

NELSON BRANCH NEWSLETTER OCTOBER, 2018

NEW COMMITTEE 2018/19

Chairman; John Russell
Vice Chairman: John Rogers
Minute Secretary: Nick Farr
Members Secretary; Margaret Palermo
Treasurer; Denis Wastney

Secretary; Margaret Palermo

Email: nelson@gsa.org.nz

61/188 Songer Street, Stoke, Nelson

Ph: 03 538 0233 or 0800 888 472

Committee: Bill Hodge, Mick Alder and Alec Waugh. We would like to take this opportunity to welcome Alec to our committee:

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

TUESDAY 4TH DECEMBER, 2018

**DOORS OPEN 11.30AM- LUNCH 12.30PM
AT THE WAIMEA CLUB, LOWER QUEEN ST.
RICHMOND.**

Cost will be \$20.00 the committee have subsidized the lunch by \$7.00. Please post cheque and enclosed slip to Denis Wastney, 13 Essex Terrace, Stoke by the 27th November.

Our apologies, but cancellations cannot be accepted after the 29th November.

Alternative payment by direct debit into GSA
Account Nelson 031354-0027969-00,

Please add your name as reference when you direct debit also could you send enclosed slip..

LUNCHEON MENU

**ROAST BEEF AND PORK
ROAST POTATOES & 3 VEG
HOT FISH PIECES
SELECTION OF SALADS
HOT CHRISTMAS PUDDING
PAVLOVA AND STRAWBERRIES
CHOCOLATE MOUSSE
CHEESECAKE
JELLY , FRUIT SALAD
CREAM CAKE SELECTION
TEA AND COFFEE**

BY REQUEST THE SUN CITY UKULELE PLAYERS WILL ENTERTAIN US FOR A SHORT TIME. THEY REQUEST YOU JOIN IN AND SING ALONG WITH THEM.

OUR RAFFLES ARE ALSO AVAILABLE.

GREETINGS FROM OUR CHAIRMAN: JOHN RUSSELL

We wish to welcome new and not so new members to our Christmas Luncheon and do hope you will enjoy your meal as well as socializing with other members.

Our AGM was held last May with 64 members attending, Brian Whisker from the Board spoke to us. Alec Waugh was nominated onto the committee and we welcome Alec and his wife Shirley who moved from Auckland. We are in need of two more members for our committee especially women, so if you are interested please contact either Margaret Palermo or John Russell.

A big thank you to our committee, who work very hard. These people are very important in the running of our Branch.

Next year, we hope to visit either Takaka or Motueka but will inform you of our decision in our next newsletter.

I would also like to thank all our members especially those of you who attend our AGM and Christmas Luncheon. We realize everyone is busy and cannot always attend for some reason.

If you have any suggestions for social outings etc., please let us know. During 2020 the GSA is 100 years old so we thought it would be fitting for the committee and help from you as members to have a special social outing. If you have any suggestions, please let us know.

I would like to take this opportunity of wishing you all a very merry Christmas and New Year



Nick's Report on GSA Council Annual Meeting 2018

The Annual Meeting was held at the West Plaza Hotel on 2nd and 3rd

September 2018. This central Wellington location was a good venue with good meeting rooms, restaurant and accommodation all within good access.

Janice Campbell our outgoing President welcomed Branch representatives to the Annual Meeting and presented her Report to the meeting. The Executive Officer Jenny Barclay has resigned before the Council Annual Meeting and her place was taken by Acting Executive Officer Alan Peck. We worked through the Agenda with the following being the main points:

Communications: Clear communication is a key function of the Association but the costs of Annuity News and Branch Bulletins are steadily increasing, since 2014 there has been a 300% increase in costs. * To reduce the costs the Board are looking at reducing the Annuity News page numbers and the quality of the paper and it may be time for members to receive their Branch circulars by email. The Association's Website was also questioned and could perhaps be updated to explain what our objectives are. * The Board remained committed to quality communication to Members and prospective Members.

Organisation: The main objective of the GSA is quality service to members. * Branches are in good shape. The annual meeting of one vote per 500 branch members remains. * Recruiting for a new Executive Officer is well in hand. * Board Meetings could be cut from 4 weekly to 6 weekly with Skype being used more frequently. * Attendance of Board Members at Branch Meetings was questioned.

Member Services: Holding our membership numbers and recruiting new members is a high priority. * The current State Services Commissioner is very helpful to the GSA by allowing the State Services communications system to contact pre-annuants in a positive way. * Over the last 12 months we have had a loss of about 1000 members. This coupled with the enrolment of new members and spouses showed that GSA had an over-all loss of only 172 members. There is a great need to work on enrolling as many pre-annuants as we can. Lapsed members are also an area of concern and Branches will be asked to make contact with lapsed members in their Branches and encourage them to rejoin.

Financial: The accounts were late due to illness and almost all Branches had a surplus. Concern was expressed at the projected 2018-19 deficit of \$18k. * Centralisation of financial reserves: The 2017 decision was reversed and the Board have 12 months to come up with a better plan. Disappointment was expressed at the poor information and organisation from the Board on this matter over the last 12 months with that no clear plan on how the Centralisation would work especially on how the money would be invested and safe-guarded. * The possible change of the split of the subs between National office and Branches was discussed with no decision made here.

Election of Board: Our new president is Tony Hamilton (Northland) this meant that Bryan Whisker retires and all Board nominees were elected except Rob Brangwin (Hawkes Bay) Nick Farr – Delegate

Please fill in and send with cheque or direct debit.

Annuitants Name.....

Spouses Name

Address

Email Address

Phone Number LandlineMobile.....

Former Dept

Special Diet requirement Yes/No

If Yes please detail

CHANGE OF ADDRESS:

We would very much appreciate it if you have a change of address, phone number, email address, it is very important that you contact our Secretary and even more importantly that you contact Datacom, also if there is a death, a relative or friend should contact the Secretary and Datacom. Datacom for GSF members please ring 0800 654 731, NPF members 0800 628 776 and branch secretary 0800 888 472. Thanking you.

BOOKLETS:

We have available 2 booklets "Retirement and your Annuity also "Personal Data" you are most welcome to email or phone the Secretary if you would like a copy. They will be available at our luncheon.

MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE.