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TARANAKI BRANCH GSA NEWSLETTER

Government Superannuitants Association, Taranaki Branch

Chairman's Report October 2024

It was great to see all those who were able to attend our AGM on 15th May. The AGM went well, and the existing Committee were confirmed in their positions for the current year.

Again, we had the support of Alan Peck, our representative on the Board, who updated us on the national situation. The guest speakers from Taranaki Emergency Management gave us an interesting insight into their work.

The Committee organised a lunch meeting at the South Taranaki Club in Hawera for the benefit of those South Taranaki members who are unable to make it to our meetings in New Plymouth. This took place on Wednesday 14th August, and while at least 12 locals had advised their intention to attend, only two made it. Seven committee members and two of their wives had travelled there for the event.

The lunch was enjoyed, but it was disappointing to have so few local members attending. Feedback from the South Taranaki members as to whether they would like a different format would assist future Committees.

On 6th September there was a training day in Wellington for Branch Secretaries and Treasurers. This was attended by Denyse and a number of those who were at that meeting expressed that it was a valuable time. This was the day prior to the start of the Annual Council meeting where Denyse and I represented our Branch.

The most important item of business transacted was the passing of the amendments to the Constitution which were required for registration under the Incorporated Societies Act 2022. It was considered necessary to achieve this in time for it to be registered well ahead of the 2026 deadline.

There was also a workshop to develop new Objectives to enhance the activities of Branches as part of looking to redeveloping the Association to cope with the projected decline in membership as time progresses.

On the Sunday morning, the guest speaker was Irene Muir, General Manager of Annuitas, which is the organisation that handles the investment of the GSF, and her role also has significant involvement with the GSFA and Datacom. One point she strongly emphasised was that if any annuitant has appointed someone as their Attorney, then a copy of the Power of Attorney lodged with Datacom will eliminate significant delays in the required process following their death. Otherwise, it is required that Datacom verify the credentials of the named Attorney before they can act on any instructions. Another area is that of Spouse or Partner entitlements where a change of relationship has occurred. In this situation it is required that the relationship be proved. Lodgement of proof with Datacom at the earliest opportunity saves problems following death of the annuitant. A copy of Wills that clearly identify the relationship is considered the best proof. Otherwise, it can be an Affidavit, or evidence of joint accounts etc.

We look forward to seeing as many as possible at our Christmas meeting where the guests are from Hospice Taranaki.. You will more than likely have viewed "Antique Roadshow" on BBC television. This is your opportunity to be a participant in the Taranaki Hospice version!

Members are invited to bring along ONE item from your home which you value as a family memento. To share your treasure with our members and to perhaps discover even more history about your precious object.

Our guest speakers are:

Tom Philipson, Volunteer Appraiser and Hospice Antiquity Specialist .

Jessica Sinclair, Retail Group Manager, Hospice Shop.

Les Sharp

Chairman; Taranaki Branch

Christmas Meeting and Lunch



GSA 2024

Wednesday 27th November 2024

Venue **THE PLYMOUTH INTERNATIONAL HOTEL Courtney Street
Blenheim Room**

Format 10am Mix and Mingle Morning Tea
 Welcome –
 Tea or Coffee

11am

Antique Roadshow

Guest Speakers:

Tom Philipson: Volunteer Appraiser and Hospice Antiquity Specialist
Jessica Sinclair: Hospice Retail Group Manager.

12.15pm Lunch served to the table.

Members, spouses, and friends are invited to this meeting
The subsidised cost is \$30 per person which includes morning tea and lunch

Payment to Taranaki GSA
15 3953 0455999 00
or cash on the day

**Please ring Denyse Salisbury, phone 753 4998 or 021 0428268 or email taranaki@gsa.org.nz
by 20th November if you are able to join us.
We look forward to seeing you there.**

Change of address

If you have a change of address, landline phone number or cell phone number please let Denyse know so that she can ensure our records are correct.

If you have an email address, or have changed your email address please let Denyse know so that they can be added to our records and the database.

We encourage members to add their spouses to their member page if they have not already done so. Your spouse or partner can join the GSA for FREE and receive full membership rights with our compliments. Should you pre-decease your spouse or partner, they will then be able to join the GSA in their own right on payment of the membership subscription.

The newsletter is published twice a year if you have an email address or cell phone number, we can let you know of any news and upcoming events/functions. Thank you.