



RSA

THE WIRE

Gore District Memorial RSA (Inc.)

March 2015

Newsletter

Issue 57

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Dear Members

Welcome to the New Year. We recently held the Otago/Southland District ANZAC Speech competition. Again the speakers were of a very high standard. The winner was of Logan Park School from Dunedin.

On Gore Show day, we held a display of R.S.A. merchandise we have for sale; there was a good response from the public and we picked a few new members. On Saturday the 7th of March we will be having an open day at our club rooms. There is a full day of entertainment for the kids, parents & grandparents. Evening music will be provided by “Mood Swings” from 7pm til 11pm. Sunday will be Tin Hat Day with guest speaker NZ RSA President B.J. Clark as Speaker.

At our last executive meeting we were told there were some members who think we are not doing the right things for the club. If there are members who think this way, please come see me or Steve. Please do not let this situation carry on.

Regards
Frank Lynch - President

WELFARE REPORT

I hope all our members had an enjoyable time over the festive season and are looking forward to a busy time within our RSA this year.

All our Returned servicemen, wives and widows were visited before Christmas with gifts from our Welfare. We wish to thank Chris Griffin from Gore New World for his contribution towards the vouchers. Unfortunately, more of our senior members are requiring care in one of the retirement homes, so would family members please advise either myself or the RSA, as we like to keep our records up to date. It also makes it easier for the Welfare team and the club members who visit every Sunday morning.

I would like to thank the Vintage Car Club for taking members out to Tapanui in December, also Tapanui Women’s Section for supplying afternoon tea, an enjoyable day.

Our senior members lunches will be starting again on April 14th, price \$10.

I see in my records where, by the end of this year, all of our World War II Returned Servicemen will be over 90years. One member will be 100 years at the end of March, which we will do something about, not sure what, but will not let it pass without acknowledgement. In fact it might surprise members how many of our WWII men are in their late nineties.

To members who have lost loved ones recently, please accept our deepest sympathy. Hope all our members have a great year.

Verna Stevens – Welfare Officer





THE PADRE PONDERING

The Padre Pondering – *Rev. Bruce Cavanagh*

The Padre Pondering – Commemoration & Celebration

On the 25th April this year we will be commemorating 100 years since the landing of New Zealand and Australian soldiers – the Anzacs – on the Gallipoli Peninsula in 1915. The aim was to capture the Dardanelles, the gateway to the Bosphorus and the Black Sea. At the end of the campaign, Gallipoli was still held by its Turkish defenders. Whilst Anzac Day commemorates all New Zealanders killed in war it is also a time to also honour returned servicemen and women.

Thousands lost their lives in the Gallipoli campaign: 87,000 Turks, 44,000 men from France and the British Empire, including 8500 Australians and 2779 New Zealanders, almost one in four of those who served on Gallipoli.

It may have led to a military defeat, but for many New Zealanders then and since, the Gallipoli landings meant the beginning of something else – a feeling that New Zealand had a role as a distinct nation, even as it fought on the other side of the world in the name of the British Empire.

Anzac Day was first marked in 1916 and since then the day has gone through many changes however they still remain rich in tradition and ritual befitting a military funeral.

The word 'Anzac' is now a part of the culture of New Zealanders and Australians and people talk about the 'spirit of Anzac and conjures up a shared heritage of two nations, but it also has a specific meaning as the acronym for Australian and New Zealand Army Corps. This corps was created early in the Great War of 1914–18 when the Australian Imperial Force and New Zealand Expeditionary Force were stationed in Egypt and initially the term Australasian Corps was suggested, but both Australians and New Zealanders were reluctant to lose their separate identities completely.

Whilst no one knows who came up with the term Anzac, it is likely that a clerk at headquarters thought of it for use on a rubber stamp: 'ANZAC' was convenient shorthand and later the corps used it as their telegraph code word.

100 years ago the Anzacs first saw action at Gallipoli on 25 April 1915 and the small cove where the Australian and New Zealand troops landed was quickly dubbed Anzac Cove. Soon the word was being used to describe all Australian and New Zealand soldiers who fought on the Gallipoli Peninsula and eventually it came to mean any Australian or New Zealand soldier.

