

THE WIRE

Gore District Memorial RSA (Inc.)

March 2024

Newsletter

Issue 73



GORE RSA PRESIDENTS REPORT

Hello everyone and welcome back to what has already started as a busy year. Since the last wire we have seen a lot of activity in the clubs with events such as the Services dinner, District AGM, support workshop and numerous entertainment events. The RSA remains vibrant and buzzing with membership still on the rise.

Armistice day was another success with the service getting larger and larger every year. It is encouraging to see more veterans attending. Remembrance is one of the pillars of the establishment and to see this growing is encouraging.

On December 2nd we finally managed to get the services dinner executed with a great turn out of over 60 service personnel and partners from within the club. The day started with a support meeting coordinated by Niall Shepherd our district support manager. This was followed by the district AGM at which the RNZRSA Board chair Maj Gen (ret) Martin Dunne outlined the future direction being proposed by the national RSA. Both meetings were well received and have started the process for many by registering for veteran's affairs and engaging for potential help.

The National President Sir Wayne Shelford and CEO Marty Donoghue also attended the meeting and dinner. The feedback from the RNZRSA command group was good and reinforced the outstanding work being undertaken in the RSA. This is a tribute to the great running of the organisation by Steve and the staff. A special thanks once again must be given to Donna for her layout, the bar staff for their dinner coordination, the kitchen staff for an amazing meal and the executive for helping during the night. The guest speakers, banter and reminiscing of the night will be remembered by many with enquiries already for the next event.

Three members from the executive attended the second day of the RNZRSA national council. The day was shrouded with controversy due to a Stuff article and a boycott from those involved in the article. This speculation was soon put to rest and a clear direction has been outlined by the national body. With the new constitution being drafted to comply with the new incorporated societies act we should see a local draft constitution by years end for approval. Workshops encouraged healthy discussion on the current RSA and good brainstorming for the future. Aaron Horrell presented his East Timor 25-year documentary trailer to the meeting. Gore has supported this by sponsoring 3 Gore veterans to travel to East Timor for the filming in July.

With the recent publicity of the RNZRSA I would like to make a timely reminder for those wishing to comment or complain within the establishment to do so through the correct channels. Speculation and gossip can lead to incorrect and damaging information being circulated. This is detrimental to the RSA and the people within it. If you have any issue, please contact Me, Steven or one of the executive members and we will work through the issue.

Around the RSA we see Thursday and Friday nights getting busier and busier with some great income being generated by those undertaking the raffles. The great quality of the meals has continued with great feedback on the buffet dinners. Our staff work tirelessly during these hectic times, and I would like to thank them for their efforts.

With ANZAC day fast approaching I would like to put a call out to those current and former service personnel. If you know of anyone who has served and is unsure of joining the RSA, please get them along to enjoy the benefits of the establishment. All service members past and present are eligible for welfare support with operational veterans getting free membership.

Thanks again for you continued support and I look forward to seeing you in the RSA soon.

Bradley Bridgman
President
Gore & District Memorial RSA



OTAGO/SOUTHLAND DISTRICT SUPPORT MANAGER
NIALL SHEPHERD

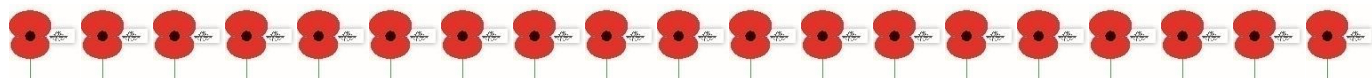


Attention Service, ex-service, police & families.

- Struggling to adjust back to civilian life?
- Having health or stress issues possibly resulting from your service?
- Is your family life suffering?
- Finding it hard to make financial ends meet?

Our Support Advisor, based in Dunedin is available to help make those BIG problems smaller. Grant funding, referrals to appropriate agencies and services, advocacy and advice are just some of the support services available.

