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|----------|------------------------|
| G | government |
| S | superannuitants |
| A | association |

Founded in 1920

Horowhenua/Kapiti Branch

April 2025

Secretary:
John Laurenson
Ph: 021 445 115
horowhenua@gsa.org.nz

Our Next Members Meeting is the Annual General Meeting

**Thursday 29 May 2025
from 11:00 am, at the Otaki RSA
9 Raukawa Street
OTAKI**

Luncheon to follow the meeting
(\$15.00 per head payable in advance)
Partners are welcome.

Guest speaker: Alan Straker (GSA President)

Registration details at bottom of next page

Apologies are not required

National Newsletter

The latest national newsletter *Annuity News* is enclosed. It includes items of specific interest to GSA members and it is worthwhile to take the time to read it.

Join the Committee

We welcome members to join the Branch committee which meets four times a year in addition to the AGM and end of year functions. If you would be interested in joining the committee please contact **Jeff Taylor (04) 298 8924** before the AGM.

Local Committee Contacts

Committee members are available if you have matters that you would like to bring to the committee's attention:

Levin and Horowhenua, Otaki - Patrick Thomas,
027 236 8226

Waikanae, Paraparaumu - John Laurenson,
021 445 115

Paekākāriki - Edgar Spark, 021 261 1240

Membership Administration

Our membership administrator, Catherine Chang has returned from a year's maternity leave so you can contact her for membership queries,
phone **0800 888 472**

Annual Report

It is my pleasure to present the annual report for the Horowhenua/ Kapiti Branch of the GSA for the year ending 31 March 2025.

Firstly, I would like to thank all those members who continue to support our AGM and end of year functions. Most venues now require a minimum number of attendees, below which they will not host our functions. If you have yet to attend any of our branch functions, especially the AGM, I would welcome and encourage your participation. Apart from the opportunity to meet fellow members, and enjoy a lovely lunch, these events are an opportunity to engage with your committee members on matters of branch and national interest.

Again, I am indebted to my committee, who continue to work diligently to ensure that the needs of you, our members, are supported, as well as being actively engaged in matters at a national level. This year the GSA constitution was renewed and the strategic plan was revised. The committee contributed to both pieces of work. For the branch to continue to prosper, we need members, where able, to take an active role in supporting Branch activities, including becoming committee members. Being a member of our committee is not onerous, and we need the widest range of views when dealing with matters relating members.

We continue to work closely with the Wellington branch, and were pleased to welcome Catherine, their branch secretary, back from parental leave. Catherine administers the Horowhenua/Kapiti membership database and related matters. I would also like to express my gratitude to Lyn and Rachel at the National Office. They continue to provide substantial support, and are always welcoming when committee members visit. Our proximity to Wellington is advantageous. I would also like to acknowledge our Board liaison person, Roger Openshaw for his support.

In conclusion, I would like to welcome the GSA president, Alan Straker. We are privileged to have Alan in attendance, and to address our AGM.

Jeff Taylor, Branch Chairperson

Managing Your Annuity

In the October 2024 branch newsletter, we mentioned that we were considering convening a session with Annuitas to discuss matters relating to managing your annuity. Unfortunately, we will not be able to hold that session this year, but here are some of the key points for your information:

- Annuitas Management Limited provides professional services to the Government Superannuation Fund and the National Provident Fund.
- Datacom Connect Limited look after day-to-day administration, pay entitlements and respond to members queries.
- Please note that Datacom will never send a generic email asking a member for personal information (for example, bank account number or date of birth) or ask a member to provide their bank account details over the telephone.

Matters of note. If you have queries relating to any of the following matters, please do not hesitate to contact Datacom: powers of attorney, timely S48 and S98 assignments, de-facto relationships, contact details, notification of membership detail changes.

The Kapiti Coast Workers Educational Association offers seminars, courses, and bus trips covering a wide range of interesting topics. For further information check their website www.kapitiwea.org.nz

End of year functions

This year, we will hold our two November functions on 13 November (Levin) and 20 November (Waikanae). More details in October's newsletter

Financial Summary to 31 March 2025

The audited branch financial report will be available at the AGM. Key items are listed below.

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|-------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Subscriptions | \$9483 | |
| Cost of Functions | | \$4090 |
| Functions | \$1800 | |
| Interest | \$3537 | |
| Postage & Other | | \$1618 |
| Total Income | \$14810 | |
| Total Expenses | | \$5708 |
| Total accumulated funds | | \$102389 |

Even with a reduction in membership, the total revenue from subscriptions has increased because of the decision by the GSA Council to increase the four-weekly rate each member pays.

Horowhenua/Kapiti Branch Membership Statistics at 31 March 2025

| | |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Annuitants | 460 |
| Spouses of annuitants | 259 |
| Surviving Spouses | 158 |
| PreAnnuitants | 7 |
| Spouses of PreAnnuitants | 5 |
| Total | 889 |

Last year's total was 1086.

Wellington branch Mid-Winter Function

The Wellington Branch invites Horowhenua/Kapiti members to a Mid-Winter luncheon on Wednesday 22nd July 2025 at West Plaza Hotel.

Please contact the Wellington secretary (022 061 1423) by Monday, 10 July to confirm attendance and any special dietary requirements. Cost \$35:00 pp cash at the door only.

Booking and Paying for AGM Luncheon

Option 1 (Internet users)

Pay the entry fee of \$15.00 per person by internet banking

(Bank account: 38-9014-0275903-01)

THEN Send a confirming email to

horowhenua@gsa.org.nz

Option 2. (no internet access).

Contact Jeff Taylor by phone (021 135 3230) and Pay \$15.00 per person on arrival at the AGM.

Please ensure you register your intention to attend the luncheon before 22 May 2025.