Anzac Day, as we know it, began to take shape almost as soon as news reached New Zealand of the landing of soldiers on the Gallipoli Peninsula on 25 April and within a few years' core elements of the day were set and the Anzac story and sacredness of the commemoration was duly enshrined.

The first public recognition of the landings at Gallipoli occurred on 30 April 1915, after news of the dramatic event had reached New Zealand. A half-day holiday was declared for government offices, flags were flown, and patriotic meetings were held. People eagerly read descriptions of the landings and casualty lists – even if the latter made for grim news and our newspapers enthused about the heroism of the New Zealand soldiers.

From the outset, public perceptions of the landings evoked national pride. The eventual failure of the Gallipoli operation enhanced its sanctity for many; there may have been no military victory, but there was victory of the spirit as New Zealand soldiers showed courage in the face of adversity and sacrifice.

Anzac Day has taken on a new meaning in a time of relative peace and most New Zealanders see it as a time to express sorrow, not to glorify war. It has become a sacred day, but one that was secular in tone and less like a mournful funeral. The dawn parade, commemorating both the time of the initial landings at Gallipoli and the routine dawn stand-to in the trenches, was an Australian idea but was widely adopted in New Zealand from 1939 with the cold and darkness breaking into sunrise which adds to the symbolism of the occasion.

Over the last few years the number of young people attending the Anzac Day services have been increasing and it is pleasing to see some wearing the medals their grandparents and great-grandparents won during wars. Anzac Day enjoys unusual reverence in a country where emotional public rituals are otherwise absent. The day still has a traditional commemorative function, but for more people it is also becoming an opportunity to talk about what it may mean to be a New Zealander.

We do not glorify war, for there can be no glorification in the killing and maiming our fellow humans, and so it is that Anzac Day is a day of commemoration where we remember the sacrifice of all of those men and women who gave of their lives for our peace. In another sense Anzac Day can also be time when we also celebrate, not the wars or heroic deeds, but that these people lived and that these were the same people that unselfishly gave their lives for us. – *Lest we forget.*

The ancient Greek statesman Pericles is attributed as making the following statement – *The whole earth is the sepulchre of famous men; and their story is not graven only on stone overt their native earth, but lives on far away, without visible symbol, woven into the stuff of other men’s lives.*

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



GORE RSA TIN HAT REPORT

The Tin Hat holds its 360th Tattoo. The entertainment and speakers were excellent. Gore is the only Tin Hat still operating in New Zealand. Thanks to our hardworking committee members and our helpers.

The AGM of Tin Hat will be held in the Club Rooms on the 16th of February at 7pm. Our first tattoo will be held on the 8th of March, coinciding with the celebrations of the 100 years First World War.

Looking forward to your support for the 2015 year.

Fred Sutherland - Chairman



GORE RSA TRAVEL CLUB

Our first trip of 2015 on the 15th of February, we travelled by bus to the Mavora Lakes. The annual meeting is to be held at the Gore R.S.A. on the 14th of March at 10.30am. All members welcomed.

Phyllis Caughey – President





GORE RSA INDOOR BOWLING CLUB.

Indoor Bowls will be starting again for the 2015 season on Tuesday the 24th of March, in the RSA games room. If you are interested in playing, come along and have a bowl. You will be very welcome. The season is from March-August.

