



## North Shore Supernews

### Newsletter of the North Shore Sub-Group Government Superannuitants Association

November 2024

## **END OF YEAR CHRISTMAS FUNCTION**

**Date:** Friday 22 November 2024

**Venue:** Birkenhead RSA, Recreation Drive, Birkenhead.

**Time:** 10.00am Tea/Coffee available.

Mix and mingle – Please wear your name badge if you have one.

10.30 Meeting, with short National GSA report.

### **11.00 Entertainment**

**12.00 Lunch** – Xmas menu with dessert,  
see the insert, with registration and payment details.  
RSA limited bar open for wine/beer with your meal –own cost.

**Entertainment:** “Robyn the Harper”

- professional harpist Robyn Allen Goudge who is a speaker and singer. She will play and entertain us with a Christmas theme.

There is plenty of parking at the venue, and the RSA is well signposted.

There is a lift from the main floor down to the function room.

**Hope to see you there.**



## Quick Learners

Back in September we witnessed the Kaupapa (protocol) of Maori honouring and farewelling Kingi Tuheitia and welcoming their new young Kuini Nga Wai Hono I Te Po.

The Kingitanga (Maori Monarch) movement began in 1858 as iwi realised that they must unify by paralleling the British system if they were to resist the unfair land-grabbing tactics of the pakeha newcomers.

In fact, history shows that Maori were quick and effective learners right from when their various sea-going waka navigated their way to Aotearoa around 1300CE, bringing kumara (plus some tropical food crops which didn't survive very well). They quickly learned how to utilise the local kaimoana (seafoods), bird life and plants for food and medicine, unfortunately over harvesting the moa. They learned how to travel and trade with other iwi (eg northern kumara for southern seal meat and greenstone) but there was much inter-tribal warfare too, just like in Scotland and England. Their non-metallurgical, non-pottery stone age culture made good use of what was available in fibre, wood, stone and bone.

But after the first pakeha landings by James Cook's voyagers from 1769, they were quick learners, adopters and traders in European metal-based technology and agriculture. They could trade timber, flax, potatoes and poaka (pork) for tools, new construction and carrying methods, new agricultural methods and crops, new European animals, new clothing materials, and unfortunately, muskets and later, rifles. On the rich soils of Taranaki and Waikato they grew wheat and established flour mills. They procured trans-Tasman trading ships, and supported the needs of the pakeha settlers arriving in the towns.

But when Governor Grey ignored the land-purchase conditions of the Treaty of Waitangi, and General Duncan Cameron's British Army invaded the Waikato from Auckland in 1863, after earlier skirmishes in Taranaki, Maori realised they must unify to resist losing their lands as economic and spiritual bases. So came the New Zealand Land Wars (in remarkable parallel to the American Civil War) which lasted until the 1880s.

New Zealand seems to be the standout country in the English-speaking world where a deal signed between an Indigenous culture and a European culture in 1840, finally began to be honoured and some recompense begun, from the 1970s onward.

The renaissance of Maori culture, the Maori business success, the usage of te reo, the awareness of Te Ao Maori (the Maori world-view): all these are recognition of a unique Kiwi identifier in our international, tourist and sporting relationships and give me (and I hope others) a sense of pride as a New Zealander and hope for our future.

*Eric Bowater*



Aging is a stage of life that's especially ripe for us to get free.

*Ram Dass*

Don't listen to what they say.....Go See.

*Chinese Proverb*

Kia Ora to all our North Shore GSA Members

Welcome to our next meeting on Friday 22 November 2024 which of course is our Xmas get together and which hopefully will be an opportunity to catch up with friends and colleagues and no doubt have some fun in the process. There will of course be the meeting format to cover before we are joined by our guest “Robyn the Harper” who will entertain us with Christmas themed music.

Accordingly, I ask members to be seated promptly by 10.30 am after morning tea. We can then get our meeting underway and completed by 11 am followed by our entertainment, and then all enjoy the lunch provided.

I don't propose to review the last year as we did that at the AGM meeting and our primary purpose is to come together at this time of year to enjoy the comradeship we share together in our GSA sub-branch.

Very recently I spent some two and a half months visiting several countries in Europe including England which no longer believe that they are part of Europe and additionally Egypt and Turkey. My family and close friends were concerned about my visiting Egypt during a period of increasing security concern in the region in the light of the instability of the region generally and particularly given the awful situation faced by many in such places as Gaza and elsewhere in the region.

