

THE WIRE

Gore District Memorial RSA (Inc.)

March 2018

Newsletter

Issue 64

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Greetings all,

With 2018 flying along it is my pleasure to write this report.

The year has been a busy one for the Gore RSA with patronage well up on previous years.

The continual growth of the club can only be attributed to the fantastic level of commitment and service from all involved and a special mention is needed to all the hard working staff and the leadership of our Manager Steve Brinsdon.

The use of the function room continues to grow and we are attracting more and more entertainment and ticket shows which are always well supported by the members.

ANZAC day this year is a special one for the RSA as it is the 100th anniversary of the first service that was organised by the Gore RSA as usual I'm sure that we will see yet another record number of people at the service.

At the national level there has been some major staffing changes to the RNZRSA head office in Wellington, we will keep you all posted with updates especially relating to discounts that are available with your RSA membership card so watch this space. Please also remember that by showing your RSA card at Liquorland you will get a discount off anything that isn't already on special please also remember that off sales are available from our bar at the RSA and all sales will earn you points on your RSA card.

The AGM is fast approaching and we will be calling for nominations in early May so if you have ever considered being part of the volunteer team that runs the club please talk to the office and get a nomination form.

Thank you all for continuing to support our club and I wish you well for the year ahead.

Jarrad Scott
President





SUPPORT SERVICES REPORT

By the time you read this, Poppy Day (20th April) and Anzac Day (25th April) will be looming again. More than a century has passed since the fateful landings our troops made on the Gallipoli Peninsular which lead to the deaths of so many young men from both sides of the conflict and grew to become the first World War – the war to end all wars!

Every Anzac Day since then, at services around the globe, we have remembered those who died – lest we forget.

New Zealand’s first Poppy Day was the 24th April 1922, the day before Anzac Day. The plan was to hold it in November 1921, closer to Armistice Day, the day most other countries recognise by wearing the poppy. In a quirk of fate the ship carrying the first shipment of poppies from France was delayed and it was decided to postpone the day until the following Anzac Day. Nationally, on that first day, almost 250,000 poppies were sold for a shilling each.

From those early days the Poppy Day Appeal was the primary means of raising funds for the welfare of returned service personnel and their dependants. Recognising the diverse nature of the modern New Zealand Defence Force and it’s cohorts in the 21st century, the group of people entitled to be eligible to receive assistance from poppy day funds has broadened. That group now includes: All serving and ex-service and NZ Police personnel, their spouses, partners, widows, widowers and dependants who are in need. You will note that this doesn’t require beneficiaries to be members of an RSA, or even be ‘returned’. As long as there is a service connection and a need can be demonstrated. CMT, National Service, Territorials, Reservists, and Cadet Forces are also part of our ‘service family’ and as such are entitled to support.

The Gore District RSA Welfare Trust is a pro-active and progressive group which has always taken a pragmatic view when addressing the welfare of the larger ‘service family’. Through it’s Welfare volunteers and assisted by a Support Advisor from Dunedin who visits monthly the trust makes pensions advice and welfare services easily accessible and widely available to all ex-service people and their families in the Gore district.

If you or someone you know would like assistance or advice and think the RSA Welfare Trust might be able to help please make contact via the Club Manager - Steve or contact, the Support Advisor - Niall Shepherd directly at 0800 664 888.



GORE RSA TIN HAT REPORT

We held our AGM on 19th February March and set our dates for the year. They are: 20th May, 24th June, 22nd July, 16th September & 25th November.

Thanks to all the committee and members that have supported me through my many years working for the Tin Hat Club. Thanks to the Gore RSA for their support during Judith’s and my ill health and we have made a full recovery. We are looking forward to the continued support of the RSA and our members for the 2018 year. Come and join us on the above dates

Fred Sutherland
Outgoing President



GORE OUTDOOR BOWLS

As the 2017/18 season comes to an end, the club has had the most successful year on record in the Saturday competition. With the Gold team winning with maximum points, not losing a game and also finishing top of the pennants table, a great effort by everyone, thanks must go to Kevin Fiveash for his work organising and selecting the team. The Blue team came second in the same competition and also second in the pennants, well done to Noel Ryan and his team.

In the Wednesday mainly ladies competition, both teams are sitting midfield at the moment with the competition not quite finished.

Congratulations to Brad Allen, men's development and Shona Klemick, senior ladies, representing southland in the national inter centre sevens.

Two teams from the club travelled to Nelson, to the RSA National Triples Tournament, Gay Abernethy, Maree Barclay and Angela Johnson (Hokonui) who replaced Judy Whipps, competed in the tournament with 48 teams, but well done to Robbie Heads, Donna Kirk and Emma Hanley for making the top 16.

