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Marlborough Branch Spring 2018 Newsletter

End of year luncheon to be held at the Taylor's Bar & Restaurant (Clubs of Marlborough), 42 Alfred Street Blenheim – Monday 26th November 2018 at 12.30pm. Doors open 12 Noon
RSVP and Payment essential by 19th November.



There will be a sit-down buffet Smorgasbord luncheon at a **\$25.00** cost for all attending. (RSVP form on page 4).

Message from Chairperson- Alan Straker

Greetings to all members of the Marlborough Branch of GSA.

Another year is quickly coming to an end. It has been a busy but rewarding one both locally and nationally for the GSA.

Locally your committee has met each month to discuss and respond to issues affecting our members as well as planning activities for our Branch. Our March meeting was a combined one with our Nelson counterparts and by the time you read this we would have held a meeting in Picton and one in Kaikoura for members in those areas. Our AGM held in June was well attended and the current committee was voted in for a further year. I'd like to repeat my request for others to put their hand up and put in a few hours each year to contribute to the committee.

At our end of year function last year, I advised you I was appointed to the national Board of the GSA and this year at the Council meeting I was elected for a further year. This involvement at national level demonstrates to me the important of keeping our Association strong. There are some incredibly knowledgeable people working behind the scenes to protect the conditions of our annuities and ensure the government meets their obligations in the contract they have with you as a contributor (now annuitant) of the GSF.

There have been some major breakthroughs with the new government in terms of finally being heard. Meetings with the Finance Minister, State Services Commissioner and Finance Select Committee Chairperson have seen GSA make more progress on keys issues in the last 9 months than the last 9 years. The petition that many of you signed last year on the Cost of Living Adjustment (CoLA) issues has been presented to parliament and is working its way through the system. Getting access to GSF contributors still in the workforce has seen membership increase by some 300 members (including spouses of members). Our Association will be a hundred years old in 2020 so my challenge to you is to make the Xmas party that year as it will be something to remember!

I encourage all of you to take an active interest in the GSA even if it's just keeping informed through the branch newsletter or Annuity News.

I wish to acknowledge the contribution of our local committee (Colin Draper, Noel Frater, Alan McEvoy, Brian Bridgman, Joan Palmer, Barbara Hutchinson, Peter Sangwine and David Jones). Special thanks to Colin (Secretary) and Noel (Treasurer) for the efficient manner in which they carry out their roles. Thanks to Barbara and Colin for attending the national Council meeting as your representatives.

I look forward to your attendance at the Xmas function, details of which are contained elsewhere in this newsletter.

Alan Straker
Chairperson
Marlborough Branch GSA



In loving memory of those members and family members who have passed away since Spring 2017.

Picton & Kaikoura Visits:

Picton:

Another successful visit by the Marlborough Branch committee (100% attendance), to Picton for the GSA members afternoon tea meeting. Although numbers were down this year, for those attending a very informative presentation was given by Chairman Alan Straker. Particularly discussions that were held at the 2018 Council AGM. This was followed by a sumptuous afternoon tea.

Kaikoura:

A visit is planned for 16th October to present an afternoon tea meeting to the GSA members of Kaikoura. Many committee members looking forward to attending this meeting as last year, only the Chairman Alan and Brian Bridgman attended due to (going the long way around and having the meeting at short notice).



Are you Our Oldest Member/s attending our AGM Promotion?

Presentation to:

Mrs Juanita Davies aged 94, Bouquet of flowers

Mr David Jones (Blenheim), not as old as Juanita)) bottle of wine.

Secretary: Colin Draper

Committee for 2018/19

Chairman – Alan Straker

Secretary / Newsletter – Colin Draper

Treasurer – Noel Frater

Members

Alan McEvoy – Peter Sangwine

Joan Palmer – Brian Bridgman

David Jones – Barbara Hutchinson

RSVP

Yes, I am coming to the Luncheon
on the 26th November 2018

I will be accompanied by

.....

I enclose \$.....

No, I am unable to come
to the Luncheon.

*Please delete that which is not
Applicable*

Signed.....

Please print name:

Please return to your Treasurer at
P.O. Box 4033,
Redwoodtown 7242
or

Email: lyn.noel@xtra.co.nz

If paying by Direct Debt
11-7500-0581667-11

As indicated in the Chairman’s report, Barbara Hutchinson and I attended the 2018 AGM of Council, which is held in Wellington each year. Chairman Alan was this year elected to the Board. Subsequently has been appointed onto two Sub committees, Finance and Risk and Audit.

The AGM was addressed by two speakers one being the MP for Ohariu & Belmont Greg O’Connor, speaking firstly on his (very short) parliamentary experience. Secondly more of his extensive time as the Police Association President. Describing to how both of his careers will be giving him confidence and expertise to his constituents.

The second speaker was Cecila Tarrant, Chair, Government Superannuation Fund Board. Her presentation was particularly informative and was given in terms that the audience could relate to on how the Fund operates and looks after our Annuities.

An important part of an AGM is of course to elect a committee, in our case a Board. With

the incumbent President Ms Janice Campbell not seeking re-election, the Council were to vote on a new president. The Board was elected as follows;

President: Mr Tony Hamilton (Northland)

Vice President: Vacant (To be appointed following the October Board meeting)

Members: Mr Rob Brangwin (Hawks Bay), Mr Bill Robertson (Wellington)

Mr Dallas Elvy (Wellington), Mr Mike Smith (Wellington)

Mr Alan Straker (Marlborough), Ms Marjorie Thomas (Hawks Bay)

Life Membership Awards:

Mr John Fitzgerald (Waikato / King Country)

Ms Janice Campbell (Wellington)