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TARANAKI BRANCH GSA NEWSLETTER

Chairman's Report October 2021

This year we held our AGM on the planned date and apart from John Schicker not standing, the Committee remains the same as last year. Dennis Salisbury has opted to continue for another year which is great as we have been able to have a quorum present for our planned committee meetings. Our Board representative, Mike Smith wasn't able to attend because our meeting was on the same day as Wellington's AGM, and he arranged for Marjorie Thomas from Hawke's Bay to represent the Board. Marjorie gave us a comprehensive update on the recent work of the Board.

Our guest speaker was Kevin Nielsen from Riding for the Disabled. He gave us a great insight into their work and recent progress within the organisation here in New Plymouth.

Our Secretary, Doreen McCaffrey, who had served us for 11 years, was farewelled at the AGM. Although Doreen was not a member, she had developed a good knowledge of the Association and had done her best to ensure that our meetings were facilitated properly as the direct result of her efforts, as well as keeping up with everything entailed in the Secretary's role.

Picture: Doreen's Farewell Presentation:



Denyse Salisbury and I were to be our Branch Delegates at the annual Council meeting which was to have taken place over the first weekend in September, but as a result of the Covid lockdown, is now planned for Labour Weekend, with only one delegate from each Branch allowed because of the constraints of operating under level 2.

Our Branch has put a motion to Council to amend the assignment provisions, so that if the spouse/partner of the primary annuitant is the assignee, and pre-deceases the primary annuitant, then half of the assignee's annuity would be paid to the primary annuitant. At present the primary annuitant gets nothing, so suffers from both the bereavement plus a significant reduction in household income. While the current political situation is against the likelihood of change, what we have submitted could be taken up as an objective for the future as it can be done without the liability to the Fund being increased compared to the situation where no assignment had been made. In fact, it would still be a reduction in the remaining pay out.

On Thursday 5th August, a lunch meeting was held for the South Taranaki members at the South Taranaki Club in Hawera. This was attended by a total of 19 members. The meal was good and most indicated their satisfaction with the event.

We don't know who our Board representative will be and whether they will attend our Christmas meeting. The committee is hiring the Blenheim Room at the Plymouth Hotel again, so there will be plenty of room for everyone. Lesley Dowding, who is a well-known entertainer, will be there to provide some levity for us at the end of another testing year. It would be great to see as many of you as possible to share in the occasion.

I wish you all the best for the festive season and less disruption for the future.

Les Sharp.



Christmas Meeting and Lunch

GSA 2021

Wednesday 1st December 2021

Venue	THE PLYMOUTH INTERNATIONAL HOTEL Courtney Street Blenheim Room	
Format	10.30 am	Mix and Mingle Morning Tea Welcome - Tea or Coffee Devonshire Scones served with cream & jam
	11am	Guest Entertainer
	12 noon	Lunch served to the table.

Members, spouses and friends are invited to this meeting
The subsidised cost is \$25 per person which includes morning tea and lunch

Payment to Taranaki GSA
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Please ring Denyse Salisbury, phone 753 4998 or 021 0428268 or email taranaki@gsa.org.nz

by 22nd November if you are able to join us. We look forward to seeing you there.

Change of address

If you have a change of address, or phone number please let Denyse know so that she can ensure our records are correct.

The newsletter is published twice a year if you an email address or cell phone number we can let you know of any news and upcoming events/functions. Thank you.