President – Bruce Hellier, Secretary - Margaret Ferris



GORE OUTDOOR BOWLS

After a very wet beginning to the season, the club has been very busy since my last report. CONGRATULATIONS to Daniel Fiveash, Winner of the Eastern Men’s Champion Singles. And Maree Barclay, Winner of the Eastern Lady’s Champion Singles. Both players are a great asset to the club. Southland SBS Sevens were contested in early Dec. Division 2 was won by Gore RSA Women’s team Congratulations Shona, Gay, Maree, Ruth, Jonette, Yvonne and Val. These women go on to Timaru on Feb 28th to contest the South Island Zone. Best wishes to you all. The Domestic Division was also won by a Gore RSA Mixed team. Well done. The Wednesday Interclub 1st round has been completed with both RSA 1 & 2 in the top eight for the next round. Saturday Interclub has had mixed results but still a long way to go. Come on Guys and Gals. Corporate Bowls has finally got underway with the fine weather, a good crowd attended the opening night on 23rd January. An evening of Bowls – BBQ – and fun. Thanks must go to the club members who organise these great evenings. Bowls Promotion Day was a day of fun and friendship. 14 teams comprising of 4 players, 2 bowlers and 2 non bowlers participating. Club Championships are well underway with games played most nights. Keep up the pace people. The afternoon tournament on the 12 Feb is Optional Triples. Our next big club event is the annual Optional “Fives Tournament sponsored by the Gore Memorial RSA. Planning is underway for this on the 28th - 29th March. Keep the sunscreen flowing players, it has been very hot on the green. Best of luck to all bowlers for the rest of the season. Gloria Fisken - President



CARDS – Gore RSA Flag 500

We would welcome anyone who would like a game of cards. They are held at the Gore RSA, 7.30pm till 9.30pm every Wednesday.

Phyllis Caughey – Convener





FROM THE OFFICE

Well it's been a busy start to the year. We have plenty of events planned starting with the Club Open Day on Saturday 7th March. This will coincide with our Heritage Day which is part of Southland Heritage Month.

Anzac Day is shaping up as a massive occasion as we commemorate 100 years since WWI. We are expecting a large turnout on the day and have a range of guest speakers and entertainment planned

The new entranceway has been completed and is a marvellous addition to the front of the building and stands out even better at night time. This is to be painted before Anzac Day as well as fixing up the car park lines. Two handicap parks will be located on both sides of the veranda.

Soon we will be putting up the new plans for the extension now that we have nearly completed all the drawings. These will be located opposite the main toilet block.

Fridays are set to change over the next few months as we plan to introduce a "Happy Hour" leading up to the normal raffles on the night. Details are still to be worked out but this is expected to happen early April.

Please remember to use our courtesy coach as we have put on extra staff to get you to and from the club safely. Drivers are ready to pick you up from 4pm Thursday to Sunday nights.

Steve Brinson – Secretary/Manager



**LETTERS
TO THE EDITOR**

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We have heard a few members are unhappy with the changes going on in the club. This forum is your chance to air your grievances and get some explanations from the executive about what is happening. You can also approach the President Frank or the Secretary/Manager Steve directly if that is your choice. Remember change is not always welcome by all but the executive is working at the best interests of all members



UPCOMING ENTERTAINMENT

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| <i>Saturday 7th March (Heritage Weekend)</i> | - <i>Mood Swings 7-11pm</i> |
| <i>Saturday 14th March (St Patrick's Day)</i> | - <i>Shindig 7-11pm</i> |
| <i>Saturday 28th March</i> | - <i>The Southern Man 7-11pm</i> |
| <i>Sunday 10th May (Mothers Day)</i> | - <i>Bill Acklin 12-2pm & 6-9pm</i> |

Saturday 25th April (Anzac Day)

- Marie Haslemore 9am-12pm
- Kingston Rover 1pm onwards

Friday 29th May (Gold Guitars Weekend)

- Forbidden Fruit 7-11pm

Saturday 30th May (Gold Guitars Weekend) - TBC



THE NEXT WIRE PRODUCTION

June 2015. These will be included in the annual booklet and need to be dropped into Steve at the office or emailed to gorsersa@xtra.co.nz by 22nd May please.

RSA Merchandise for Sale:



Poppy Lapel Pin

\$5.00



100 Years Poppy/Fern Lapel Pin **\$6.00**



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



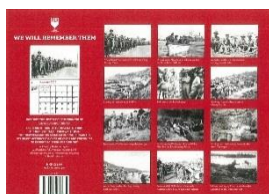
RSA Member Badges **\$5.00**



Gore RSA Umbrella **\$40.00**



Gore RSA Vest **\$60.00**



2015 RSA Calendar **\$15.00**