

### 75<sup>th</sup> Annual Report: Northland Branch GSA 2024 – 2025

My first report as a re-constituted Chairperson. It was a great privilege to lead our organisation as President from September 2018 – September 2023. I want to thank those who nominated and elected me as a Life Member of GSA. Thank you for the honour.

In the past year the Northland Branch has continued activities in a similar way as in previous years. Two committee members, Rex and Roger, attended the September 2024 Council meeting. An important item at the meeting was the adoption of a new constitution for GSA that met the requirement of the 2022 Incorporated Societies Act. We hosted three report back meetings following the Council meeting; Whangarei, Mangonui and Kerikeri. We tried three in the Far North last year but have decided for 2025 we will hold them in Whangarei and Kerikeri. The Committee believes they are an important part of our need to communicate with members in person.

We held the usual 2 lunch meetings, AGM in May and end of year in November. All members are invited to attend. We are grateful to our Board Liaison member, vice President Sandie Gusscott (Auckland Branch) for her willingness to attend the lunches. Also appreciated is Sandie's attendance, via zoom, at our committee meetings. There were the normal four of these.

Branch membership numbers continue to slowly decline as age takes its toll. Remember that members spouses / partners can become members, at no extra cost. Please let us know if / when address details etc change so we keep our communication lines open. All you need to do is make a phone call: Secretary Rex at 0800 888 472. There are annuitants who are not members: They can join online [www.gsa.org.nz](http://www.gsa.org.nz) or contact Secretary Rex. We continue to encourage receipt of this newsletter, and the Annuity News via email.

Branch finances remain healthy: we continue to meet the financial reserve policy requirement of having on hand 24 months of subscription income. We sent a further \$5,000 back to National Office in the last financial year, that makes a total of \$20,000 returned under the policy. This is likely the last year our accounts will be reviewed locally. Under the new Act the GSA is classified as an organisation that requires an audit. Further rule changes are required to support this change which will result in National Office and all branches being audited. A trial of this is currently being carried out.

As always at the AGM a new committee will be elected: I do not believe it is onerous work so please put yourself forward or talk to a committee member if you are interested. Only five meetings over the year (each approx. two hours duration). Many thanks to our hard-working committee. See you at the May meeting.

*Tony Hamilton, Chairperson*

### AGM and Mid Year Function

At the Kamo Club

Wednesday May 21st 2025

Gather at 11:00

Formalities begin 11:30 with AGM at 11:45

Guest Speaker will be

Tony Savage

Enduring Powers of Attorney / Wills

### Members and friends socializing at the 2024 GSA Christmas Function



Roger Barber is thanked for his time as Chairperson.



We were entertained by the Flaming Ukes.



Sandie Guscott, Vice President of GSA Board addressing members at 2024 Christmas Function. Sandie presented a Life Membership Award to Tony Hamilton.



## Your current committee

### Chairperson

Tony Hamilton, 021547414  
[tah3524@gmail.com](mailto:tah3524@gmail.com)

### Secretary

Rex Morris, 435 4628  
or  
0800 888 472  
[northland@gsa.org.nz](mailto:northland@gsa.org.nz)

### Treasurer

Tony Hamilton, 021547414  
[tah3524@gmail.com](mailto:tah3524@gmail.com)

### Committee

Robin Shepherd, 09 4084192  
[rlshepherd@orcon.net.nz](mailto:rlshepherd@orcon.net.nz)  
Sandra Strachan, 4362532  
[sandrastra@hotmail.com](mailto:sandrastra@hotmail.com)  
Deborah Foote, 4361739  
[phoenixrae56@gmail.com](mailto:phoenixrae56@gmail.com)  
John Furey, 0210365488  
[john.mata@slingshot.co.nz](mailto:john.mata@slingshot.co.nz)  
Walter Smith  
[waltersmithnz@gmail.com](mailto:waltersmithnz@gmail.com)  
Roger Barber, 435 0785  
[tudorwoodnz@gmail.com](mailto:tudorwoodnz@gmail.com)

### The Personal Data booklet

is designed to record a wide range of information and a completed copy of this kept in a file with your statements from Datacom will be extremely useful for a surviving spouse.

