



CHAIR

Mike Smith

**Deputy**

Ian Clunies-Ross

**Wellington Branch Committee**

Ian Clunies-Ross, Kevin Duggan, Suzanne Holgate, Kay Monks, Bryan Whisker, and Ray Woolhouse, David Scott, Gael Hickson.

**Wellington Life Members**

Virginia Breen, Peter Chambers, Gray Nelson, Bill Robertson, Elizabeth Smaal, Mike Smith, Leicester Stewart, Peter Stewart, Terence Stock, Ian Swift, David Thorp, Bryan Whisker, Priscilla Williams, Ray Woolhouse, Ian Clunies-Ross, Dallas Elvy.

**INVITATION to Coming Events**

**15 November 2023**

The Wellington Railway Social Club end of year function at Petone Club.

**21 November 2023**

Horowhenua / Kapiti Branch Functions. 16<sup>th</sup>. & 23<sup>rd</sup>. November 2023  
The Wellington GSA Branch Christmas lunch at Te Marua Golf Club.

**16<sup>th</sup>. & 23<sup>rd</sup>. November 2023**

Horowhenua / Kapiti Branch Functions

**February 2024**

Proposed bus excursion to Wanganui.

**Please refer to booking details further in this newsletter**

**Newsletter  
Wellington Branch GSA  
October 2023**

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**A Message from The Chair**

The Wellington Branch AGM was held at Petone Club on 13 June 2023 with 57 members present. From nominations received it was pleasing to note that all office holder positions were filled. This year Elizabeth Smaal decided not to seek re-election for our committee. Her breadth of knowledge and experience will be missed. We have been able to recruit two new members onto our committee and it is with pleasure that we welcome David Scott and Gael Hickson to our team. Following completion of general business members enjoyed lunch.

On 18 July 2023, a midwinter lunch was held at the James Cook Grand Chancellor Hotel and once again those attending enjoyed a mix and mingle with a very pleasant lunch. Our guest

speaker for the event was Bill Robertson (life member) gave an enlightening address on past difficulties experienced by GSA in dealing with Government and GSF administrators. Bill was able to explain that protection of our annuity is paramount and can be subject to future change at [the](#) behest of the government of the day, [This is](#) especially [since](#) new memberships to the fund were closed over 30 years ago and the fund is winding down. Your membership of this association is [vital](#) in providing a voice to lobby on your behalf when needed.

The Wellington Branch is healthy in that we have a strong, talented committee, dealing with issues arising and endeavouring to keep you informed. We meet every two months, either at Anvil House or by means of video conferencing.

On behalf of your branch committee, I wish you all a happy Christmas and enjoyable holiday season.

Mike Smith  
Chair

## CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON 2023

The Wellington Branch Christmas luncheon will be held at Te Marua Golf Club on Tuesday 21 November 2023, commencing at 11.30 with 'mix and mingle' and lunch at 12 noon.

Once again, a free return bus from Wellington Rail Station 10am to Te Marua with pick up at Waterloo Station, (eastern side) and Upper Hutt Station will be available.

**Bookings are essential** and can be made to Kay Monks, acting Branch Secretary, no later than 14 November 2023 either by phone: 021 100 7080 or email: [wellington@gsa.org.nz](mailto:wellington@gsa.org.nz) When booking, please indicate that payment will be made either by a direct credit payment or cash on the day, as detailed below.

If you will be making use of the free bus, please advise the Secretary and indicate where you will board it. Should you require extra help with transport from the McKenzie Trust, please advise the Secretary. The cost is \$30.00 per person (\$40 for non-member guest). Payment by either.

- **Direct credit** to  
GSA A/c 38 9014 0085421 00.  
Quote name, annuity number together with the reference XMS.
- **Cash** payment on the day  
**(please bring exact amount)**

### **Wellington Railway Social Club**

The Wellington Railway Social Club Christmas Luncheon will be held on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup>. November 2023.

This is an informal group of former Railway employees and any GSA members wishing to attend will be most welcome.

Venue - Petone Workingmen's Club, cost \$28 per person. Please be seated by 11.45am.

Cash only payable at the door. Please bring the exact amount as change cannot be given.

**For bookings**, please contact Ray Woolhouse, Wellington  
(ph. 04 973 8158).

A booking is essential and must be made at least two days before the function. Late bookings cannot be accepted.

### **GSA Horowhenua / Kapiti Branch**

The GSA Horowhenua / Kapiti Branch has extended an invitation to Wellington Branch members to attend the following Christmas functions.

- 16<sup>th</sup>. November 2023 Christmas luncheon at Levin Cosmopolitan Club commencing 11am.  
Cost \$40 per person  
Bookings are essential by 13<sup>th</sup>. November 2023;
- 23<sup>rd</sup>. November 2023 Christmas luncheon at Plateau Village, Waikanae commencing 11am.  
Cost \$ 40 per person.  
Bookings are essential by 20<sup>th</sup>. November 2023.

**All bookings to John  
Laurenson ph.: 02144 5115.**

### **Visit to Wanganui**

It is proposed to organise a [one-day bus excursion](#) to Wanganui for members to [meet up](#) and join for lunch with GSA members from Taranaki, Wanganui, Manawatu, and Horowhenua / Kapiti Branches in February 2024 (possibly 15<sup>th</sup>.or 16<sup>th</sup>.)

The bus will depart Wellington Railway Station 9am with [a](#) comfort stop at Levin.

Lunch will be in Wanganui, returning to Wellington at [approximately](#) 4.30pm. the same day.

We are seeking expressions of interest for this day trip and costs will be advised when numbers participating are known.

If you are interested, please contact Kay Monks, acting Branch Secretary by 10<sup>th</sup>, January 2024 either by phone: 027 416 1675 or email: [wellington@gsa.org.nz](mailto:wellington@gsa.org.nz)

If you are interested, please contact Kay Monks, acting Branch Secretary by 10<sup>th</sup> January 2024 by;  
phone: 0274161675 or  
email: [monsyak21@gmail.com](mailto:monsyak21@gmail.com)

### **Wairarapa Luncheon**

Our annual luncheon and branch update was held on Tuesday the 19<sup>th</sup>. September 2023.

This meeting was to inform members living in the Wairarapa on GSA matters.

Mike Smith welcomed everyone to the Luncheon and Ian Clunies-Ross spoke on the Council meeting matters.

Brian Whisker spoke on the importance of maintaining and attracting new members. Bryan has been the main local Wairarapa membership contact with the committee for many years and expressed a need for assistance in this role to keep local members informed of our activities. Members were asked to consider taking up the challenge of assisting him with this task.

The Wairarapa function was attended by 28 members who enjoyed the usual high standard of Wairarapa hospitality.

### **2024 Annual General Meeting**

Please note in your diaries that the Wellington Branch AGM will be held on Wednesday on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>. June 2024.

The venue will once again be the Petone Club and further detail will be included in our May 2024 Branch Newsletter.

### **The McKenzie Trust**

The McKenzie Trust was established in 2017 as a legacy of Super tours that operated from 1988 for the benefit of Wellington Branch members. Its purpose is to help with travel for those who find it difficult to attend Wellington Branch functions. The trust has enabled us to organise free buses when required for our functions and our thanks go to the Trustees for assisting with this.

### **Change of Address or Telephone**

Please let the Secretary know if there are any changes to your personal details. The GSA operates separately from DATACOM in that you will need to notify both organisations of any changes to your personal details. Where mail is returned "gone no address" datacom will make reasonable efforts to try and locate you. If you cannot be located your annuity may be suspended until contact is re-established. If GSA cannot locate you, we cannot keep you informed of news and events.