Corporate Bowls finished last Friday with a St Patricks night theme, a good time was had by all who braved a cold night.

Our RSA Fives Tournament will be over by the time this goes to print, and the club will like to thank all our sponsors, especially the Gore RSA for their support, without this we could not hold a tournament of this size. Thanks Jarrad, Steve and the R.S.A team.

Thanks to tournament convener Barry Harvey, for organising the Fives Tournament and Shona for organising the catering for the weekend.

Thanks to Dan for the work he has put in for the club for the past two years as president, results prove he has done a great job.

Last, but not least our green keeper Sam, thanks for all the work you have put into our green, in this very dry year.

There will be a closing night in April, date to advised.

Mark Kubala
Vice President



GORE RSA TRAVEL CLUB

We have just had our annual meeting. Over the year we have visited many interesting places. eg. Midwinter Christmas Dinner at Rosebank Balclutha followed by a visit to the Clydevale punt. We also visited Winton, Tapanui & Dunedin.

Our last trip was on a beautiful day to the Catlins, we had lunch at a lovely new Café at Curio Bay.

We need more people to join us on our trips so have a think about it and give me a call on the number below.

Allan Bennett
President (208-4719)



POPPY COLLECTION DAY

This year our annual Poppy Appeal collection Day is Friday 20th April. If you can volunteer for an hour please call Steve on 208-6218 Ext 0 and let him know that you can assist. He will be calling those that helped last year soon to check on availability.



CARDS – Gore RSA Flag 500

Every Wednesday evening, cards start at 7:30pm and finish at 9:30pm. With winter coming on why not come and play cards. All welcome as well as new members.

Phyllis Caughey
Convener (208-7501)



A wife complains to her husband: "Just look at that couple down the road, how lovely they are. He keeps holding her hand, kissing her, holding the door for her, why can't you do the same?"

The husband: "Are you mad? I barely know that woman!"



GORE RSA WOMEN'S SECTION

Dates to remember for the next calendar year are:

- April 3rd 2018 - 10:30am - Housie
May 1st 2018 - 11.30am - 76th Birthday Party
June 5th 2018 - 10:30am - Speaker: to be arranged
July 3rd 2018 - 11.30am - Finger Food Lunch
August 7th 2018 - 1:30pm - Outing in Gore
September 4th 2018 - 10.30am - Market Table
October 2nd 2018 - 10.30am - Mystery Trip
November 6th 2018 - 10.30am - Xmas Lunch
February 5th 2019 - 10.30am - Speaker: to be arranged
March 5th 2019 - 10.30am - AGM



THE PADRE PONDERING

On 11 March the Church celebrated Mothering Sunday, the fourth Sunday of Lent, usually three weeks before Easter Sunday. In the 16th century, people would visit their 'mother' church, the church where they were baptised and they were said to have gone 'a-mothering'. Later, Mothering Sunday became a day when domestic servants would be given a day off to visit their mother church and their families. By the 1920s, the Mothering Sunday tradition became less celebrated and the commercialised American version of the holiday replaced the religious event and called Mother's Day is an annual celebration of motherhood and a day on which mother figures are honoured around the world, most commonly marked in March or May.

Why am I writing about this you may well be asking, and what has any of this to do with my usual articles about remembrance and memorialisation?

As part of my continuing research into the names of the service personnel that usually appear on our district memorials and honours boards which normally shows just initials and surnames, I have also been trying to establish the names of their parents and in the process also as a matter of course the mother's maiden name. Looking at the personnel records I've noted that the majority of servicemen had nominated their mother as being their 'next of kin', and of course most men also wrote letters or sent postcards back home to their mother. The French and Belgian women created lovely handmade lace edged cards and these very popular cards were sent back home to mothers, wives and sweethearts.

Mother's also wrote not only to their sons but also to the Minister of Defence, often enquiring as to the whereabouts of their sons when they had received no official word as to their fate.

In the rather sad local case from WW1, Private Francis Alphonse (Frank) Hughes, born at Croydon on 19 June 1889, an early volunteer to serve in 1915 and was the first New Zealand soldier to have been executed because of his so called desertion in France on 25 August 1916.

His mother received advice in a letter from the Minister of Defence dated 11 September 1916 that her son Pte. H Hughes had been tried by Court Martial and shot. His mother wrote back to The Minister on 26 September suggesting that there must be some mistake as her son was called Frank and that he had enlisted with the Wellington Regt. and not the Canterbury Regt. as suggested and that she believed that her son was still alive. The Minister did reply and confirmed that this man was indeed her son and that he had been transferred to various Regiments and Units, he also said that he deplored the matter and sympathized with her as to her son's tragic end. The name of Private Frank Hughes 24/2008 never appeared on any casualty lists and his personnel file simply stated the word Deceased. It was as though the willing volunteer who had served his country had never existed.