It will also be very helpful for a surviving spouse if your GSA six digit number is written on the front of the file. If you don't have a booklet, or can't find it, contact your Branch Secretary at

**0800 888 472.**

## Receiving the Annuity News and the Branch Newsletter

With postage costs continuing to rise the Association is making a request to members to consider receiving our publications via email.

If your personal information needs updating (address, phone number etc). DATACOM also needs to hear about information changes.

Please contact us either by email  
([northland@gsa.org.nz](mailto:northland@gsa.org.nz)), by phoning one of your Committee members or using

**0800 888472 Anytime**

## 'GSA awards Life Membership to Tony Hamilton'

Antony Alan Hamilton (Tony) has been a member of the Government Superannuitants Association since 2009. He has served in many roles including that of continuing member of the Northland Committee from 2011, a period of 13 years, Treasurer of Northland since 2014, a period of 10 years, Chair of Northland for 5 years and counting, Delegate for the Northland Branch to Council, Board member of the Government Superannuitants Association for 7 years and National President for 5 years.

Born in Auckland, Tony received his secondary education at Whangarei Boys High School, Hamilton Boys High School and Westlake Boys High School. Following this he attended Waikato University, then North Shore Teachers College.

He worked in schools in the South Island, Central North Island, Whangarei and at Maungaturoto School in Northland. He moved into Principalship early in his career working in schools in the Waikato, Wanganui and East Coast areas.

Tony returned to Maungaturoto as Principal in the late 90s and stayed there until his retirement in 2011.

He worked for the Ministry of Education as an Advisor assisting schools when the Ministry of Education's Payroll system was under severe stress.

Tony became involved with the New Zealand Education Institute where he worked tirelessly advocating for teachers, support staff and principals. He became Chair of the NZEI Principals Council and led negotiations for the Primary School Principals Collective Agreement.

Tony has been active in other organisations. He was a member and Treasurer of the Whangarei SeniorNet committee. He held various offices in both the Marton & Maungaturoto Rotary Clubs, including that of President in both. He is an active member of the NZ Labour Party working variously as Secretary, Treasurer, and campaign committee member.

Tony has been passionate about the New Zealand Government Superannuitants Association and has worked tirelessly to protect the annuity. He served as President for a period of five years. During this time he faced several challenges. He had to manage the organisation through the Covid Pandemic and the lockdowns which created many constitutional and organisational challenges. He introduced Zoom meetings for the Board, assisted Branches in meeting their requirements and developed a plan to ensure Council meetings would happen. There were staff changes requiring many hours of meetings and trips, often at the whim of Air New Zealand flight schedules.

His qualities are of a standard we need to retain in the organisation. He left no stone unturned in his pursuit of the goals of the Association. His experience and passion for building and promoting excellence must not be lost and it's for these reasons, and his fine personal qualities, that the Northland Branch recommends Tony Hamilton as a worthy recipient of a Life Membership of the New Zealand Government Superannuitants Association.