Whatever our beliefs there is no denying the abject misery and fear faced 24/7 by people of all ages, and particularly the children whose future lives, if they survive, will be permanently scarred by what they experience which far too often results in the death of loved ones and general destruction of their homes and property.

Perhaps therefore we can spare a thought or two at Christmas time for those wherever in the world who continue to suffer such intolerable situations and often without any potential end in sight.

It has been an interesting year in review generally and without your support there would be little reason for any of us being here today. Your committee members work hard on behalf of all our GSA Members, and I want to thank everyone here present today for your continued and vital support.

It has also become traditional at this Christmas function for the Committee members to burst into song, exercise their lungs and labour your ears by singing Happy Christmas to you. We will look forward to that opportunity - being of course fully in the Christmas spirit!

Best wishes everyone for a happy Christmas with time being spent with family and / or friends and hopefully we can all look forward to 2025 being a great year for everyone in our incredible country.

Kia Kaha

*Brian Lewis*  
Chairman



**Your Committee:**

**Chairman:** Brian Lewis    **Secretary:** Pat Christian    **Treasurer:** Jack Harris

**Members:** Eric Bowater, Mary Harris, Pamela Marshall, Graeme Wake, Sylvana Whyborn, Robert Whyborn.

**Phones:**    Brian 09 4144654    Pat 09 4101052    Jack 09 2145729



# CHRISTMAS COOKIES?



**NO, I HAVEN'T SEEN ANY CHRISTMAS COOKIES**  
BaxterBoo.com

## Don't wash your hair in the shower

(It's so good to finally get a health warning that is useful)

**IT INVOLVES THE SHAMPOO WHEN IT RUNS DOWN YOUR BODY WHEN YOU SHOWER WITH IT ..... A WARNING TO US ALL!!!**

I don't know WHY I didn't figure this out sooner! I use shampoo in the shower! When I wash my hair, the shampoo runs down my whole body, and printed very clearly on the shampoo label is this warning, "FOR EXTRA BODY AND VOLUME."

No wonder I have been gaining weight! Well, I got rid of that shampoo and I am going to start showering with Dawn dishwashing soap instead. Its label reads, "DISSOLVES FAT THAT IS OTHERWISE DIFFICULT TO REMOVE."

Problem solved!  
If I don't answer the phone I'll be in the shower!!!

**SHARE if it made you LAUGH!**

"What did you get for Christmas?"

"A mouth-organ. It's the best present I ever got."

"Why?"

"My mom gives me 50 cents a week not to play it!"



Two men had just broken into a high-rise apartment when they heard the sound of police sirens.

'Quick, lets jump out the window'

'We can't, we're on the thirteenth floor.'

'Listen, this is no time to be superstitious.'

Five thousand bars of soap were stolen from a warehouse. Police say the thieves made a clean getaway.

A man in a hurry taking his son to school made a right turn at a red light. 'Uh-oh!' he said. 'I think I just made an illegal turn.' 'It's OK, Dad,' said the boy. 'The police car right behind us did the same thing.'



Joe-Bob was driving a tall truck as it approached a low bridge.

'Oh, no,' he said. 'The height of the bridge is nine foot, and our truck is at least ten foot!'

'It's OK', said Billy-Joe in the passenger seat. "There's no cops around!"

Following the theft of a truck full of toupees, police officers were reported to be combing the area.



# CHRISTMAS FUNCTION MENU

Friday 22 November 2024

HOT HAM ON BONE  
ROAST CHICKEN  
ROAST VEGES & SALADS  
BREAD ROLLS & BUTTER

PAVLOVA WITH FRESH FRUIT TOPPING  
WHIPPED CREAM  
CHOCOLATE BROWNIE

Served as a buffet.

Please register and pay for the luncheon by the deadline of  
**Friday 15th November- \$29.00 each per paid up member**  
**(non-paid up 2025 members/guests \$35.00)**

to register: Jack Harris

[jack4andmary@gmail.com](mailto:jack4andmary@gmail.com) or 09 2145729

pay online to:

**ASB account: 12-3026-0737928.00**



Have you paid your North Shore sub-Group subscription for the 2025 year?  
\$20 per household to be paid as above, but please put your name and '25 Sub' in the  
details fields so that Jack can separate the two payments.  
Paying both?—\$49, Xmas & Sub..