



Secretary/Treasurer: Adrienne Dodge
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 Phone: 0800 888472 /09 522 7027
 GSA website: www.gsa.org.nz



From the Chair

It is now nearly 25 years since our scheme was closed to new entrants.

We now face the inevitable process of managing a declining membership. It is a credit to the Waikato/King Country Branch that they initiated a discussion that has now occurred at Council in September. This was reported back by the Auckland Branch Delegate to the September Branch meeting and the committee will start working on the practical implementation of those decisions.

Some aspects that the committee will need to reflect on are -

1. A reduction the number of committee meetings to reflect any reduction in Board Meetings
2. Council have decided to take a portion of the branch reserves. We await detail to assess so we can prepare a financial plan for the branch around our new reality.
3. It is likely that the National Newsletter will be reduced in size
4. We will be sending one delegate only now to Council although Council will remain at its tradition length of 2 days
5. For the present time our subsidising of Branch functions will continue
6. Council has agreed to increase the subscription by \$4 per annum effective from 1 April 2018. It is noted that this is the first increase in about eight years.

At the time of writing the outcome of the General Election is unclear. Should it result in a Labour lead

Newsletter

Auckland Branch
October 2017
C/- 26 Mount St John Ave
Epson
Auckland 1051
<http://www.gsa.org.nz/branch-auckland.html>

government it may mean that the Board will be operating in a very different environment. We may be able to resolve a number of long-standing inequities.

All in all I think a break is deserved before we launch into the challengers of 2018. I look forward to seeing many of you at GSA functions at Manurewa, Avondale and Birkenhead, details of which follow in this newsletter.

Mark Leys, Auckland Branch Chair

Auckland Retired Railways Group/NZ Railways Superannuitants Association

Invite

All Members, Partners, Friends and GSA to

Christmas Lunch, Thursday 23 November 2017

Manurewa Cosmopolitan Club, 6 Alfriston Road,
 Manurewa

Mix & Mingle 11.30a.m. Lunch 12.30p.m.

Cost \$10.00 per person

Bookings by Thursday 9 November 2017 to Murray
 McElwain (Ph. 266 9959)

Villa 136, Acacia Cove Village, 131 Wattle Farm
 Road, Manurewa 2103

Make cheques payable to 'Auckland Branch GSA'

Please enter by Car Park door. If a member of RSA or
 Cosmopolitan Club, enter your name and
 membership number on sheet with Lynne.

(Liquor Law Requirement)

Change of Postal Address

Please note that Auckland Branch no longer has a Post Office Box. The new address for the Branch is shown at the top of Page 1 of this newsletter and is as follows:

GSA Auckland Branch

C/-26 Mount St John Ave

Epsom

Auckland 1051

Financial Abuse; What are the warning signs?

Financial abuse is the unauthorised and improper use of funds, property or any resources. A lot of financial abuse goes unreported because victims are embarrassed to tell their family. Ageing can leave you determined to prove that you're not getting 'old and silly' so it can be hard to admit that you have been scammed. In 2016 New Zealanders lost over \$12 million to scammers.

Warning signs of scams

- You are asked for your personal details, bank account or credit card details.
- You are asked to pay up-front for something, like a tax refund or claiming a prize or inheritance.
- You are asked and feel pressured to make a quick decision.
- You are told to keep the offer a secret.
- They give vague contact details, a mobile number only or a PO Box number.
- They offer you a deal that's too good to be true.

If you have concerns it is worth getting legal advice. The Citizen's Advice Bureau can help you if you do not have a lawyer or you can ask your local Community Law Centre.

This excerpt was taken from 'Super Seniors', August 2017 e-letter

Speaker for March 2018

Our speaker for our meeting on Tuesday 6 March 2018 will be Dee from Independent Living Services



Making Daily Living Easier

The Independent Living Service (ILS) Charitable Trust makes daily living easier for you by coming directly to your community with:

- Information on how to access support groups and health resources in your area
- Equipment and products to help you with everyday tasks.

For example, opening jars, getting out of cars and picking things up off the floor!

Our aim is to present to you valuable information that can assist you to continue to live safely and independently.

ILS has three large equipment showrooms located in Royal Oak, Browns Bay and Botany, and also operates a Mobile Service. We are contracted by the Ministry of Health to provide independent information relating to equipment, health and disability services.



