



## NELSON BRANCH NEWSLETTER APRIL 2017

TOLL FREE 800 888 472

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### CURRENT COMMITTEE:

Chairman	John Russell	538 0233
Vice Chairman	John Rogers	544 5097
Minute Secretary	Nick Farr	0277 276 2540
Members Secretary	Margaret Palermo	538 0233
Treasurer	Denis Wastney	545 7299
Committee	Diane Ward	544 5724
	Graeme Valpy	547 6007
	Lois Valpy	547 6007
	Mick Alder	544 7178

District Liaison Members Takaka: Nick Farr 02772762540 Motueka: Bill Hodge 528 7620 Montv Tawhai 526 6795
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<b>AGM &amp; luncheon at The Waimea Club Lower Queen Street, Richmond. Commencing 11.30am on the 16<sup>th</sup> May.</b>
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Hello to all members and especially new members. My is Diane Ward and I am the Nelson Branch Liaison person from the Board. I am also a long time member of the local committee. After 4 years on the board, I have decided to step down this year. I think it is important to keep adding fresh people to boards and committees with new ideas and energy. I am in a way sorry to do this, as I am the only Annuitant Spouse on the Board. It would be great if more would come forward onto committees and then onto the Board, as spouses and surviving spouses are an important part of our organisation.

Could Annuitants please remember that it is ESSENTIAL that you tell your spouse that you receive this pension because on your death, in most circumstances, they are entitled to half of this pension in their own right. Datacom do not keep records of spouses, so on the death of an Annuitant, it is important that when death is notified to Datacom the name of the spouse is also given to them, so that action can be taken immediately. Your spouse and family should be briefed with this information. We feel that it is important that spouses are joined as members so that the Association is there to support them and you when necessary. If you have any queries about this please don't hesitate to contact our friendly secretary Margaret.

Best wishes

Diane Ward

## **CHAIRMANS REPORT 2017**

2017 has been a busy time since the last General Meeting at Christmas time where 80 members attended our Christmas luncheon at the Waimea Club. An excellent meal was had by all.

Late last year Diane Ward, Margaret Palermo and myself were invited to attend the GSA Marlborough Branch AGM where we met the National President Janice Campbell and her husband. It was good to meet Marlborough's new committee.

Early this year the Nelson Branch Committee held a special meeting to discuss prospects for the future of the GSA Board and Organisation, as already some branches are becoming marginal due to decrease membership and consequence financial situation. It is inevitable that the decrease in membership and finances will eventually affect the existence and finances of our branch. The committee had a good frank discussion at our special meeting and sent their ideas to the Board for their discussions. We think the Nelson Branch is in a comfortable financial situation; however, we realize that the branch may never be bigger than it is now with 905 members.

Later in the year, it is our turn to host the Marlborough Committee for our annual combined meeting. It should be a productive meeting discussing the positions of both branches.

Finally, I would like to once again thank the members of the Nelson Committee who have given up their time and effort to keep our branch a well-oiled and functioning group. Thank you.

We wish all members the best for a healthy and happy year and we hope to meet you all at our AGM.

**John Russell Chairman.**

### **TAKAKA VISIT.**

On the 14th February Nick Farr organized a meeting for the Takaka members commencing with lunch at the Penguin Restaurant then boarding a bus ( in which Nick was the driver ) for a leisurely bus tour heading to Totaranu. On arrival, afternoon tea was prepared by Barbara, which was scones with jam, and cream, Nick boiled the billy on the campfire. A very big thank you to Nick and Barbara. It was a pity that after all Nicks hard work arranging this trip, the response from the Takaka members was very disappointing. Great to see Nelson members attend this get together. It was a fun day.

### **MOTUEKA VISIT**

I am pleased to say we now have Bill Hodge and Monty Tawhai who have kindly said they will be the liaison members for Motueka. Bill has organized a lunch and get together at the Motueka RSA on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September commencing 11.30am. Our chairman John Russell will say a few words then lunch will be served. The cost of the lunch will be \$20.00 per person (at time of writing).

This is an invitation of ALL Motueka and surrounding areas to attend. Nelson members are also very welcome to attend the Motueka get together. Could you please contact Bill at 03 526 6795 for catering purposes. Monty is going to organize next year's get together. More details for get together year will be in our next newsletter.

**Please come and support your branch at the AGM**

## AGM AGENDA

1. Welcome
2. Apologies
3. In Memoriam
4. Minutes of 2016 AGM
5. Matters Arising
6. Chairman's Report
7. Treasurer's Report
8. Election of Committee
9. Appointment of Reviewer
10. General Business

We wish to advise that a Buffet lunch will be served after the meeting. The cost of the lunch will be \$21.50 per person. The cost has been subsidized by the Branch of \$5.00. Please fill in the form below. We need to confirm the number of members to The Waimea Club one week prior to the AGM. As this is a commercial restaurant all bookings will have to be paid for, so we are sorry that after the cut off date of 9th May we cannot give refunds for cancellations. You will be given a free raffle ticket but will have to pay for your own drinks.

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NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

PHONE NUMBER.....

EMAIL ADDRESS.....

FORMER DEPT.....

Special Diet meals required      YES/NO if yes please

Detail.....

Please make cheque for \$21.50 pp payable to GOVERNMENT

SUPERANNUITANTS ASSN. and send to Denis Wastney, 13 Essex Terrace,

Stoke, ph. 545 7299 by 9<sup>th</sup> May.

Cut .....

We do hope to see as many of you as possible at the very important meeting/luncheon.

