



## **SOUTHLAND BRANCH NEWSLETTER OCTOBER 2018**

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

As your Branch Chairman and Council delegate it was once again my pleasure to attend our Council Annual meeting in Wellington on 1 - 2 September 2018 and in addition to representing our Southland membership I was able to meet up with other delegates, many of whom, like me, have attended many conferences.

As is always the case with conferences opportunity is taken, "over the tea cups" to share ideas and learn something new from others attending. The main items on this year's agenda for discussion were, (a) the future of GSA as we know it - especially branches and (b) the proposal to centralise branch and council accumulated funds. In both cases the debate was vigorous but in the end they became hot topics for the newly elected chairman and his council members to further consider and report. ('as is the case with political actions which are too hard the decision becomes - call for a further report') Professor Emeritus Roger Openshaw who is compiling the GSA history gave an update on his progress which excited me to await the final copy as there is a wealth of interest unearthed, from the first meeting held in Wellington on 10 August 1920 to the establishment of our defined benefit and whole of life scheme, which has survived many highs and lows. We now have the responsibility to hold fast to our history and preserve the objects of our association against any challenge. On

that note the address of our guest speaker, Cecilia Tarrant, Chair of the GSFA, highlighted the remarkable fund which supports our annuities, which reported an after tax and after fees surplus of \$421 million and a growth over the year 2017/18 from \$4,399 million to \$4,797 million. As we approach the end of 2018 I record my thanks to my fellow branch committee members and in particular our Secretary Louise, for their support and I extend best wishes to all our annuitant members and their families to enjoy your time over the festive season.

Donald Mowat  
Southland Branch Chairman

### **FROM THE SECRETARY**

#### **Locating Members**

Can you help me please? I am trying to contact these members: Stuart Kett, Heather Bell, James Crighton, Neil Niven and Leslie Arbuckle. If you know any of their current contact details can you contact me. This would be appreciated.

#### **Members change of contact details**

It is extremely important to let me know and Datacom know of any changes to your personal details. You can update your GSA details yourself at [www.gsa.org.nz](http://www.gsa.org.nz). From the homepage select "Update Details" and enter your annuity number and last name, then select the 'update details' box.

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. Datacom has the addresses of all annuitants but they are not allowed to give us any change of address information, as this would breach privacy rules.

## **Members**

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:**

Don Mowat  
Phone 213 0758  
mowat.ariki@xtra.co.nz

### **Vice-Chairman**

James Horn  
Phone 216 2525  
jameshorn@xtra.co.nz

### **Secretary/Treasurer**

Louise Craig  
Phone 216 1679  
southland@gsa.org.nz

### **Committee**

Graeme Henderson  
Phone 03 234 8942  
graemesh99@gmail.com

Tony Weston  
Phone 216 4616  
silverfern@kinect.co.nz

Wynston Cooper  
Phone 217 5281  
lorwyn4744@gmail.com

John Cosgrove  
Phone 217 8434

If you are aware of an annuitant who is not a member it would be good if you could invite them to attend the Christmas Luncheon. This is an opportunity to enrol another member in the Association.

## **CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON**

Members and spouses are cordially invited to attend the Christmas function. Guest speaker: Stephen Horn. Here are the details.

### **The Foundry Restaurant**

**Venue Address:** 181 North Road, (corner of North Rd and Gimblett St), Waikiwi, Invercargill.

**Date:** Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

**Time:** The restaurant will be open from 12:00pm with lunch being served at 12:30pm.

**Cost:** The actual cost is \$20 per member. The branch has subsidised this meal by contributing \$10 per member. The bar will operate on a cash basis.

**Payment:** Payment by cash or cheque will be collected by Louise at the door as you arrive

**Register to attend:** Register your intention to attend with Louise on 03 2161679 or southland@gsa.org.nz by Monday 26 November. Louise will then confirm numbers with the venue. The branch is required to pay for the numbers confirmed therefore anyone who has registered who is unable to attend on the day will be asked to make a payment to the branch.

**Dietary requirements:** Let Louise know if you have any dietary requirements when you register your intention to attend. Louise needs to let the restaurant know in advance as specialised meals cannot be prepared at short notice. The luncheon will consist of a choice of two mains and two desserts. Tea and coffee will be available.

**Car parking:** Car parking is off Gimblett St with wheel chair access.

**Transport:** Please let Louise know if you require transport.