



Newsletter

Manawatu Branch

April 2021

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

Branch Committee

Chair: Roger Openshaw

Committee:

Gordon Batchelar, Annette Beasley, Robert Crawley, Arthur Evans, Ros Hallam, Russell Hallam, Sid Murdie, Graham Poucher, Meri Tipene-Walker

Secretary/Treasurer: John Lowen
Reviewer: Meg Vining

Annual General Meeting and luncheon scheduled for Wednesday 26th May 2021. All members, spouses and partners are welcome to attend our Annual General Meeting and luncheon, as outlined below.

Date: Wednesday 26th May 2021

Meeting Time: 10.00am

Lunch: 12 noon

Venue: Hunterville Room, Hotel Distinction Coachman, 140 Fitzherbert Avenue, Palmerston North

Chairperson's Report. 2021

This is my first report as Chair since I was nominated for the position, in November 2020. I wish to open this brief message by recording my sincere thanks to a number of GSA members and officeholders. First, Arthur Evans has recently tendered his resignation from the Manawatu Branch Committee. Arthur has been a particularly longstanding and productive member of our committee for some 26 years. As such, he has helped to guide and shape GSA's successful responses to the many issues that the Association has been engaged with over this period.

Second, I wish to record my personal gratitude to Gordon Batchelor, the previous chair of the Manawatu Branch. Gordon has been "at the helm" of our committee for 20 years. During this time, he chaired meetings, organised events, and represented us regularly at Council. When I became Vice-Chair, I had the good fortune to be able to learn from a truly dedicated expert who was always willing to share his experience with me. Fortunately, Gordon has chosen to remain on our committee, and this means that we will still be able to draw upon his wisdom.

Third, I want to record my gratitude for the hospitality I enjoyed during November last year, when I visited a number of branches in order to promote *Safeguarding Super*. This book was published last September as part of GSA's ongoing centennial celebrations. Having just survived the "Black Flu" pandemic of 1918-19, our Superannuated Public Servants Association predecessors of 1920 would have been in a unique position to understand something of our own concerns and problems 100 years further on, as we experienced the various alarms, uncertainties and lockdowns associated with the COVID-19 pandemic.

Fourth, I am happy to report that we continue to have a strong and active committee this year. It is with gratitude, therefore, that I conclude this brief message with recording my thanks to all our committee members, for their welcome support. In this context I wish particularly to commend our hard working and knowledgeable Secretary/Treasurer, John Lowen – not least for his expertise in successfully steering us through the complexities of internet banking!

Finally, we look forward to seeing many of you at our forthcoming AGM and luncheon this year. And do remember, that you too can do your bit for GSA by encouraging any of your friends and acquaintances who may qualify for GSA membership - either as superannuitants, or as superannuitant's spouses - to think about joining if they have not already done so. In this way we can continue to keep our organisation strong at both branch and national level.

Roger Openshaw

Chair,

Manawatu Branch.

Secretary/Treasurers Report

Well despite a couple of bumps on the way, particularly in our northern Metropolis, we have continued to tick along quite steadily in our "new normal". I have been kept quietly busy following up on former members in our Branch who have allowed membership of the GSA to lapse and spouses/partners of deceased Annuitants who have not opted for membership of the GSA. The effort is bearing fruit and a number of both lapsed and pending members have resumed or commenced membership of the Association.

The exercise, particularly relating to surviving spouses has shown that there are several Annuitants who do not appear to be aware of the advice in Section 3 of the guide for **GSA Members - Retirement and your Annuity** (August 2020 edition) regarding 'My spouse/civil union/de facto partner as a Stakeholder'. Which discusses registration of your spouse as a member of the GSA. I would recommend that those Members who are not aware of the provision and wish to exercise it check the reference and contact me. There will be a limited number of copies of the Guide on the registration table at the AGM for those who do not have the latest copy, or you can contact me, and I will forward you a copy.

John Lowen

Annual General Meeting and Luncheon

Agenda

10.00am Welcome and Apologies

Previous Meeting Minutes (Wed 25th Nov 20)

Chairpersons Report

Secretary / Treasurer's Report

Election of Chairperson and Committee Members

Guest Speakers

Mr. Dallas Elvy – Branch Liaison Officer, National Office (TBC)

Professor Roger Openshaw – “*Safe Guarding Super*”

Lunch

Distinction Hotel Lunch Menu

Salad selection

Mixed Leafy Green Salad

with a Honey Mustard Vinaigrette (GF/DF/V)

Hot selection

Sweet & Sour Pork

Basmati Rice

Roast Potatoes with Garlic & Herb Butter (GF)

Steamed Vegetables with Olive Oil infused with Lime (GF/DF)

Dessert selection

Tiramisu

Passionfruit Roulade

Tea & Coffee

*GF = Gluten Free

*V = Vegetarian

Cost of Luncheon. The full cost of luncheon is \$40.00 however, the Committee have agreed to subsidise the meal by 50% reducing the cost to members down to just \$20.00.

Please complete this form and return to the Secretary at 302C Kimbolton Road, Feilding 4702 by no later than 21st May 2021 or E-mail details to Manawatu@gsa.org.nz

Please Allow three days if forwarding by post

I/We will be attending the Luncheon on Wednesday, 26th May at Distinction Coachman Hotel

Name(s).....

Address:.....

Phone ().....

Number Attending..... (Cost \$20.00 per person)

Payment may be made by:

Cheque: ...

(Note Cheques will not be acceptable on or after June 2021)

Or

Internet Banking: WESTPAC Acct "Manawatu Br Government Superannuitants

Association, Account No: **03-0726-0578952-00**, (please ensure you enter your

name in the Particulars **panel**)

Or

At your Bank by **Bank Deposit** (Account details as above); please

ensure your name is included as Depositor.