



# RSA

# THE WIRE

Gore District Memorial RSA (Inc.)

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December 2015

Newsletter

Issue 59

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## PRESIDENTS REPORT

Dear Members

It is almost Christmas time again. Time does seem to fly. There will be plenty of entertainment for everybody in December. To top off them all, Shindig on New Year's Eve.

We are still awaiting word from the bank about funding for the extensions. Everything else is in place.

To those members who have lost loved ones during the year, my thoughts are with you all. Wishing every member a Merry Christmas and A Happy and prosperous New Year.

Hope you can join us at the club sometime during the festive season.

Regards

Frank Lynch - President



## WELFARE REPORT

I wish to congratulate Verna on her Gold Star for her generous service to Welfare over many years. These shoes will be very hard to fill.

I am looking forward to meeting all involved with Welfare and hope in time I will be of assistance.

The Veterans Vintage Car Run will be on Saturday the 5<sup>th</sup> December 2015 at 1.30pm, so please make sure your name is on the list to enable cars to be organised.

There are scooters and 2 wheelchairs available from David Kingsford if anyone needs one to borrow. To the committee, a special thank you for the assistance given through the year.

For all who are sick or have lost loved ones, our thoughts are with you. I wish you all good health and happiness with your family and friends over the Christmas and New Year holidays.

Linda Harvey – Welfare Officer





GORE RSA TIN HAT REPORT

The 366th Tattoo on the 22nd of November was the final one for the year. This was our Christmas Tattoo. There was no speaker, but an afternoon of entertainment and cheer.

I would like to thank our committee, sandwich makers, Tin Hat Band etc. and wish all members a Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Our AGM will be held on the 7th March 2016, followed by our committee meeting. The first Tattoo will be held on Sunday 20th March 2016. Other dates have still to be confirmed.

Fred Sutherland – Chairman



GORE OUTDOOR BOWLS

Welcome to the 2015/16 season

Our 2 Wednesday Interclub teams have begun competition, also our 2 Saturday teams are coming along. Thank you Sam, our green is playing well again this season. Pray for some nice sunny and warm weather. Congratulations to Maree Barclay and June Ryan, winning the Southland 2-4-2 Pairs. Well done ladies.

The RSA Elimination Tournament results were:-

- 1st J. McIntyre, B. Hellier, F. Sutherland
2nd R. Heads, N. Broome, E. Hanley
3rd D. Fiveash, K. Fiveash, W. Kaio

Well done people. See you all in February when the National Tournament will be held in Gore. Tournaments coming up; Sunday 13th December, Christmas Turkey Tournament Sunday 17th January, Promotion Day

Corporate Bowls began on Friday 13th November. No Report at this time, but I am sure all went to plan and a great evening was held. You don't need to be a member or a bowler, so come along at 6pm on Friday after work and join in the fun. Only need flat soled shoes. Come along and try our sport. You will enjoy the friendliness and fun.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy and Prosperous New Year. See you on the green, good bowling every one.

Gloria Fisken. President





**GORE RSA GOLF SECTION**

The Golf Section went on a Training Course to Jack’s Point on Sunday 11 October. It started as a cool, windy day but by mid-afternoon the wind had dropped and it was about 16o. Considering how tough the Course was, John O’Shea came in with 37 Stableford Points, followed by Ivan Butel and Brian Elder on 30 Points each.

Welcome to our newest member, Clint Wright who only lost two balls whereas Veteran Jim Olsen brought his wife with him as a ball spotter – she even found one with Japanese labelling.

Our next outing for the Section will be to enter a team in the Chartered Clubs South Island Tournament on 6/7 February 2016 at Green Acres Country Club in Invercargill. We already have two contenders for the Team (John O’Shea and Chris Gentle) but need two more. The Selection Committee will meet at the RSA in December to select the final two players.