Contact 0800 664 888 or email *DSM.Otago@rsa.org.nz* for help



POPPY COLLECTION DAY

This year our annual Poppy Appeal collection Day is Friday 21st April. If you can volunteer for an hour, please contact Steve on 208-6218 Ext 0, and let him know that you can assist.

We really appreciate the support on this day so if you can help it is greatly appreciated. The Manager will be calling those that helped in previous years soon to check on their availability.



GORE RSA WOMEN'S SECTION

Our annual meeting was held 10:30am on 7th of March 2023. The election of officers was held, and the results were:

President – Eileen Wicks

Vice President – Glenise Terry

Secretary – Yvonne Williams

Treasurer – Diana O'Neill.

Committee – Lois Hurley, Cath Bennett, Dorothy Murray & Helen Forsyth.

Our meetings are held on the first Tuesday morning of each month from February – November.

Over the year the speakers have been, Glenise Jones on her sporting achievements. Vicki Crawford on her teaching career and Dorothy Mullen on her receiving the Soroptimist award.

We also had a tour of the new library and a visit to a private home where we viewed a room of dolls houses.

Our October meeting and lunch was held at Miss Cocoa in Mandeville. Our birthday on 2nd of May was celebrated with an afternoon tea and a speaker. Members were asked to bring a plate and a friend. Afternoon tea was lovely but unfortunately only two ladies could find a friend to bring along. Christmas lunch was held on 7th of November on Melbourne Cup day at the RSA. Ladies from West Otago, Balfour, Bluff and Awarua joined us for a lovely buffet meal provided by the kitchen staff, and we enjoyed music from Murray & Sue Bruce. During this afternoon we had the honour of presenting Verna Stevens, Sylvia Gilder, Glenise Terry, and Anne Welsh with service awards. They are all still active members and attend most of our meetings.

Our last meeting was held on the second Tuesday of February as the first Tuesday of that month fell on Waitangi Day. Two of our members, Yvonne Williams and Jenny Griffiths gave a talk on their holidays overseas which were both enjoyed by us all.

This year we have started having a roll call each meeting. We also run \$1 raffles and free housie with small prizes to be won.

Our membership stands at 19, new RSA members would be made very welcome.

I would like to thank the RSA Manager Steve and the staff for all their help over the year. Also, thanks to our Secretary Yvonne, Treasurer Diana, and the committee Cath, Lois, Dorothy, and Helen for the running of our section.

Eileen Wicks
President





GORE OUTDOOR BOWLS

It's been a busy season with the completion of the Bar Upgrade. Thanks Barry and the team. The season so far has been good weather wise with Inter Club and tournaments played on time. We have just completed our Annual Two Day 5's Tournament, with good numbers. Our Wednesday and Saturday Inter Club is going well with good numbers in both. We also presented two life memberships – Gloria Fisken and Barry Harvey. A special thanks to our committee and members for all the work they put in.

End of February saw us hold our annual Fives tournament, which we thank those who supported this and entered teams. A huge thank you to Gore RSA as our major sponsor of this tournament and to Gore and Hokonui Bowling Clubs for their kind support and use of their greens.

Results were:

- 1st - Terry Lynch and team 2nd - David Thwaites and team 3rd - Noel Ryan and team
- 4th - Vanessa Whangapirita and team 5th - D Coombes and team 6th - June Ryan and team
- 7th - Lyn Chittock and team

Ross McKee and team, and Jim Walker and team also talking out prizes from the other greens. Congratulations to all, and thank you all for your amazing support this season



Steve Popham
President





THE PADRE PONDERING

Greetings to you all -

History being a passion of mine for as long as I can recall, it was great to learn last year that N.Z. history was finally going to be given its rightful place and being taught in more detail than in the past. My youngest grandson who chose history as one of his subjects was explaining to me recently that as part of learning about WW1 that he had to write this up in the form of a diary as if he was a WW1 soldier. The idea being that he was retelling his experiences from time of enlistment to training, then sailing overseas to time in the trenches and the daily ordeals faced in the battlefields etc. Whilst this is somewhat mythical to reality, this way of teaching to my mind anyway, has great merit, as the students can gain the information required by reading material written by those who experienced these real perilous events from the past.

