



WANGANUI BRANCH

Annual General Meeting

This meeting is set down to be held at the Wanganui East Club, Wakefield Street, Wanganui on Thursday 23rd May 2024 at 11:15am.

Order of Business

1. Welcome
2. Apologies
3. Minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting
4. Matters arising from the minutes
5. Annual Report – this has been prepared by the Chairman and is part of the newsletter
6. Financial Report – copies will be available on the tables
7. Election of Officers and the Committee
8. Appointment of Reviewer
9. General Business

The committee has again arranged to have the meeting and lunch at the Wanganui East Club. We expect to have a meal which is likely to consist of a choice of two meats and battered fish together with a range of hot vegetables and cold salads. A limited selection of desserts will be available at cost to the member. The Club intends to serve the meal (one course). We are sure that the Club will do everything it can to serve a quality meal, served promptly and with pleasant interaction.

The cost to you will be \$15.00 payable at the door. The Branch is subsidising the balance of the cost of the meal at the rate of \$10 or thereabouts. Like all food suppliers, costs have risen significantly so these have to go back on to individual members. We are also required to meet GSA policy guidelines which state which state that subsidies should not exceed half the cost of any social activity, for example the cost of meals. Also a range of beverages, purchased at your own cost, will be available from the bar at the conclusion of the meeting.

RSVP please to Marian Barclay on 06 343 2789 or to Marian's email address jmbarclay10@gmail.com by Friday 17th May to inform her that you are coming to lunch or to give your apology. You can leave a message on her answer phone or send a message on email and you can be assured that your replies will be acknowledged if you leave your contact details.

National Office has continued with the mailing out of our newsletters. This may mean you receive very advanced notice of the AGM, so mark the date on your calendars. Be prepared to join members of the GSA in another Wanganui Branch meeting and hopefully gain more information about the workings of the GSA and its organisation. If you change your address please advise Datacom - Freephone 0800 654 731 – email gsf@datacom.co.nz

It is with great sadness that I inform you of the recent death of our long time serving secretary and past president, Neil Elgar. Neil was a strong advocate for our branch and enjoyed debating constitutional changes. He will be sadly missed.

Our current Treasurer, Brian Algar is stepping down from the committee after a number of years supporting our branch. I hope that we can replace the valuable committee members with new volunteers. We meet 3 or 4 times a year, mainly to organise our 2 general meetings, and prepare for the annual Council meeting in September. I would be extremely disappointed to see our branch follow a couple of others in having to merge with another due to lack of local support. We need to retain our autonomy and meet in Wanganui, not in some other city. Your support is vital if we want to remain a local organisation.

Special thanks to our current committee, Brian Algar, Marian Barclay, Rod Davies, Robin Paul, Janice Katene, Deb Hipango, and John Granville.

I hope to see a good attendance at our meeting on May 23rd at the Wanganui East Club. Last year we had the highest percentage attendance in the country. Can we do it again?

I have just returned from enjoying a week on the Chatham Islands an archipelago of 11 islands, 800 km east of Christchurch. Only Pitt and Chatham are inhabited by about 650 people. The history, geography, the people, feeling of isolation, and the abundant sea food make the place a very worthwhile place to visit.

During the trip I thought how lucky I was to be able to afford to holiday in different places around the world. I am grateful the superannuation scheme was available for me to take advantage of.

We need to protect our entitlements.

This reminds me of the importance of our organisation. The GSA has fought for over 100 years to both improve and keep the benefit of our scheme relevant and a worthwhile addition to our annual income. Check out the website www.gsa.org.nz

Organisations such as G.S.A. can only function efficiently if members are prepared to support them by being prepared to volunteer for the various committees, councils, working groups etc. Our Wanganui branch has functioned well over the years, and this is due to a number of dedicated members who have been prepared to give their support and knowledge by serving on the local committee.

There needs to be a local quorum of at least 20 branch members or 10% of the Branch membership, which, ever is the smaller for an Annual meeting to proceed (Clause 6.8 of the GSA Constitution) I am hoping for the usual good turnout of members at this AGM.

Trevor HALL
Chairperson.