



**SOUTHLAND BRANCH
NEWSLETTER APRIL 2019
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

I have been reminded that it is time for me to contribute my Branch Chairman's report to accompany the next issue of our Annuity News.

I am struggling with inspiration as my life focus is captured on the news media follow-up to the Christchurch atrocity of Friday 15 March last. I can't escape the world media coverage which has changed New Zealand's international reputation as a "safe" country in which to live, work and play. This causes me to look back on my 34 years of government service during which time I don't recall being subject to a policy of inclusiveness and respect for all people. Our annuitants gave service in a wide variety of public interests and I am confident that these past events will have caused many of our members to reflect on and question change.

The difference is that our population is now more culturally diverse with the changes that brings especially as the diversity is more visible on our streets, at our Tertiary Institutions and our schools.

Even though we are retired it is still incumbent upon us to embrace this diversity as appropriate within our daily lives. One message that has emerged politically and socially is that we all must share the effect of this change and the responsibility for contributing to the understanding to children who will be our future leaders. Let us all embrace the catch phrase, "Walk With

Me". I make no apology for the tone of my contribution.

The refreshing news is that all members should have received the DATACOM letter of 15 March implementing the 2019 Cost of Living advice of the increase of 1.89%. (I am sure the date is a pure coincidence!)

Donald Mowat
Southland Branch Chairman

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WEDNESDAY 12 JUNE 2019

**CLUB SOUTHLAND, 115 LEET ST
INVERCARGILL
COMMENCING AT 2.00PM**

Agenda

Welcome

Apologies

In Memoriam

Minutes of the 2018 AGM

Matters Arising

Chairman's Report

Branch Financial Statement

Election of Officers

-Chairman

-Delegate to National Council

-Vice Chairman

-Treasurer

-Committee

Speaker

Mr Tony Hamilton, National President

General Business

The Committee is actively looking for new members. The Committee plays a vital role in keeping our branch functioning and looking after you, the members. If you are interested and want to find out what this involves contact Donald. Copies of the 2018 AGM minutes and 2018-19 Statement of Accounts will be available. Afternoon tea will be served at the conclusion of the meeting. If you have any dietary requirements please contact Louise. All members are encouraged to attend.

From the Secretary

Hello everyone. I hope you have all enjoyed our long season of warm weather.

If you have any comments or ideas about what you would like from your branch do contact me. Louise on 03 2161679, southland@gsa.org.nz.

Joining a Spouse as a Member

A reminder that it does not cost any extra to enrol your spouse or partner as a member. A couple sharing an annuity pays one subscription. If a spouse survives a deceased member they receive half the annuity and continued branch communications.

If you change any of your contact details you will need to contact both Datacom and GSA.

As your local GSA secretary contact me or change your details online on the GSA website.

Online

If you are computer savvy you can update your GSA details yourself at www.gsa.org.nz. From the homepage select "Update Details" and enter your annuity number and last name, then select the 'update details' box.

Moving house?

Thank you to the members who have remembered to contact me with their change of addresses. I enter your new address into our GSA database.

Datacom

While Datacom does have the addresses of all annuitants they are not allowed to give the GSA any change of address information, as this would breach privacy rules.

To advise Datacom, I can send you a form or you can phone 0800 654 731 to notify them of any changes either to your address and/or bank account details. Where mail is returned to me or bank accounts are closed, Datacom will make reasonable efforts to try to locate you. If you cannot be located, your annuity may be suspended until contact is re-established.

If you have any other queries regarding the GSA, membership or payments please contact me. I am a phone call away and am happy to help.

Louise Craig
Southland GSA Secretary

BRANCH COMMITTEE

Chairman:

Donald Mowat
Phone 213 0758
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Vice-Chairman

James Horn
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Secretary/Treasurer

Louise Craig
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Committee

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Wynston Cooper
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John Cosgrove
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If you have a problem please contact a member of the committee.

Southland Branch Liaison Member

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