



Newsletter
Waikato-King
Country Branch
October 2021

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0800 888 472

SEASONS GREETINGS

Your Committee extends very warm greetings to all our members.

Notwithstanding Covid, your Association has worked steadily throughout the year in order to protect the interests of members. At the national level, the GSA has made some progress to persuade parliament to correct inequities in the application of Cost-of-Living increases. At the local level, your Branch has continued to deal with issues raised by individual members. We also have again held successful coffee meetings and luncheons in regional towns and another excellent coffee meeting in Hamilton.

We now look forward to our annual Christmas Luncheon. In this newsletter we also give advance notice of next year's regional lunches.

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

The Pavilion, Hamilton Workingmen's Club, Frankton
FRIDAY 26 NOVEMBER
(Full details pages 3 and 4)

A great opportunity for all of us to get together after the Covid disruptions. Members, spouses, friends and any potential members are welcome. If you know of someone who is receiving Government Superannuation but who is not a member of the GSA, please encourage them to come to the luncheon and to join our Association.

2022 REGIONAL COFFEE MEETINGS AND LUNCHEONS

These too are very popular. Lunch will be preceded by a quick summary of GSA activities and issues with time to ask questions. Note: These events will be held before our next newsletter. We will write to and/or email all members living near the venues.

Members are especially invited to bring spouses and/or partners and to raise questions about the scheme. Members may also bring along potential members such as friends who receive Government Superannuation but who are not yet members of our Association.

Matamata: 12.00 pm, Wednesday 2 March, RSA Ngaio St
Te Kuiti: 10.00 am, (Morning tea) Thursday 3 March, Venue TBA
Taumarunui: 12.30 pm, Thursday 3 March, T&D Women's Club, Miriama St.
Cambridge: 12.00 pm, Wednesday 17 March, Cambridge Cosmopolitan Club, 88-94 Burns St.

Attendance at regional luncheons is not restricted to members who live in those areas. Other members are also most welcome. If you live outside the above areas and would like to attend a luncheon, please contact our Branch Secretary two weeks in advance.

REPORT ON WAIKATO BRANCH AGM, 9 JUNE

As Covid lockdowns delayed our 2020 AGM until November, 2020, our 2021 AGM in June covered only a few months. The highlight of the meeting was a very informative address by GSA National Board member, Marjorie Thomas, who is responsible for liaison with our branch.

As at 31 March 2021, The Waikato-King Country Branch had 1,399 members, a small drop from 1,430 a year earlier. Of our March 2021 membership, 731 were annuitants, 397 were spouses of annuitants, 210 were surviving spouses, 32 were pre-annuitants, and 29 were spouses of pre-annuitants.

Our Branch finances remain strong, even though we hold four regional lunches, the most distant in Taumarunui. As at 31 March, we had 974 subscription-paying members (that is, annuitants, surviving spouses, and pre-annuitants) and we ran a surplus of \$1,329.

REPORT ON HAMILTON MORNING TEA, 28 JULY

Jeremy Maseyk

In July, we resumed our social morning tea and guest speaker programme. We welcomed Brent Nielsen from Age Concern Hamilton who spoke to over 30 members.

Brent gave an interesting and entertaining talk about the work of Age Concern. He highlighted the many different areas where they offer support to older people. These include:

- visiting services;
- elder abuse response;
- shopping support; and
- health and wellbeing programmes.

Brent illustrated his talk with several examples. Some heart-warming, some light hearted; some sad ; and some alarming.

Hoarding was quite a common theme. Another was financial abuse by family members of elderly relatives. This, he noted, occurs too frequently.

On a more positive note, Age Concern offers a range of courses on health and well-being directly to older people. These are fun, sociable and usually interactive courses where we can learn to take control of our own health and well-being needs.

If you feel you need any of these services, or know of anyone who would benefit from them, contact Age Concern. This information is available on their website ageconcern.gen.nz, phone 07 838 2266 or email enquiries@ageconcern.gen.nz.

REPORT ON GSA NATIONAL COUNCIL ANNUAL MEETING 11.00 AM, FRIDAY 26 NOVEMBER

Covid restrictions have delayed the GSA's National Council. At the time this Newsletter was prepared, Council had been re-scheduled for 23/24 October. If it proceeds, Jeremy Maseyk will report back to members prior to our Christmas Luncheon at the Hamilton Workingmen's Club.

JOIN US FOR OUR CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

We invite you to join your fellow superannuitants at this year's annual luncheon. This invitation is also extended to your spouse, your partner or a friend. Intending members are also welcome. We are happy to meet reasonable requests for help with transport: ring John Evered Ph 0800 888 472.

Note: Lunch will be a buffet; committee members will assist or serve those with mobility issues.

Date:	Friday 26 November
Time:	11.00 am – 2.30 pm
Cost:	\$ 25.00 per head
Venue:	THE PAVILION HAMILTON WORKINGMEN'S CLUB, FRANKTON (See directions on Page 4)

We hope you will be able to join us on this happy occasion. The venue has adequate parking. The bar will be open if you wish to share a convivial drink with friends.

Please reply by *Tuesday 9 November* by selecting one of the following three options:

- Fill in the reply slip and post it to: The Secretary (address below); or
- Email your response, including dietary requirements, to: The Secretary (waikatokc@gsa.org.nz).

Payment:

- Make a direct payment to the GSA Waikato-KC bank a/c (details below); or
- Arrange with John Evered to make a cash payment on the day

Direct payment details: Account no: 02 0316 0159181 00 Code: *Lunch* Reference: *Your name*

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I/We will attend the Christmas Lunch No attending: ___ @ \$12.00 = \$ _____

Name(s) (for name tags):

Special diet requirements: (please specify for each person requiring a special diet)

Payment - tick the appropriate one: Cash on the day Direct Payment

DIRECTIONS TO HAMILTON WORKINGMEN'S CLUB

The Hamilton Workingmen's Club is located at 45 Commerce St, Frankton.

It is best to enter Commerce Street from Norton Road. The Workingmen's Club is approximately half way down the first block, on the left-hand side. There is plenty of parking. From the parking area, good signage indicates the path to the Pavilion, which is to the right as you drive in.

From the North: Take Te Rapa Road into Ulster St. Turn right into Mill St. Turn left into Norton Rd. Turn Right into Commerce St.

From the West: Take Massey St. to Norton Rd. Turn right into Norton Rd. Turn right into Commerce St.

From the South: Drive to Tristram Street. Turn left into Tristram St (at Pak'n'Sav). Continue on Tristram St to Ward St. Turn left into Ward Street which becomes Seddon Road. Continue along Seddon Road to Norton Road. Turn left into Commerce St.

From the North-East, cross the Waikato River at a preferred bridge. Drive West down Mill Street to Norton Road. Turn right into Norton Road. Turn right into Commerce Street.

WAIKATO-KING COUNTRY BRANCH CONTACT DETAILS

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3240