John Speden  
Convenor



*A Scottish mother visits her son in his New York City apartment and asks, “How do you find the Americans, Donald?”*  
*“Mother,” says Donald, “they’re such noisy people. One neighbor won’t stop banging his head against the wall, while the other screams and screams all night long.”*  
*“Oh, Donald! How do you manage to put up with them?”*  
*“What can I do? I just lie in bed quietly, playing my bagpipes.”*



**GORE RSA POOL SECTION**

Once again another year for the Pool Section is nearly at an end with a solid core of 8 to 10 players each Sunday turning up for games. The Section has a breakup night organised for 28th November to be held at the RSA. The last Sunday for games will be the 29th November and we will start again around the end of January. If you have a spare two hours on a Sunday and are interested in playing Pool, come along on a Sunday at 1pm and try Pool with a Difference.

Ken Lloyd



CARDS – Gore RSA Flag 500

We will always welcome anyone who would like a game of cards. They are held at the Gore RSA at 7.30pm to 9.30pm every Wednesday night. The last night will be held on the 10th December for this year. We start on the 3rd of February 2016. A Merry Christmas to you all.

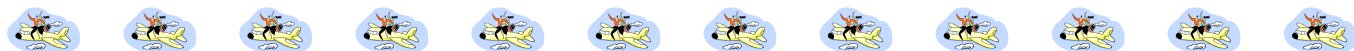
Phyllis Caughey – Convener



GORE RSA TRAVEL CLUB

We have travelled many miles this year. We went to Mavora Lakes, Tuatapere, Waihola, Invercargill and a mystery trip in November. For nine years, Jim Hewlett has spent hours arranging our trips. The committee would like to thank Jim for all you have done for our club. He is giving this job up. We will welcome new members to join our club. A merry Christmas to all members. Our next trip will be 21st February 2016.

Phyllis Caughey - President



A police officer called the station on his radio.

“I have an interesting case here, an old lady shot her husband for stepping on the floor she just mopped.”

“Have you arrested the woman?”

“Not yet, the floors still wet.”



GORE INDOOR BOWLS

Indoor Bowls season ended in August, with a busy few months. Some members playing 3 and 4 nights a week as well as some weekends.

We wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas and a great New Year. We welcome new players in 2016

Margaret Ferris - Secretary



## WOMEN'S SECTION

Gosh, where has this year gone? Since the cancellation of our July pot lunch because of snow, it has just flown by. Still hints of snow on hills now and again and it's supposed to be spring. We are ever grateful for living in one of the safest places in the world, so why complain.

In August a few of our ladies went to Tapanui Women's R.S.A. and had a lovely day. They had a speaker who had been to Gallipoli celebrations. It was very interesting.

September is always our market table day. Members brought along lots of lovely baking and other goods for sale. In October we had Fay Graves demonstrating floral arrangements and Christmas decorations. November we had our Christmas lunch cooked by Ann and girls in the kitchen. Twenty-three ladies all enjoyed her beautiful cooked ham and all the trimmings. She certainly knows how to put a lovely lunch on for us. A big thank you Ann, much appreciated and also to Steve for liquid refreshments.

That pretty much rounds our year up! On behalf of myself, committee and members, we would like to wish you all a very happy and safe Christmas. See you all in February.

Glenise Terry – President



*An elderly couple had dinner at another couple's house, and after eating, the wives left the table and went into the kitchen.*

*The two elderly gentlemen were talking, and Harry said, "Last night we went out to a new restaurant, and it was really great. I would recommend it very highly."*

*His friend Bill said, "What's the name of the restaurant?"*

*Harry knits his brow in obvious concentration, and finally said to his companion, "Ahh, what is the name of that red flower you give to someone you love?"*

*His friends replies, "A carnation?"*

*"No. No. The other one" the man says.*

*His friend offers another suggestion, "The poppy?"*

*"Nahhhh," growls the man. "You know the one that is red and has thorns."*

*His friend said, "Do you mean a rose?"*

*"Yes, yes that's it. Thank you!" the first man says.*

*He then turns toward the kitchen and yells, "Rose, what's the name of that restaurant we went to last night?"*





**DARTS – Gore RSA Section**

The dart section has seen another season over. Congratulations to all our members who won in the Championship darts. Mixed pairs: Desiree Neho & Archie Mason  
Men’s Pairs: Darren Broome & Archie Mason  
Mixed Pairs: Mary Kubala & Darren Boyes  
Men’s Singles: Archie Mason

Hope to see everyone next year with darts on the ochre! Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!