Severely wounded and more often than not dying men during both World Wars on all sides of the conflict, both on the battlefields and in the hospitals were often heard to be calling out for their mother. Thus many the last words spoken would have been; Moeder – Mamma – Mère – Mutter – Maman – Moer - Mother – Mum.

In conclusion I would like to share with you what to date for me has been the most poignant moment thus far in my research. At our first open day a couple of years ago the last item shown to me that day was an old telegram from the Ministry of Defence advising a mother that her son had been killed in action at Passchendaele on the 12 October 1917. On opening the telegram I noted that it had been obviously opened and carefully refolded countless times over the years, however what struck me most wasn't the stark words that were written thereon advising the death, but it was the stains that appeared on the surface of the paper. Stains that could only have come from a mother's tears as she had read and wept and reread and wept more than once over the years that followed for the son that she would never see again, speak with or hold in her arms once more.

Sorry to end this on such a sad note, however perhaps it is a timely reminder to us all to remember and give our grateful thanks to our mother's, whom in the majority of cases is or was always there for us.

Wishing you and your family every blessing. – *Padre Bruce*

Mothers

In the still of night
 Have we wept.
 And our hearts, shattered and aching
 Have prayed.
 In the cold, cold moonlight
 Have we sobbed
 And dreamed of what might have been.
 And our hearts have bled from stabs
 Given unheeding.
 We are the women who have suffered alone –
 Alone and in silence.

Kay Boyle



Bob goes to see his friend Pete. He finds Pete in his barn dancing naked around his John Deere. "What are you doing!" asks Bob. Pete stops dancing & says, "My wife has been ignoring me lately, so I talked to my psychiatrist and he said I needed to do something sexy to a tractor."



Maintenance and Repairs are a continuing item for the club.

If you notice anything that you think needs to be bought to our attention, please contact the office or myself (0276866392)

Recent work has seen the removal of a defunct skylight over the main bar and the area re-roofed. This along with other maintenance should see reductions in staining to grid ceiling tiles.

New heaters have been installed in smoker's area.

Tenders have been let for two items, the first is alterations to the kitchen area to make conditions better for staff and better utilise the area. The second is to enclose the exposed steel beams on the verandah ceiling.

We have a working bee set for 15th April at 1 pm, this is to take care of some smaller items and also replace stained ceiling tiles.

New air curtains are to be installed to the main foyer, making life at tables directly in from entry more comfortable over coming cooler months.

Plans that were put on hold to create a separate raffle room have been dusted off and we will be looking at this in the near future.



GORE RSA INDOOR BOWLS

The opening night for the 2018 season for Indoor Bowls was held on the 20th March. A total of 10 members attended two of these being new members to the club.

The Eastern Competition will begin on Monday 9th April.

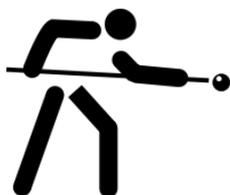
New members most welcome so, if you would like to come along and have a try at Indoor Bowls do so on a Tuesday at 7.30pm.

Bruce Hellier President
Secretary
(03) 2087537

Margaret Hughes
(03) 2087053



A child asked his father, "How were people born?" So his father said, "Adam and Eve made babies, then their babies became adults and made babies, and so on." The child then went to his mother, asked her the same question and she told him, "We were monkeys then we evolved to become like we are now." The child ran back to his father and said, "You lied to me!" His father replied, "No, your mom was talking about her side of the family."



GORE RSA SNOOKER SECTION

Greetings all,

As the days grow shorter, nights grow longer and temperatures start venturing closer to those single digits, it's time to start thinking about our up and coming snooker season.

Thursday interclub should be underway mid-april, if all goes well.

As mentioned in my last report we are hosting the NZ National pairs tournament at the very end of August.

We have formed a sub-committee for this and preparations are now well under way for this event!

In the next few months the finishing touches to our amazing snooker room will be made, with the addition of new leaners and bar stools which will provide more comfort for both players and audiences.

Our section has been rostered on for November to do raffles and courtesy van duties.

More volunteers this year would be much appreciated!!

We now have arguably one of the best snooker facilities in the country and invite all to come along, utilize and enjoy it!!!

Snooker is a challenging and fun game to play. Why not give it a go?

Feel free to txt or call me on 0274503010 anytime.

Evan Fricker

manager@gorersa.co.nz

www.gorersa.co.nz

03 208-6218



GORE RSA GOLF SECTION

It has been yet another full-on year.

The Gore RSA Team 1 took out the Otago/Southland Chartered Clubs Tournament Cup but we wavered and lost the Gore RSA v Gore Town and Country (not sure how, but it must have been the countback!)

