



Horowhenua/Kapiti Branch April 2023

Secretary:
John Laurenson
Ph: 021 445 115
horowhenua@gsa.org.nz

Our Next Members Meeting is the Annual General Meeting Wednesday 31 May 2022 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: John Beckam (GSA Board liaison for
our branch)

Registration details at bottom of next page

Apologies are not required

Branch Financial Administration

Our branch has contracted the Wellington Branch to manage our financial and membership administration tasks.

Branch Secretary

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.

Recruitment of new members

This is now a matter of some urgency. Nationwide our membership has dropped from a peak of 28,000 to 22,000. If we are to continue as an effective lobby group to protect our 4-weekly income as government policy changes, we need to recruit those who receive the annuity but have not yet joined the GSA. Suggestions on how to do this would be welcomed.

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 it.

AGM Guest speaker

In line with previous AGMs, our Branch continues to invite speakers who are involved with the national organization of GSA. This year, John Beckham will talk to us. He is our liaison with the Board and he has been involved with his branch since 2020. He worked for NZ Post for 43 years before retirement, and he is a keen Harrier, Barbershop singer and fundraiser. We look forward to welcoming John for this first of, we hope, many interactions.

Membership Administration

The Wellington Branch will continue to organise some of the administrative matters for membership. Membership Queries, phone **0800 888 472**

Wellington Mid-Winter Functions

The Wellington Branch invites Horowhenua/Kapiti members to a Mid-Winter luncheon on Tuesday 18th July 2023, 12 noon at the James Cook on The Terrace. \$35 pp for members if GSA. Please book in advance.

Wellington Railway Association also has a lunch on Wednesday 12 July at Petone Working Men's Club. \$25 pp. ph 04 973 8158 to book

Kapiti Coast Workers; Education Authority (WEA) provides high calibre presentations on a diverse range of topics covering science, current events, economics and the arts. They also run one day guided bus trips. H/K GSA recommends WEA as a way of broadening horizons and finding new interests.

Attend individual sessions or sign up for a season ticket which provides financial benefits and bonus events. Course booklets are available at all Kapiti Libraries or on request to kapitiwea@gmail.com or Ph 027 715 3677

Annual Report for Year Ending 31 March 2023

In spite of Covid still hovering, some normality returned to GSA activities, both at branch and national level. As a Branch, our regular committee meetings comprised a mix of Zoom and in-person meetings. The 2022 AGM at Otaki had a reasonable attendance, as did the two end-of-year functions at Waikanae and Levin in November. 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, with communication and liaison with all branch members a continuing challenge.

All six committee members intend to continue in the role for the coming year, but we are keen to recruit some new faces around the table to maintain a strong and viable committee to support you, our members.

Our service relationship with the Wellington Branch is now in its third year and continues to develop, with their office providing membership secretarial services and some of our Treasurer's functions. Additionally, the H/K Branch now has a representative attending Wellington Branch committee meetings, strengthening that relationship between the two branches.

At a national level, Council finally met in September 2022, following meetings that were postponed due to Covid. Council meetings provide the opportunity to review and develop new policy and to set future direction for the organisation. Council is also when the Board is elected.

Our Board liaison person for this year is John Beckham, who will address our 2023 AGM.

Jeff Taylor

Branch Chairperson

Financial Report to 31 March 2023

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

Subscriptions	\$8959	
Cost of Functions		\$3145
Functions	\$1177	
Remuneration		\$4501
Interest	\$2028	
Postage & Other		\$ 976
Total Income	\$12,164	
Total Expenses		\$8622
Increase in branch funds	\$3542	
Total accumulated funds	\$84825	

Even with a reduction in membership, the total revenue from subscriptions has increased because of the decision by the GSA Council to increase the four-weekly rate each member pays.

Horowhenua/Kapiti Branch Membership Statistics at 31 March 2023

Annuitants	532
Spouses of annuitants	304
Surviving Spouses	172
PreAnnuitants	16
Spouses of PreAnnuitants	13
Total	1037

Last year's total was 1086.

Join the Committee

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.

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

horokapiti@gsa.org.nz

Option 2. (no internet access).

Contact secretary by phone (021 445 115) and

Pay \$17.50 per person on arrival at the AGM

Please ensure you register your intention to attend the luncheon before 20 May 2023.