Any enquiries about darts contact Vera Neho – (03) 208 0742 or Barry Hamlin – 027 406 8937



**AIR TRAINING CORPS**

Well, Christmas is coming upon us. We have had a great year, with 3 camps (Alexandra, Dunedin, and Tautuku). Lots of activities with the community, like the book sale, RSA Wire, Crank Up, The Mandeville Fly-in, Models over Mandeville and many more.

The Cadets and Officers of the unit have been busy going to courses, JNCO & SNCO at Burnham Military Camp and Officers on a Dip Flat Bush craft Course and one on a commissioning course. So the unit is in a great place at the moment, 5 officers and 14 Cadets.

We have done ANZAC Day and Armistice Day and we are about to do our annual flying camp, where the RSA helps us for this. A new Cadet will receive the RSA flying scholarship to help them into a career in flying. We also attended Jack Stevens’ funeral, for a Guard of Honour. He was a great man and will be sadly missed in the units final nights prize giving. He really enjoyed it.

To the RSA, I would like to thank them for their support and the raffle nights, without that, it would make the units work harder, so thank you to the RSA and the committee.

So have a great Christmas and Happy New Year and drive safe. We look forward to seeing you and working with you next year.

SQN-LDR – Lindsay Young  
Unit Commander  
No. 28 SQN ATC - Gore





## THE PADRE PONDERING

On the 11<sup>th</sup> November at 11am we again commemorated “*Armistice Day*” with a “*Remembrance Day*” service at the Gore Peace Memorial and it was great to see so many people in attendance, and especially pleasing to have quite a number of pupils from St. Marys School present.

Unfortunately because of exams, head pupils from our two High Schools were unable to be present to hold our two Anzac

Flags and due to an issue with keys and time constraints we were also unable to parade the 4 flags representing the Army, Navy, Air Force and Merchant Navy.

However we did have an ATC Cadet who proudly held the solitary NZ flag at our Remembrance Day service, and in the scheme of things this was rather appropriate as people of NZ are about to vote on an alternative flag which to be pitted against our current flag in a referendum next year.

Whilst thinking about what I was going to write for this issue of “*The Wire*” I thought it might be appropriate to include the comments which I made at that service, as follows: -

101 years ago the First World War had been raging in Western Europe since August 1914 and an advance party of NZ Forces had its first success with the capture of German Samoa on the 29th August.

On the 16th October the NZEF Main Body left NZ and reached Egypt where they camped and trained before their first combat of war on 3rd February 1915 when they assisted in the defence of the Suez Canal from Ottoman troops.

2 days later NZ had its first combat fatality when Private William HAM died as a result of wounds received in that action.

On the 25th April this year we commemorated the centenary of the landing of the Anzac forces at Gallipoli and remembered the many lives lost during that ill-fated campaign.

On the 8th August whilst we recalled the capture of Chunuk Bair we also again remembered the many lives that were lost of men from our district.

The lives lost of many either killed in action, or died from wounds or disease, and lives and families changed forever because their loved ones were never coming home and many others changed because of severe wounds to their husbands and sons.

Whilst we remembered these men that fell at Gallipoli we also remember those of the 10 NZ Nurses which lost their lives when the *Marquette* was sunk on the 23 October 1915 and the losses which continued until the final evacuation from the Dardanelles between the 15th and 20th December 1915.

We also recalled and remember those many more lives that were lost during campaigns in France and Belgium until the conclusion of WW1 when the Armistice came into effect 97 years ago.

However as we all well know now, what was known in 1918 as The Great War – the so called war to end all wars - that was not the case for 21 years later the world was once again in turmoil against a determined foe as men and women fought for justice and peace. WW2 had begun in 1939 and raged for 6 long years.







