

North Shore Supernews

Newsletter of the North Shore Sub-Group
Government Superannuitants Association



November 2021

END OF YEAR CHRISTMAS FUNCTION

Date: Friday 26nd November 2021

Venue: Birkenhead RSA, Recreation Drive, Birkenhead.

Time: 10.30am Tea/Coffee available.

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

12.00 Lunch – full Xmas type menu with dessert, see the menu with registration details.

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POSTPONED – see Larry's editorial

RSA limited bar open for wine/beer with your meal – own cost.

Speaker: Aaron Ironside, counsellor, broadcaster, quizmaster. -

“Covid—Surviving our second pandemic Xmas.”

Despite the challenges of two Covid affected years, we can still have a great Christmas.

Aaron Ironside will take a humorous look at how different people navigated the lockdown experience.

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.



A Reason for Gratitude

As we inch towards the end of Auckland's rather depressing Level 4 Delta lockdown, we who are GSA retirees should look on the bright side of our situation.

We may be living mortgage free in our own home, or maybe still paying off our mortgage, or maybe enjoying a reverse mortgage top-up against the ballooning value of our property, or maybe renting the home we live in, or maybe living in a retirement village unit.

Whether we are an annuitant couple, or a sole annuitant, or a spouse annuitant on the 50% entitlement, we are all glad to receive the annuity payment every 4 weeks to add to the basic NZ Super and whatever else we can earn. Whatever our circumstances as retired people, we can be grateful when we look at what is happening in the general population.

People with small businesses that depend on customer contact (such as hospitality and tourism) are really doing it tough. People who work for enterprises that receive the government wage subsidy or other support, may not be receiving the full remuneration they were previously getting. Some people are fortunate enough to be able to perform their work from home, but if they have children there is the added responsibility of overseeing the remote learning lessons. Major infrastructure projects are held up. Many people are affected by the long backlog of shipping delays. House building to overcome our chronic shortage of good homes has slowed right down.

So in a spirit of thankfulness, we retirees should do what we can to give remote style support to our loved ones and to the general community, to step up our charitable giving if possible, and above all to make sure we have bared our arms for double vaccination to protect ourselves, our loved ones, and other people generally as things unfold.

Eric Bowater

Written 15 September 2021



The Aussies are so over the anti-maskers. Sign in a shop window:

If you come into the store without wearing a mask we will have to take your temperature.

PS. We only have rectal thermometers.

Chairman's Comment:

I am sure you will have received various messages from groups and associations with which you are involved which wisely comment on Covid, Lockdowns and the various programme changes that have been necessary. As each day rolls up similar to the previous one, the movie 'Groundhog Day' doesn't seem so far-fetched, nor so amusing these days, does it?!

Our group has not been immune from these changes. Our Executive Committee meeting for the first week of November has been cancelled, and the production and despatch of this newsletter will have either been undertaken by Pat Christian on her own, or by Pat and either Eric or myself (probably Eric) in Pat's garden obeying the outdoor meeting, 2-household bubble rule. If so, I hope it was a fine and not-windy day!

The routine work of running the Grup goes on. As well as participating in 'ZOOM' meetings with the Auckland branch Committee, Treasurer Eric has been busy doing the bookkeeping to record paid subscriptions. To those who have already paid the nominal fee to cover postage costs, THANK YOU. Others should find a gentle reminder in with this mailing!

The Damclesian sword of Covid has been hanging over our Christmas function. This was scheduled for 26 November but the Executive Committee have reluctantly decided to cancel it at this stage. We are very keen to get together when we can, and are thinking of holding a luncheon sometime around Easter. All depending of course upon how the world turns between now and then.

So, I am really sorry not to be able to extend this greetings in person, but may I at this juncture extend my very best wishes, and those of your committee, for a happy, healthy and blessed Christmas, hopefully to be spent with family and friends.

Larry Robbins
Chairman



Your Committee:

Chairman: Larry Robbins **Secretary:** Pat Christian **Treasurer:** Eric Bowater

Members: Eunice Napier, Mary O'Sullivan, Graeme Wake, Val Walby,
Sylvana Whyborn, Robert Whyborn.

Phones: Pat 09 4101052 Eric 09 4820250

Some great confusions still unresolved:

- At a movie theatre, which arm rest is yours?
- Why is there a 'D' in fridge, but not in refrigerator?
- Who knew what time it was when the first clock was made?
- The word 'swims' upside down is still 'swims'.
- Why isn't a Fireman called a Water-man?
- How come Lipstick doesn't do what it says?
- If money doesn't grow on trees, how come Banks have Branches?
- If a Vegetarian eats vegetables, what does a Humanitarian eat?
- Why is it called 'Rush Hour' when traffic moves at its slowest then?
- How come noses run and Feet smell?
- If poison passes its expiration date, is it more poisonous or is it no longer poisonous?



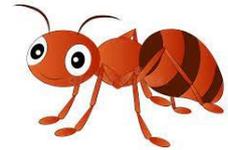
Number One Idiot:

I am a medical student currently doing a rotation in toxicology at the poison control centre. Today, this woman called in very upset because she caught her little daughter eating ants.

I quickly reassured her that the ants are not harmful and there would be no need to bring her daughter into the hospital.

She calmed down and at the end of the conversation happened to mention that she gave her daughter some ant poison to eat in order to kill the ants.

I told her that she had better bring her daughter into the emergency room right away.



Number Two Idiot:

Early this year, some Boeing employees on the airfield decided to steal a life raft from one of the 747s. They were successful in getting it out of the plane and home.

Shortly after they took it for a float on the river they noticed a Coast Guard helicopter coming towards them.

It turned out that the chopper was homing in on the emergency locator beacon that activated when the raft was inflated. They are no longer employed at Boeing!!

Truck for sale. Needs parts. Serious inquiries only.



—When people see a cat's litter box they always say, "Oh, have you got a cat?"

I just say, "No, it's for company!"

—Employment application blanks always ask who is to be called in case of an emergency.

I think you should write, "An ambulance."

—The easiest way to find something lost around the house is to buy a replacement!

—Did you ever notice that when you put the two words The and IRS together it spells "Theirs"?

A vicar was holding a meeting with the church deacons.

He asked them to put in an order for a chandelier for the church. After a week or so he asked if that had been done.

They said—No it hadn't, as no-one knew how to spell it, no-one knew how to play it, and in any case what they thought the church really needed was more lights.

Husband and I went grocery shopping, with masks, got home, took off masks, brought home the wrong husband!

Stay alert people.

If this happens to you, check whether he is handsome and then make a choice whether to keep him!



Hello.

Do you know that a simple 'Hello' can be a sweet one?

A friend wrote this:

The word HELLO means -

H = How are you?

E = Everything all right?

L = Like to hear from you

L = Love to see you soon!

O = Obviously I miss you.

It has made me smile every time I say 'Hello' since then.

