



Secretary: Andrea Beechey
Email: auckland@gsa.org.nz
Ph: 0800 888 472

NEWSLETTER
Auckland Branch
October 2021
C/- 57/218 Greenlane West, Epsom
Auckland 1051

Chairperson's Report



Well, it is hard to believe that we are in lockdown again – hopefully by the time you receive this newsletter we will at least be at Level 2. I hope that you have been able to adjust to your living arrangements and have enough interests to keep you occupied.

Our committee has continued to meet (via Zoom mainly) and work on ways to provide support to you. Membership is a critical component for a healthy Branch and we have been formulating ways to recruit and retain members. Please see our plea below for members to let us know their change of address details and why it is so important for us to be able to contact you.

As a result of the continued lockdown, the GSA National Council will not be meeting until later in October. This means that information that would normally come to you in this newsletter, will not be available.

Thank you to all those who attended our Annual General Meeting in June. It was a great event with our President Tony Hamilton speaking and Troy Churton talking about things to consider when selecting a Retirement Village. I am thrilled that most of the previous committee were re-elected at the AGM. They are:

Sandie Gusscott – Chairperson
Rosemary Bell – Defence
Murray McElwain – Railways
Nancy de Freitas- Tertiary Education
Keith Rawlings – Army
Bret Bestic – Army

Craig Jensen – Vice-Chairperson
Eric Bowater – Education
Neil Carey – Railways
Peter Buchanan – Crown Research Institute
Max Thomson – Post Office
Claire Couch – Education

To conclude, I encourage you to join us at the Branch meeting which has now been postponed until 2 November and our Christmas lunch at the beginning of December. The details of these events are overleaf.

Sandie Gusscott – Chair

Please let the GSA know when you move

When an annuitant passes away, GSA membership does not continue automatically for the surviving spouse. He or she needs to join in their own right, with our Branch Secretary getting in touch to facilitate this.

Recently, we have been making follow-up calls to surviving spouses who have not let us know about their membership intentions. Pleasingly, most have indicated that they wish to continue membership in their own right. However, we have also found that there are quite a number whose contact information is now out of date. This means that, despite our best efforts, their GSA membership will lapse. For all our members, ensuring we have current address details means we can deliver your Annuity News and our Auckland Branch Newsletter, keeping you informed of your Association's activities and the future events you may be interested in attending.



Our plea therefore, is for you to send any recent change of address or telephone number to our Branch Secretary by emailing auckland@gsa.org.nz or calling **0800 888 472**. If applicable please also provide an email address, so that we have another option for keeping in touch. Alternatively, check your details on the GSA website (you will need to log in) and update if necessary.

What's in a Name?

Some people are still confusing **Government Superannuation** with **New Zealand Superannuation**. Larry Robins, Chair of the North Shore sub-committee wrote this explanation. He says 'Which is which? The similar names often cause confusion. **Government Superannuation** is what we, as public servants, paid into while we were working and now receive. **New Zealand Superannuation** is the universal pension paid to qualifying people over the age of 65 in New Zealand.'

2021 Member Events

These dates are dependent on any restrictions imposed due to Covid19. Any changes will be published on the GSA Auckland Branch website <http://www.gsa.org.nz/branch-auckland.html>

Auckland Branch Meeting - Tuesday, 2 November 2021

All Auckland members of the Government Superannuitants Association are cordially invited to our next Branch meeting. Please bring your partner along to meet your committee and other Branch members. This meeting is free.

Time: 10.30am - 12.30pm

Venue: Western Springs Garden Community Hall, 956 Great North Road, Western Springs

Directions: The Western Springs Garden Community Hall is in the same area as MOTAT and the Western Springs Park. It is on the opposite side of Great North Road to these attractions. There is ample parking.

Speaker: Alexis Sawyers from Age Concern will talk to us about the work that they do for older people in Auckland.

RSVP: For catering purposes, please register your interest in attending by contacting our Branch Secretary, Andrea on auckland@gsa.org.nz or call **0800 888 472**. Please feel welcome to come along on the day, even if you don't register.

Auckland Branch Christmas Function - Friday, 3 December 2021

This year our Auckland Branch Christmas function is being held at the RSA Grey Lynn Club, 1 Francis St, Grey Lynn on Friday, 3 December 2021 from 11am to 2pm.



Come along with your partner, mix and mingle and enjoy a Christmas lunch. The first 50 people to register will pay only \$20 each (The cost is \$40 but a subsidy of \$20 from the Auckland Branch reduces the cost to \$20).

Register by Friday, 26 November by emailing the Branch Secretary, Andrea on auckland@gsa.org.nz or phone **0800 888 472**. Please make your payment online to our Kiwibank account 38 9010 0183532 01.

North Shore Sub Group – Christmas Function

Please join us on Friday, 26 November at the Birkenhead RSA, Recreation Drive, Birkenhead

Starts 10.00am with morning tea and then Aaron Ironside Counsellor, Broadcaster & Quizmaster speaks on: "Covid - Surviving our Second Pandemic Christmas"

A full luncheon is then served

Register by Friday, 19 November by emailing Eric Bowater at mandebowater@gmail.com or phone 09 4820250

Pay online to ASB 12-3026-0737928-00

Cost: \$16.00 per person (\$26 with a subsidy of \$10 from North Shore Group funds)

The Auckland Retired Railways Group regret to announce that there will be no Christmas Function this year due to the difficulty arranging it during the Covid 19 lockdown.

Please feel welcome to join the Auckland Branch on Friday 3 December for your GSA Christmas celebration.