## WW1 COMMITTEE

The Gore RSA will be 100 years in Sept 2017 and the executive have engaged the services of Doug Wing to write our history over these years.

Doug has written 6 books on district or family centennials and is now wanting material and information for our centennial book. PLEASE we need your help, especially past and present members of executive and committees.

Displays in our museum will be changed in the NEW YEAR.

### **EARLY BEGINNINGS OF THE GORE RSA by Doug Wing**

With a growing concern that the affairs and interests of soldiers returning from overseas service needed a body that would advocate on their behalf, a New Zealand Returned Soldiers' Association was established at a meeting held in Wellington on 26<sup>th</sup> April 1916. Following this meeting, branches of the Association were progressively set up throughout the country.

Just prior to the first National Conference of the NZRSA, held in Dunedin from 25-29<sup>th</sup> May 1917, moves were made to form a branch of the Association in Gore. On 16<sup>th</sup> May 1917 a meeting was held under the chairmanship of E.R. Bowler, to form an Association in Gore to be called the Gore Returned Soldiers' Association and to be affiliated with the New Zealand Returned Soldiers' Association in Wellington. The Gore RSA was incorporated by September of 1917 and in March 1918 it received its notice of affiliation with the New Zealand Association.

Formation of a local Soldier's Club for both Gore and surrounding districts Returned Soldiers was one of the first matters the Gore RSA focused its attention on. After much support from locals through donations and fund-raising events, a soldiers club was operating in upstairs premises on Main Street, Gore, before the first annual meeting of the Gore RSA was held in April 1918.

A sub-association was formed at Matura and sub-committees were formed at Balfour, Mandeville, Pukerau, Riversdale, Waikaia, and Waikaka in early 1920.

From those early beginnings, the Gore RSA has grown substantially with the first objectives of the Association principally the same today as they were when the Association was first established.

As the Gore RSA approaches 100 years since its formation, the Centennial Committee is undertaking research to record the history of the branch together with the sub-branches. We are appealing to all members for any information/photos etc. that may relate to events or is connected with the Association to bring it forward so that a complete story of the first 100 years can be told. Often it is the stories behind an event that often prove to be the hidden gems.

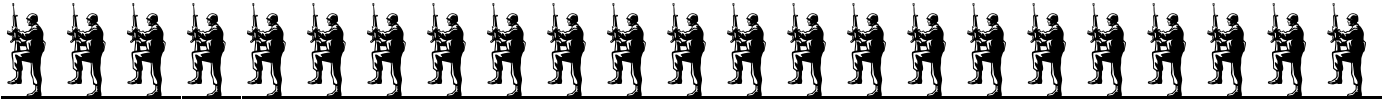
The topics we are looking at, but not limited to, are:

- The sub-branches and their histories for which there are a few records in Gore;
- Club Rooms – The establishment of and renovations that have been undertaken plus activities, events, entertainments, etc., held;
- Monuments – the building of plus any commemorative plaques/lists, war memorabilia, items etc.;

- Welfare of returned soldiers and/or their dependants, land settlement issues, obtaining of pensions, etc. with support from the Association;
- Any activities undertaken from by the Branch and/or Sub-Branches;
- Personnel who have fulfilled a role within the association or who may have contributed in some way with or with an interesting tale to tell that adds to the Associations story.

Anyone with any information or material that may be of interest, could they please contact

- Doug Wing – Writing the Associations History – 202 5352 or [d.wing@woosh.co.nz](mailto:d.wing@woosh.co.nz)
- Steve Brinsdon at the Gore RSA – (03) 208 6218