Over the last 25 years or so I have had many queries regarding medals and badges etc. and apart from the usual, what was the item, others enquired as to whether medals were issued and to who received these, and if so, who has them now? This brings up a very important aspect for those of us who are the current custodians of our respective relative's medals. What to do with them in the future, especially if there are either no close family or in some cases many children or grandchildren? In the latter case my fervent plea is do not to split the medals up and give one here and one there. Please either keep together and give them to one family member with the proviso that they do the same or perhaps give these to an R.S.A or local museum so that family can still view them in the future. Another good and popular alternative is to give sets of replicas which can then be worn by family members on Anzac or Remembrance Days.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any further questions on this or other related matters.

Lest we Forget

Wishing you all the very best for the year with kindest regards and blessings - Padre Bruce



If you haven't seen or heard we have been conducting Jingo every fortnight on a Wednesday night at 7pm.

Jingo is a modern-day Bingo game played with music clips rather than the traditional numbers being read out. It's a whole lot of fun where we have over \$1,500 in cash and vouchers to be won each night.

Cards cost \$20 for a 4-game play. You can register for the next event with the bar staff and that secures you a spot in the upcoming game.

Call (03) 2086218 Ext 3 to register your name so you do not miss out!

manager@gorersa.co.nz

www.gorersa.co.nz

03 208-6218



CARD SECTION – Gore RSA Flag 500

Flag 500 is held at the Gore RSA every Wednesday evening from 7:30pm to 9:30pm.

We welcome new members to come along and join us on Wednesday evenings.

Phyllis Caughey
Convener (208-7501)



RAFFLES

Oyster season has arrived, but like everything else this year, they have gone up in price to a point where we will only be able to do two draws per raffle when we have them. We will be using the 40 ticket sheets instead so the sections can earn the same level of profits they are accustomed to. The Money and Meat raffles will continue on with the 50 tickets as normal.

Remember raffles run from 4:30pm Thursday and Friday until around 6:30pm.

All losing tickets go into a draw for 1 lucky winner to have a chance to spin the Wheel and win \$500.



GORE RSA TRAVEL CLUB

It has been a great few months with trips to the Wind Farm, Riverton, Manapouri and Invercargill, with Arrowtown and Mosgiel to look forward to.

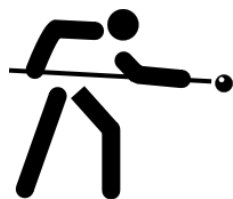
Our Invercargill trip took us down to the new shopping centre where we had a causal wander around and could choose where we dined.

The Manapouri trip although rained, was enjoyed by all and we had a meal at the Church. This was the first time we used a new way of doing things, rather than having a set menu we took orders on the bus and sent them through to the kitchen while we were at Riversdale, and they were ready for service at 12.30 when we turned up.

Our Christmas trip was around the Wind Farm, we had organised a tour guide but unfortunately the day before he came down to Covid. Ross Haslemore stepped up with the guides notes and filled in for him. Following the tour, we had a great Christmas meal at the Matura RSA – this gave the members a great chance to sit around and chat as we were not rushing from place to place.

The first trip of the year we enjoyed the local delicacies of Riverton, heading out there to the Aparima Tavern. Again, members had choice of what to have and was rung through ready for when we turned up. We have had a great six months with several new members, and we are always looking for more. If you are interested please touch base with Fiona Haslemore (021 418 397) or ask the bar staff for a form to be passed on. In the coming months we will be having our AGM, and all Section members are welcome details will be distributed on the next bus trip.