**IMPORTANT: PLEASE NOTE REPORT BACK MEETING DATES. No posted reminder will be sent.**

<b>Financial Performance for the year ended 31 March 2025</b>				
<b>New Budget Year to 31.3.26</b>		<b>Actual Year to 31.3.25</b>	<b>Budget Year to 31.3.25</b>	<b>Actual Year to 31.3.24</b>
\$	<b>Income</b>	\$	\$	\$
4,860	Subscriptions GSF / total Subscriptions NPF deducted	5,578.23	5,730	4,716
	Subscriptions direct			166
1,420	Functions Received	1,420.00	1,400	101
60	Interest Received	627.27	600	945
<b>6,340</b>	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>7,625.50</b>	<b>7,730</b>	<b>6,579</b>
	<b>Less Expenses</b>			
2,100	Functions	2110.00	2,100	1,581
840	Communications	728.54	1,295	1,160
1,000	Organisation	2,042.81	1,075	1,041
600	Office Function	606.40	500	500
200	Review of accounts	200.00	200	200
10	Withholding Tax	5.45		
<b>4,750</b>	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>5,693.20</b>	<b>5,170</b>	<b>4,482</b>
<b>1,590</b>	<b>Surplus (Deficit)</b>	<b>1,932.30</b>	<b>2,560</b>	<b>2,097</b>

**Financial position as at 31 March 2025**

	<b>Year to 31.3.25</b>	<b>Year to 31.3.24</b>
	\$	\$
Accumulated funds 1 April	13,596	16,499
Surplus (deficit)	1,932	2,097
Distribution	-5,000	-5,000
	<b>10,528</b>	<b>13,596</b>
<b>Represented by</b>		
<b>Assets</b>		
Current Account	10,528	6,498
Term Deposit	-	10,000
Total assets	<b>10,528</b>	<b>16,498</b>
<b>less Liabilities</b>		
Accounts payable	-	-
	<b>10,528</b>	<b>16,498</b>

**Notes:**

\$10,000 was unconditionally transferred to National Office in August 21.  
 \$5,000 was unconditionally transferred to National Office in Nov 23.  
 \$5,000 was unconditionally transferred to National Office in Feb 25.  
 Term Deposit: ANZ \$10,000; Closed 13/1/25.  
 Organisation expenses larger than budgeted due to purchase of a Branch computer.

As at the time the newsletter, with these reports included, was forwarded to Wellington on 2 April, the financial reports were still to be reviewed.

**2025 Council Report back meeting**  
**Whangarei**  
**Tuesday September 16th**

**St Johns Church**

**Kamo Road**

10:00 Cuppa

10:15 Report back

12:00 finish

Mark this date on your calendar. No need to reply, just turn up.

**2025 Council Report back meeting**  
**Kerikeri**

**Tuesday September 23rd**

**St James Church Hall**

**209 Kerikeri Road**

10:00 Cuppa

10:15 Report back

12:00 finish

Mark this date on your calendar. No need to reply, just turn up.

**Notes from your Committee**

As always new members wishing to join the Committee are welcome. Come along and observe. The next meetings for 2025 will be held at the Kamo Club at 9:30 AM

Wednesday May 1st

Wednesday August 7th

Wednesday October 30<sup>th</sup>

**DATACOM needs to be updated about changes to your personal information. Examples include change of address, phone number, email, spouse etc.**

**They can be contacted on 0800654731**

❖❖❖ **AGM and Mid Year Function** ❖❖❖  
**Cafe and finger food**

**Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> May, 2025**

at the Kamo Club (Meldrum Street)



11:00 Gather and socialise

11:30 Update on GSA matters

11:45 Branch AGM

12:00 Speaker: Tony Savage, lawyer.

Enduring Powers of Attorney / Wills

12.35 A selection of Cafe style food will be offered

Juice provided

Other drinks at own expense

*\$15 per person – the Branch provides a subsidy for GSA members.*

*If you know anyone who receives an Annuity and is not a GSA member bring them along and as always non-GSA members are welcome at the non-subsidised rate - \$25 each*

**For the name tags:**

When making your payment online please put first and last name into the details for us. If there is not enough room, or you prefer, simply email those details through to Tony:

[tah3524@gmail.com](mailto:tah3524@gmail.com)

**Don't forget to let us know your special dietary requirements so we can let the caterers know.**

PLEASE MAKE YOUR PAYMENT BY 16 May

**to bank account:**

GSA Northland, **11-5000-0724650-11**

(Please include your name/s in the details, or email the information to  
[tah3524@gmail.com](mailto:tah3524@gmail.com) )