## NEW ZEALAND AT WAR – 70 YEARS AGO

- Aug 1945** 16,000 as part of a commonwealth force for the invasion of Japan. VJ Day. Celebrations occur throughout New Zealand. All offensive action against Japan ends. Over 7,000 New Zealanders in the Royal Navy and Royal New Zealand Navy in World War II. 573 were killed and 170 wounded.
- Sept 1945** Casualties for the RNZAF in the Pacific Campaign totalled 407: 345 killed, 58 wounded, 4 prisoners of war (3 died while prisoners of war. Hostilities end officially with the signing of the instruments of surrender aboard the USS Missouri in Tokyo. Internationally, executions of accused collaborators begins in France and there is a food crisis in Britain.
- Oct 1945** the return of the New Zealand Veterans is the main topic of discussion in NZ. A memorial service is held by 2 NZEF at the war cemetery near the Sangro River and one near Cassino. New Zealand continues to disband squadrons who destroyed many aircraft, motor vehicles etc.
- Nov 1945** a memorial service is held at the British War Cemetery.
- Dec 1945** Members of 2 NZEF returning from overseas (209 officers and 257 other ranks) disembark from Mooltan at Wellington on the 20<sup>th</sup> and at Lyttleton the next day. Under the Maori war effort organisation, 5178 men were enlisted for overseas services, 2088 for home service and 10229 for the home guard – a total of 17,495 enlistments. The December quarter of 1945 shows a maximum rate of demobilisation.



*'I waited a long time for this stripe, but they had to recognise brains some time in this unit.'*



## FROM THE OFFICE

December is shaping up to be a busy month with many functions booked in. We have entertainment every weekend leading up to Christmas and Shindig on New Year's Eve.

Our DB promotion will be drawn on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December at around 6pm and we will be notifying you if you have won either the \$1,500 Travel Voucher or the second place BBQ & Cover valued at \$700. It's not too late to enter. Simply purchase a DB product at the bar or through Off Sales to qualify when using your membership card.

The RSA Heart Pin competition closes on 7<sup>th</sup> December so not much time left to enter this for a chance of winning 3 great travel prizes.

On behalf of all the staff, I would like to thank you all for your continued support throughout the year and hope you all have a good Xmas and we look forward to seeing you all back in 2016.

Steve Brinsdon – Secretary/Manager



### NEW RSA CLUBCARD

Notice to all members. Your 2016 membership card will look like this and will be available early December. It can be collected at the bar after payment of the annual fee of \$25 is made. Gold card & free membership holders will receive theirs in the mail before Christmas.

Remember to pay by the end of January 2016 or you will incur a late payment fee. Please also note that it is important to carry this card with you at all times as our club licence will only permit us to serve alcohol to members, their guests and members of affiliated clubs. The bar staff may ask you for it if they are unsure of your membership status.



### RAFFLES

The raffles continue to provide a great opportunity for our club sections to make money and attend sporting competitions throughout the country. They make all the profits (not the club) so please support these sections on Thursday & Friday nights as this is sometimes their only fundraising exercise.

To help them achieve bigger profits the raffle times will be changed for next year to run from 5pm – 6:30pm.

### UPCOMING ENTERTAINMENT

- |  |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| <b>Saturday 5th December</b>   | – Bryan Griffiths              |
| <b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December</b>  | – Kid's Xmas Party from 1:30pm |
| <b>Saturday 12th December</b>  | – DJ Al 7 - 11pm               |
| <b>Saturday 19th December</b>  | – Bill Acklin 7 - 11pm         |
| <i>A special performance from the dancers at Rachel's School of Dance from 6pm</i> |                                |
| <b>Thursday 31st December (New Year's Eve)</b>                                     | – Shindig 7:30pm-12:30am       |



**RSA Merchandise for Sale:**

**(Purchase at the Bar)**



Poppy Lapel Pin **\$5.00**



&



100 Years / WW100 Lapel Pin **\$6.00**



Fields of Remembrance Lapel Pin **\$8.00**



RSA Tie with new logo **\$25.00**



Gore RSA Umbrella **\$40.00**



Gore RSA Vest **\$70.00**



Extra Virgin Olive Oil **\$18.00**



Tee-Shirt **\$30.00**



Bumper Sticker **\$2.00**



RSA Wrist Band **\$3.00**



Poppy Bag **\$6.00**



RSA Heart Pin & Competition Entry **\$10.00**



Limited Edition Battle Pin **\$10.00**



Letters from Home Pin **\$10.00**