Ross Haslemore
President



SNOOKER SECTION

Well, the days are getting shorter, and the leaves are starting to brown and drop! Won't be long till winter is at our door!! It is around this time that snooker starts to crank up again and this year's calendar is looking pretty full. Wednesday afternoon snooker is still going well and is the one weekly gathering that spans the whole year, which is great!

Eastern inter club will be starting in a month or so. Our club being used a lot for this competition.

Saturday April 27, sees our annual Tribute to NZ heroes tournament, run by Ernie MacManus which will hopefully bring some of the south island's best players to our club.

In August we will host the South Island RSA pairs, and also help co-host the South Island chartered club pairs with the T & C.

On a more sombre note, the recent passing of our much-respected snooker patron Watty Gee has left many of us with heavy hearts. Watty contributed hugely to Gore RSA snooker for well over fifty years and at the age of 95 was still a competent cueist. Watty's family have kindly donated \$1500 to our section, which will be used to purchase a trophy and provide prize money for an annual tournament to be held in his honour for at least the next ten years. This is a fitting tribute, and a huge thank you to Watty's family for their donation.

Finally, as usual, my call goes out to anyone interested in giving snooker a go, please don't hesitate to contact me. It is a wonderful sport for both men and women of all ages to play.

Evan Fricker
Chairman





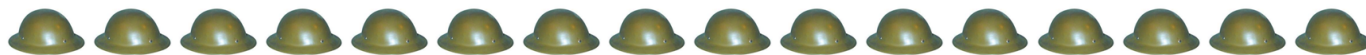
GORE RSA TIN HAT REPORT

We have had between 60 and 80 members coming to our tattoo's. We held 6 tattoos last year and had great entertainment and a variety of speakers at 4 of them.

I would like to thank our Secretary Diana O'Neill, Treasurer Marlene Kirk for their work during the year and also to the RSA executive and Manager Steve along with all the helpers during the year.

Tattoo dates for the rest of the year are May 19, June 23, July 21, September 15 & November 24.

Jenny Lyon – Chairperson



GORE RSA INDOOR BOWLS

The 2024 season for Indoor Bowls commenced with our opening night on Tuesday 19th March.

Eastern Games are played on Monday nights with our practice nights the next day.

For a full list of upcoming events including tournaments please contact Bruce or Margaret. New members are most welcome.

Bruce Hellier – President
0274335205

Margaret Hughes Secretary
0272087253



FISHING SECTION

The fishing section recently made trips to Glenorchy and Waituna Lagoon. Check out some of the photos below of these trips. Whilst the fishing was tough some good fish were caught during those trips.

We plan to make more trips to Waituna Lagoon. Other trips planned are flounder spearing in Fortrose in the next couple of months. In July we travel to Twizel on the 25th , 26th and 27th of July and also plan to go on a sea fishing charter trip in July for oysters and blue cod. New members are welcome to join our section.

Email me at: gorsrsaangling@gmail.com or on my mobile 027 353 6863 for more information.



Wayne Neiman
Secretary/Treasurer



POOL SECTION

The Pool section meets and plays on Sundays from 12pm. We have welcomed a lot of new members, and we will soon be starting the club champs.

If you are interested then just come along on Sundays and give it a go. I will be there to provide some coaching if needed.

Barry Lemm
President
0272703636



We have been conducting a quiz every fortnight on a Wednesday night at 7pm. (alternate week to Jingo) \$20 for teams of up to 4. If you think you are clever enough then come along and test your skills against some of our towns cleverest. Call (03) 2086218 for more info or just turn up on the night.

KID'S AREA



We recently revamped the kid's area removing the PlayStation games and hard furniture and they have been replaced with soft furnishings and a colourful decor. We have added in a large TV with Netflix loaded so your children can spend some quality time in here.

It has been designed for children up to the age of 8.

It certainly looks good, and we hope our members who bring their children along for dinner make the most of it.