In 2020 from 1-4 February we are doing a joint venture with the Town and Country to run the South Island Men's Chartered Clubs Tournament where we could have up to 180 players over the two days.

The Saturday evening would be held at the Gore RSA and with spectators/helpers we would expect up to 250 people.

The Section went on Tour on Sunday 18 March to hone our skills at the Waikaia Golf Course. My team played extremely well to take out the honours and win on the day by countback which was adjudicated by myself.

Again, thanks to the Executive for allocating our Section the Raffle Nights in May.

We are always looking for new members to join our Section.

John Speden
Convenor



FROM THE OFFICE

2018 promises to bring back many of the hit shows we had last year.

We start with a Queen/Eagles show on May 12th. If you were here last year for the Bee Gees tribute show then you're gonna love this. The same people are back to perform Freddie Mercury's rock classics as well as some of the great ballads the Eagles played back in the great old music days of the 70's & 80's.

Tickets are on sale now in either \$50 for dinner and show or \$20 show only. Tickets are selling fast so don't miss out on this opportunity as Members and Facebook users are getting the first chance to buy tickets and then it will go to the open public. Limited to 400 tickets.

On Friday 30th November and Saturday 1st December, we welcome back the Theatre Restaurant Show. Faulty Towers was such a hit last year that the same company will return with a new show called "The Naughty Christmas Horror' Ball". This is one of their most popular Xmas party's and is often compared to the infamous DRACULA'S Cabaret Restaurant. Tickets will be on sale later in the year so keep an eye on our Facebook page as well as the local papers for more details. What a great idea for a work Christmas Function as well. More information can be found at <https://www.dkcm.co.nz/a-very-rocky-xmas>.

We have plenty of other great entertainment and several bands are back after successful trips last year so check out the dates below and plan ahead for a great time out.

In all cases keep watching our Facebook page and website for updates and ticket information.

We have recently undergone an upgrade to our TV reception which has been plaguing us for months. Interference was distorting picture quality, but we are pleased with the results achieved and the big screen in the TAB area has never looked better.

The kitchen will be undergoing a makeover shortly as we improve our delivery service by installing a new workstation in the front area. This will give the staff more room to work and improve the flow of meals. We plan to do this work early in the week to minimise the downtime.

Steve Brinsdon – Secretary/Manager



RAFFLES

We have been raffling off Blue Cod lately which has proven to be popular but at times difficult to source and with the Oyster season kicking into gear really slowly, orders are only trickling in. I wonder if the disease from previous years is having an effect on supply or it's just our fickle weather but we all hope it returns to normal soon so we can have some of these delicacies to win on Thursday & Friday nights. If you win it only costs an extra \$3 to get the kitchen to cook them up for you. Not a bad idea and you can share them with your table - Frank.

You may have noticed a shiny new van parked in our veranda. This will be our new courtesy van once it's sign-written. Those within the sections that do the driving may wish to have a practice drive after Anzac Day. Pop in and see Steve to organise the keys after this date.



UPCOMING ENTERTAINMENT

<p>Wednesday 25th April (Anzac Day)</p> <p>Sunday 13th May (Mother's Day)</p> <p>Friday 1st June (QB/Gold Guitars)</p> <p>Saturday 2nd June (QB/Gold Guitars)</p> <p>Saturday 14th July</p> <p>Sunday 22nd & 29th July</p> <p>Sunday 5th, 12th, 19th & 26th August</p> <p>Friday 31st August (Daffodil Day Fundraiser)</p> <p>Saturday 1st September (Snooker Tournament)</p> <p>Saturday 24th November (Scottish Night)</p> <p>Saturday 8th December</p> <p>Saturday 15th December (Theme Night Dress-up)</p> <p>Sunday 31st December (New Year's Eve)</p>	<p>Marie Haslemore 9:00-11:00am & Bill Acklin 11am-3pm</p> <p>Bill Acklin 12-2pm & 6-9pm</p> <p>Shane Clarke & Mitch Low 7:30-11:30pm</p> <p>Contraband 7:30pm -11pm</p> <p>3's Company 7-11pm</p> <p>Melodies with Margaret 3-6pm</p> <p>Melodies with Margaret 3-6pm</p> <p>Various Artists 7-11pm</p> <p>Triple Shot 7-11pm</p> <p>Shindig 7-11pm</p> <p>featuring Hokonui Celtic Pipe Band</p> <p>Tranzition 7-11pm</p> <p>Flip Side 7-11pm</p> <p>Contraband 7:30pm – 12:30am</p>
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Ticket Shows:

Saturday 12th May (Madsen Productions) Queen/Eagles Tribute Show. \$20 Door charge. Special \$50 buffet & show deal with priority seating near stage. Tickets on Sale at Bar



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