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Newsletter
Wanganui Branch
November 2017

Wanganui Branch
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Both Neil Elgar and I have recently returned from Wellington after attending the annual Council meeting. Each of the associates 19 branches usually send 2 delegates to this important event. The GSA Council and elected Board, discuss our current policies and set the future directions for our organisation.

The main discussion topic for this meeting was a paper entitled 'The Future of the GSA – a long Term Perspective. The GSF scheme closed to new members in 1992. It goes without saying that members of the scheme are ageing and eventually numbers will reduce to zero over a period estimated to be 40 plus years.

The task of our organisation is to safeguard the provisions of the GSF for all of members. We do not want some future government reducing the benefits that we have paid for over the many years of contributing to the fund during our working years.

A number of recommendations were discussed and voted upon at the meeting. Details of these will be presented to you at our next meeting and will be published in future GSA publications, mainly our "Annuity News"

Our guest speaker at the Council Meeting was Simon Taylor, the CEO of the Govt. Super Fund. This organisation manages our contributions, some 4 billion dollars! The returns made on the investment do not affect our annuity as the government has to make up the difference in order to pay out our regular entitlements. Here are a few interesting facts:

- 2016/17 \$874 million paid to members
- \$68 million every 4 weeks – 15 million from our fund and 53 million from the government

Currently we have about 46000 members receiving the annuity and about 4000 current contributors.

Our organisation will celebrate its 100th birthday in 2 years' times. We all need to make sure that the GSA continues to be a strong advocate for our members. We can all help by supporting our local branch and by recruiting new members.

All the best for the future. Enjoy Christmas and a happy new year to you all.

Trevor Hall
Chairman

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Christmas Meeting

Wanganui East Club, Wakefield Street, Wanganui East
on Thursday 23rd November 2017
commencing at 11.15 am

Our Committee has again arranged for our meeting and lunch to be at the Wanganui East Club. We are asked to be seated by 12.20 pm for lunch so orders can be taken.

Menu

choice of two roasts - beef or pork, or battered fish.

A range of hot vegetables and salads will be available from the self-service buffet. Tea and coffee will be available free.

The cost to you will be \$10.00 payable at the door. The branch is subsidising the balance of the cost.

A selection of 3 desserts will be available for purchase from the kitchen and your own cost of \$6. Also, a range of refreshments will be available from the bar.

RSVP to Marian Barclay on 06 343 2789 or to Marian's email address jmbarclay10@gmail.com by Wednesday 15th November 2017 if you are coming to lunch. We would also appreciate receiving any apologies.

The meeting will consist of a report back given by our Chairman Mr Trevor Hall on the Annual Council meeting and other matters relating to GSA activity, a guest speaker and an opportunity for members to raise matters of general interest.

Our National Office has continued with the mailing out of our newsletters. This necessitates the preparation to be early in October. By the time you receive it and Annuity News the Parliamentary elections will be completed and we will have a new coalition government. Let's hope that the new government will give us – the GSA - the courtesy of at least listening to our organisation as we represent to it the anomalies in our Superannuation payments and the manner in which these anomalies affect a number of our members.

If you change your address please advise Datacom: Freephone 0800 654 731 or email gsf@datacom.co.nz

Also contact your Branch Secretary: Neil Elgar – Phone (06) 345 7139, or mail to 27 Oakland Avenue, Saint John's Hill, Wanganui or email wanganui@gsa.org.nz.

Hopefully we will have the problems which have plagued our local GSA email address finally sorted out.

PSA holiday homes are available to GSA members. Phone 0800 103 090.