SPUD IN A BUCKET COMPETITION

The annual Spud in a Bucket competition concluded on Sunday 28th January with the weigh in. Record number of entries this year with 99 paid up buckets. Only 70% of entries made it to the judging day so we must have been a difficult growing season for some. The heaviest crop winner went to 2021 winner James Barclay. His crop weighed in at 2.452kg well ahead of the field. 2nd was Alastair Connel with 1.968kg and Steve Brinsdon was 3rd with 1.894kg. The heaviest spud winner went to first time winner in Pam Fiveash with 0.194g followed closely in 2nd by Alastair Connell 0.190g and Jorga was 3rd with 183g. The theme of the day was to dress your bucket up and some great entries were received. \$1,000 was raised from the event which went to Hospice Southland, and we wish to thank Ferg and Sheena from Gore Mitre 10 for their generous sponsorship.



| | | |
|------------------|-------|-------|
| JAMES BARCLAY | 2.452 | 0.124 |
| ALASTAIR CONNELL | 1.968 | 0.190 |
| STEVE BRINSDON | 1.894 | 0.087 |
| JUDY DOLAMORE | 1.874 | 0.157 |
| ERIC | 1.676 | 0.116 |
| BARRY GLOVER | 1.584 | 0.088 |
| DONNA BRINSDON | 1.574 | 0.055 |
| GORDON JONES | 1.535 | 0.087 |
| JORGA | 1.517 | 0.183 |
| MARTY | 1.486 | 0.131 |

| | | |
|------------------|-------|-------|
| PAM FIVEASH | 1.478 | 0.194 |
| ALASTAIR CONNELL | 1.968 | 0.190 |
| JORGA | 1.517 | 0.183 |
| ROBYNNE CONNELL | 1.109 | 0.182 |
| ROY COPLAND | 1.021 | 0.171 |
| JUDY DOLAMORE | 1.874 | 0.157 |
| KEVIN FIVEASH | 1.398 | 0.156 |
| ERNIE MACMANUS | 0.754 | 0.155 |
| PAULETTE | 0.706 | 0.151 |
| DENIS DIRTY | 1.260 | 0.150 |



FROM THE OFFICE

The club has started the year off strongly across all areas of the club with membership still growing. We do however have some challenging months ahead of us. We are continually challenged with higher prices from all of our suppliers. Lion Breweries implemented a price increase at the end of February and DB are set to follow later in March. The Govt also has the minimum wage increasing by 2% from 1 April and then no doubt the yearly tax excise on alcohol will increase in July. With all this combined you will see some price increases from 1st of April (sorry no joke!)

And food is no different. Recently Blue Cod jumped in price by an alarming \$5 per kg. In the years since Covid, Blue Cod has risen more than \$17 per kg. We still have the Fish of the Day option for those fish lovers, and it is a lot cheaper. Sadly, due to the increase in the Oyster price this season we are no longer selling them through the restaurant as a meal option. But don't despair, if you win some in the raffles on Thursday or Friday night, you can still get them cooked on those nights only.

On the next page you will see a lot of entertainment coming up. Some are free events and others are ticketed shows. The tussock festival will draw in a lot of outsiders to Gore so if you're sticking around it will pay to get tickets to these shows early on as tickets have been on sale for a while already. It will also be wise to book in on the free event nights to secure a seat if you plan to dine. Tear off the last page of this newsletter and stick to your fridge as a reminder to what is coming up. Our Facebook page will also have information about upcoming events as they are loaded up closer to the time.

Speaking of social media our new website has just been launched with a more modern look and will connect with our Facebook page as new content is added. This new website should be a better information resource than it was before. Visit www.gorersa.co.nz and take a look.

Our Thursday and Friday club nights are always popular with members and the raffles are selling really well (especially the Money). Both the member draws bring in the crowds as they get higher, and we've seen a few popular locals claim these in the last year. We have changed the length of the members cash draw from 12 down to 6 weeks. The maximum prize will always be around \$2,900 as we have doubled the weekly increment. This we hope will help our regulars win more often and if the first draw of the year is any guide then it may well do so as Bruce Stewart was the first 2024 winner.

