



Horowhenua/Kapiti Branch April 2024

Secretary:
John Laurenson
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Annual Report for Year Ending 31 March 2024

While Covid remains an ever-present issue, both branch and national activities returned to some normality over the past year. Our AGM was held at the Otaki RSA on 31 May 2023, and was extremely well attended, as were our end-of-year functions at Waikanae and Levin in November 2023. Despite these successes, we continue to reach out to the branch membership to support the ongoing branch activities. We also welcome suggestions as to how we can better serve the needs of our members. Maintaining liaison with all branch members and surviving spouses continues to be a challenge for the committee.

The Branch has been well supported by its committee of six, who have worked diligently to ensure that the needs of the members are supported, as well as playing an active role in national matters. If the Branch is 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.

With the Wellington Branch secretary on parental leave over the past year, we had to take our Treasurer's functions and some of our membership services back in-house. I would like to thank Paul Gardner and John Laurenson for taking on these additional responsibilities. We are intending to resume our service relationship with the Wellington Branch in the coming year. Edgar Spark continues to attend the Wellington Branch committee meetings as the H/K representative.

At a national level, Council met in September 2023, and John Laurenson and I represented our Branch. Council meetings are an important part of the GSA's activities, being the opportunity to review and develop new policy and to set future direction for the organisation. Council is also when the GSA Board is elected.

Our Board liaison person for this year is Roger Openshaw, whom many of you will remember as the author of the GSA centennial publication *Safeguarding Super*. In addition to his Board role, Roger is also the chairperson of the Manawatu Branch. We look forward to welcoming Roger to address our 2024 AGM.

Jeff Taylor
Branch Chairperson

***Our Next Members Meeting is the
Annual General Meeting
Thursday 30 May 2024
from 11:00 am, at the Otaki RSA
9 Raukawa Street
OTAKI***

Luncheon to follow the meeting
(\$17.50 per head payable in advance)
Partners are welcome.

Guest speaker: Roger Openshaw (GSA Board liaison
for our branch)

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.

Our Edgar and his medal

Congratulations to our friend and fellow committee member Edgar Spark on his NZ Order of Merit for his services to railway unions. His cv is extensive and shows such a variety of experience that it is easy to see how well deserved the award is. Well done Edgar! Read more details about Edgar and his career in the feature article in the *Annuity News*

Wellington branch Mid-Winter Function

The Wellington Branch invites Horowhenua/Kapiti members to a Mid-Winter luncheon on Tuesday 23rd July 2024 at the Angus Motor Inn
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

Committee

Committee member John Laurenson continues as our Branch Secretary.
Members will have contact with John mostly through registering and paying for attendance at social functions as well as at those meetings.
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** prior to the AGM.

End of Year functions

Once again, we are pleased to let you know that our usual end of year functions will be held at Levin (14th November) and Waikanae (21 November). Planning to confirm dates, costs and speakers is under way and we will provide you with final details in the October newsletter.

End of year Functions last year

Last November, those who attended the end of year functions were treated to two interesting speakers. At the Levin lunch, we were told about the Horowhenua Health Shuttle by Tony Clifford, and at Waikanae, Robin Gunston told us about Charles Fleming, his initial work to set up the Waikanae Estuary Care Group, and the ongoing work currently being undertaken. Both talks held our interest, and the branch made small donations to both organisations. For those of us who live near the Waikanae Estuary, we found out a great deal about the diversity of the wildlife and the work done to conserve the area. We wish both Tony and Robin, and indeed both organisations that they represent, all the very best for the future in their endeavours.

Financial Report to 31 March 2024

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

Subscriptions	\$8448	
Cost of Functions		\$4182
Functions	\$1625	
Remuneration		
Interest	\$ 4106	
Postage & Other		\$ 1471
Total Income	\$14179	
Total Expenses		\$5623
Increase in branch funds	\$78545	
Total accumulated funds	\$92,666	

Horowhenua/Kapiti Branch Membership Statistics at 31 March 2022

Annuitants	486
Spouses of annuitants	277
Surviving Spouses	163
PreAnnuitants	13
Spouses of PreAnnuitants	11
Total	950
Last year's total was 1086.	

Booking and Paying for AGM Luncheon

Option 1 (Internet users)

Pay the entry fee of \$17.50 per person by internet banking
(Bank account 38-9014-0275903-01)
THEN Send a confirming email to
horowhenua.kapiti@gsa.org.nz

Option 2. (no internet access).

Contact secretary by phone (021 445 115) or email
(horowhenua.kapiti@gsa.org.nz)
and Pay \$17.50 per person on arrival at the AGM

Please ensure you register your intention to attend the luncheon before 20 May 2024.