsidised – therefore members pay the subsidised price and non-members pay the full cost.

As the two governance meetings could be subsidised it is therefore reasonable to allow only GSA members to attend ie annuitants who have a GSA number and/or his/her partner who has joined the GSA. Guests are welcome at the luncheon but are required to pay the full cost.

A refund for non-attendance at functions should be provided only if the person notifies the secretary before the closing date when numbers have to be provided to the caterers. In exceptional cases, refunds will be assessed by the committee.

Wellington Branch Railway Social Club Mid- Year Luncheon

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

Our mid-year luncheon will be held at **Petone Working Men's Club on Wednesday 15th July 2020 and be seated by 12noon. Cost \$25.00 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.

The MacKenzie Trust

How it may help you ☺

The MacKenzie Trust was established in 2017 with the objective of providing assistance with travel to enable those who now find it difficult to attend GSA Wellington Branch functions because of lack of support, declining health, reduced mobility or other like reasons, to do so.

If you, or someone you know, would like to attend any GSA function, but need extra help with transport, please complete the booking form at the end of this newsletter paying particular attention to tick the box "MacKenzie Trust Extra Help Request" and you will be contacted.

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.

Website: 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

Website: www.datacomnfp.co.nz.

The Annuity News and this Branch Newsletter are both emailed to you. If you are missing either of these, contact the Branch secretary. If you require further clarification you may contact the GSA Executive Officer, Jenny Barclay.

Branch Contact

Secretary: Jirayu Brennan

Office: Level 1 Anvil House,
138 Wakefield Street, Wellington

Phone: (04) 472 7006,
Call free 0800 888 472

Email: wellington@gsa.org.nz

Post: PO Box 119933,
Manner Street, Wellington 6142

Change of address

Please let the Secretary know if there are any changes to your personal details. Telephone 0800 888472 or email Jirayu at wellington@gsa.org.nz. You can update these yourself at 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.

It is very important to advise Datacom immediately of any changes to your address and/or bank account details. Where mail is returned "gone no address", or bank accounts are closed, Datacom will make reasonable efforts to try to locate you. If you cannot be located, your annuity may be suspended until contact is re-established.

G	government
S	superannuitants
A	association

Wellington	Branch	Financial Report	
		Financial Performance Year ending 31/3/2020	
2019	2020		
\$	\$	Income	
33,197	31,953	Subscriptions (deducted GSF)	
1,835	1,460	Subscriptions (deducted NPF)	
1,870	1,709	Subscriptions (paid direct)	
7,102	4,425	Functions	
1,040	1,166	Interest	
0	0	Donations	
<u>45,044</u>	<u>40,713</u>	<i>income</i>	
		Expenditure	
8,688	5,412	Functions	
1,050	1,026	Communications	stationery, recruitment, postage.
	2,649	Newsletter	
	2,237	Governance	
2,380	1,408	Organisation	
14,203	21,745	Remuneration	
3,324	3,417	Office function	Rent, power, cleaning, security (shared cost).
500	500	Review	
3,493	0	Recruitment Agency	
0	140	Equipment	
409	26	General	
<u>34,047</u>	<u>38,560</u>	<i>expenditure</i>	
10,997	2,153	<i>surplus (deficit) for year</i>	
2019	2020	Financial position as at 31 March 2020	
\$	\$		
51,552	62,550	Accumulated funds 1 April 2019	
19,055	17,740	ST Funds	
	1,069	RSC Funds	
10,997	2,153	Surplus (deficit)	
<u>81,604</u>	<u>83,512</u>	Total Funds	
Represented by			
Assets			
36,386	36,950	Cash account	
45,000	45,000	Term deposits	
<u>81,386</u>	<u>81,950</u>	Total cash/bank	
718	1,562	Accrued interest	
0	500	Payment in advance	
0	0	Accounts receivable	
<u>82,104</u>	<u>84,012</u>	Total Assets	
less liabilities			
500	500	Review Fee	
<u>81,604</u>	<u>83,512</u>	Net Assets	

Signed:

Secretary

J Brennan

April 2020

Chairperson

I Clunies-Ross

April 2020

I have reviewed the financial statements above for the year ended 31 March 2020.

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 2020

Note: If you do not have an email address maybe you have a family member or close friend who would be happy to receive the occasional email for you as a means of our keeping in timely contact with you during the Covid-19 pandemic. Please advise the Branch Secretary at wellington@gsa.org.nz or call 021 100 7080

Mid Winter Luncheon* – Wednesday 26 August

I/We shall be attending the luncheon at the James Cook Hotel Grand Chancellor, 147 The Terrace, Wellington.

Names _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Email _____

Please tick for MacKenzie Trust Extra Help Request. You will be contacted.

Number attending _____ Cost will be \$30.00 per person. Please pay \$ _____ by either:

Direct credit account 38 9014 0085421 00.

Quote name, annuity number and the reference MIDY, or:

I will bring \$ _____ to the meeting in an envelope marked with the above highlighted details. **And then return this slip to the Branch Secretary GSA Wellington branch at PO BOX 11993, Manner Street, Wellington 6142 by Wednesday 19 August 2020.**

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Wairarapa Lunch* – Thursday 24 September

I/We shall be attending the lunch at the Masterton Club, 98 Chapel Street, Masterton.

Names _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Email _____

Please tick for MacKenzie Trust Extra Help Request. You will be contacted.

Number attending _____ Cost will be \$10.00 per person. Please pay \$ _____ by either:

Direct credit account 38 9014 0085421 00.

Quote name, annuity number and the reference MAST, or:

I will bring \$ _____ to the meeting in an envelope marked with the above highlighted details. **And then return this slip to the Branch Secretary GSA Wellington branch at PO BOX 11993, Manner Street, Wellington 6142 by Thursday 17 September 2020**

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* Please note a buffet meal will be provided as before with cost subsidised by the Branch.