Over \$29,000 has been given out this financial year so far for the Member Cash draw, Beat the Bomb, Spin & Win wheel and the Jackpot Joker card. Jingo has been a real hit every second Wednesday and on the alternate week the Quiz has started up with a regular crop of 6-7 teams. We could do with more so if you want to test your knowledge against Gore's finest, then get a team of up to 4 and come along at 7pm.

We continue to face staff shortages from time to time (finding people willing to work hospitality hours is extremely hard) but our current staff do a great job, and they always strive to make our members and guests feel welcome.

Steve Brinsdon – Secretary/Manager



UPCOMING ENTERTAINMENT (*Bookings Essential if Dining for Free shows*)



Saturday 6th April
"Kiwi Shed Party"
 7:30 – 10:30pm
 Normal Bistro



Saturday 13th April
 Cheryl Anderson/Dene Allen
 7 – 11pm
 Normal Bistro



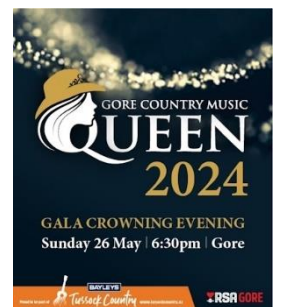
Thursday 25th April
 (Anzac Day)
 Cheryl Anderson
 10am - 2pm
 Normal Bistro



Sunday 12th May
 (Mother's Day)
 Bill Acklin
 12 -2pm & 6 – 9pm
 2 Course Buffet Lunch & Dinner



Saturday 25th May
 Southern Country Showcase
 (Function Room) 7:30pm
Ticketed event \$40
www.iticket.co.nz



Sunday 26th May
 Gore Country Music Queen Gala
 (Function Room) 6:30pm
Ticketed event \$25
www.iticket.co.nz



Wednesday 29th May & Thursday 30th May
 Tussock Country Festival
 Jammin at the RAZZA 1 – 3pm
 Normal Bistro



Wednesday 29th May
 Rising Stars of Country Music
 7:30 – 10pm
 Ticketed event www.iticket.co.nz
\$55 Dinner & Show. \$25 Show Only

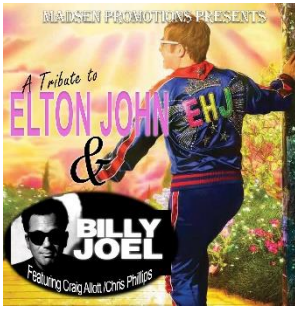


Friday 31st May
 Maplewood String Band
 7:30 – 10pm
 Normal Bistro



Saturday 1st June
 The Beat Girls
 7:30 – 10pm
 Ticketed event www.iticket.co.nz
\$65 Dinner & Show. \$30 Show Only

For all Tussock Festival Events visit <https://www.tussockcountry.nz/events-2024>



Saturday 20th July
 Elton John, Billy Joel & Fleetwood Mac Tribute
 7:30 – 10:30pm
 Ticketed event www.iticket.co.nz
\$65 Dinner & Show. \$30 Show Only

Saturday 31st August
 Various Artists 7 – 11pm
 2 Course Buffet Dinner



Saturday 19th October
 Grease, Jersey Boys & Beach Boys Tribute
 7:30 – 10:30pm
 Ticketed event www.iticket.co.nz
\$65 Dinner & Show. \$30 Show Only

Saturday 9th November
 Tranzition
 7 – 11pm
 Normal Bistro



Saturday 23rd November
 Scottish Night with Shindig
 7 – 11pm
 \$35 2 Course Buffet Dinner

Tuesday 31st December
 New Years Eve
 7:30pm – 12:30am
 \$35 2 Course Buffet Dinner