Venue: Auckland Horticultural Hall
Presentation: Tuesday, 6th March 2018
Time: 10:30am onwards
Look forward to seeing you there!

If you see a product that works for you or someone you know, you will be able to purchase it on the day. We accept Eftpos and credit cards. If you don't see the item that you were looking for, please ask Dee as she may be able to locate it for you.

Our presentations can be indoors or outside (weather permitting) and suit many community groups, retirement villages, disability support groups and health care professionals.

- Presentations include walking stick and walker height and safety checks (a must)!! ©
- We also offer at-home, no obligation, mobility scooter demonstration

If you would like to book a free presentation please contact: Dee on mobile 0274 500 146, Freephone: 0800 625 100 or email: dee@ilsnz.org

Information & Advice | Assistive Products | Equipment Hire | www.ilsnz.org | Freephone: 0800 625 100

Help us to help you

Auckland Branch has a large percentage of members who have spouses/partners who we do not have on our database. If the Annuitant dies and we do not have a record of the spouse/partner this can cause a significant delay in offering advice or assistance to them, as we can wait for up to eight weeks for a notification from Datacom.

If you have a spouse or partner please talk to them about our organisation and the importance of us having their details on our record. If they are agreeable please contact the Auckland Secretary on 0800 888 472 to arrange this.

It is also important for a member to let their spouse/partner know that at the time of the Annuitants death their membership will not automatically continue with the GSA. Datacom will send them a letter which they need to sign and return, for their membership to continue and, for us to assist them in the future.



**Auckland Branch GSA
invites all members and spouses/partners
to attend our
Christmas function
on
Tuesday 5 December 2017
at the
Avondale RSA, 7 Layard Street, Avondale**

Mix and Mingle 11.30am, Lunch 12.30pm

Cost \$15 per person

**RSVP and payment before Friday 24 November 2017
to
Adrienne Dodge Ph. 0800 888 472
26 Mount St John Ave, Epsom, Auckland 1051**

**Please make cheques payable to 'GSA Auckland Branch'.
Payment can also be made via internet banking or teller deposit –
Kiwibank 38 9010 0813532 00 (Please use your surname as a reference)**

**The RSA is situated 200 metres along the road from the Avondale Train Station. There is
plenty of onsite car parking available at the venue.**

NB – the bar will be open on the day for members to make purchases.

Your Committee

Mark Leys (Chair)	Police	294 8927
Alec Waugh (Deputy Chair)	Police	489 9711
Adrienne Dodge (Secretary)		0800 888472
Rosemary Bell	Defence	838 5575
Eric Bowater	Education	482 0250
Ron Garnett	Post Office	298 7821
Margaret Garnett		298 7821
Taura Te Kapua	Post Office	376 4580
Murray McElwain	Railways	266 9959
Neil Carey	Railways	625 4058
Ian Ramsay	Companies Office	378 6629

Honorary Life Members

Mr Hugh Dickinson,

Mrs Ruth McLay

BRANCH MEETINGS

Christmas function - 5 December 2017, Avondale RSA, 7 Layard Street, Avondale

Please see Page 3 of our newsletter for details. This is a RSVP event.

2018 - Dates and venue as below

HORTICULTURAL HALL, 990 Great North Road, Western Springs 10.30am

6 March 2018

4 September 2018

5 June 2018 *AGM

Railways Sub-Group Christmas function 23 November 2017 Please refer to Page 1 of this newsletter for details.

Committee Meetings Horticultural Hall, 990 Great North Rd Western Springs (Last Tuesday 10-30)

31 October 2017	29 May 2018
28 November 2017	26 June 2018
30 January 2018	31 July 2018
27 February 2018	28 August 2018
27 March 2018	25 September 2018
24 April 2018	30 October 2018

North Shore Sub-Group Meetings Birkenhead RSA, Recreation Drive, Birkenhead (4th Fri – March, June and Nov 10-00)

*24 November 2017	*** 22 June 2018
23 March 2018	*Christmas function ** Speaker – Dr John Reynolds * AGM

Papakura Sub-Group Meetings RSA 40 Elliott St, Papakura (Mar, June, Sept 10.00)

29 March 2018	27 September 2018
**28 June 2018	** AGM