

**RSA**

THE WIRE

Gore District Memorial RSA (Inc.)

November 2025 – Xmas Edition

Newsletter

Issue 76



GORE RSA PRESIDENTS REPORT

Hello everyone, I hope everyone is safe and well coming into the final stages of 2025. The year has been a busy one with some major changes to our operating constitution and some of the amenities within the building.

We have had another busy year with a number of major functions and events being held and sponsored by the RSA. A highlight for me was the services dinner held in October with special guests RNZRSA President Sir Wayne Shelford and RNZRSA CEO Evan Williams attending. The night was a great success and enjoyed by all 110+ service members and partners present. This gave us as an organisation the ability to say farewell and thanks to Sir Wayne for his leadership and direction through a very unsteady time in the RSA. The organisation and set up for the night was fantastic and I would like to thank Donna and crew for their hard work on the event. The function side of the RSA has really taken off, and we are lucky to have Donna in this space.

In the national space we have had a change of guard with a new President Tony Hill and Vice President Malcolm Wallace. The national council was reasonably trouble free this year with good discussion on the future and collaboration between RSAs for support. In addition, the national office announced it is preparing an App to stay relevant and connected in the digital era.

It goes without saying that our staff and management do an amazing job running the RSA. I would like to thank Steve and all of his staff for their hard work and dedication throughout the year. A comment by a visiting veteran last week struck home to me “it feels so nice to come in here, the staff are nice, the people are nice, and it actually makes me feel welcome”. This is testament to the people we have in our RSA and the dedication they commit to making it the place it is.

With the new constitution in place, we are working on a new members handbook with updated rules and procedures. If you are wanting a copy it will be available at the office once printing is complete or online on our web page. In addition to this the new constitution document is loaded onto the Gore RSA web page. Anyone who has ideas or suggestions on this please let me know. The constitution and rules are living documents and need to evolve to our changing world.

Again, thank you for your support as members you make the RSA the place it is. If you know of anyone who needs our help please get in touch. The RSA is open 7 days a week if you need help or know of anyone who needs help assistance is only a call away. I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy festive season and hope to see you around the RSA soon.

Bradley Bridgman
President
Gore & District Memorial RSA

**OTAGO/SOUTHLAND DISTRICT SUPPORT MANAGER****NIALL SHEPHERD**

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

**BUILDING REPORT**

Over the last 12 months there has been some work done around the club, both as working bees and general maintenance of building, along with contracts on larger projects.

Some completed are.

- Replacement of the double sliding doors to the Bistro area with double hinged doors.
- Installation of heavy-duty entry floorcoverings to the foyer of the kitchen and exit to Fairfield St carpark.
- Upgrade to the Main Female, Male and Accessible WC floors to give areas a spruce up.

There have been had a couple working bees, which have been well supported, and we covered a wide range of smaller issues around the club, with more planned for future.

Coming up in the future we are looking at the following.

- Removal of the WC from the Museum area and converting this room into file/historical records storage.
- Replacement of some areas of carpet tiles.
- There will be some insurance repairs carried out where a vehicle has caused some impact damage to the brick exterior, and some minor damage to the internal wall.

As with any club/building this size maintenance is an ongoing issue.

If you notice anything that you think needs to be brought to our attention please contact the office or myself (0276866392) or a member of the executive.

Neil Bone

Building Committee Convener



OUTDOOR BOWLS SECTION

Our bowling season for 2025/2026 has started with the usual mixed spring weather being disruptive.



Our new Patron Frank Lynch rolled the first bowl on Saturday 27th September on a rather inclement day. The same day our women's triples team of June Ryan, Lynda Gardyne and Rose Graves were successful in winning the Eastern Women's Championship title.

We have managed three Saturday rollups with good numbers in attendance. Wednesday interclub started on 22nd October and the Saturday interclub started on the 1st of November.

The Club held the Gore RSA elimination triples on Sunday 2nd November with the top five teams progressing to the National Tournament which will be hosted by the Gore RSA in March 2026.



Results:

1 st	M Voss, G Davis and D Broome
2 nd	M Kubala, D Taylor and C Bradbury
3 rd	R Heads, E Hanley and D Kirk.
4 th	Ross McKee's Team
5 th	Noel Ryans Team

We have coming up on Sunday 14th December the Silver Fern Farms optional fours tournament and also on Sunday 11th January our promotions optional fours which includes two non-bowlers per team. Anyone interested in playing in this tournament are most welcome to enter.

The Gloria Fisker optional Triples will be played on Friday 6th February and our main tournament the Gore RSA Bowling Club Fives are to be held the weekend of the 21st and 22nd February.

Anyone interested in taking up lawn bowls please call at the Bowling Club 10a Ardwick street on a Wednesday evening or any Saturday afternoon and you would be most welcome or contact John King on 0272072307.

John King - President.





POOL SECTION

The Pool section meets and plays on Sundays from 12:30pm. We have had a very exciting year and have had steady numbers playing on a Sunday afternoon. There has been a great improvement of a lot of players this year – the more you play the better you get as the saying goes!

We had a good representation of our players at the Southern Pairs, which was great to see.

Our club champions for the year were:

Men's Singles:	Trent Stewart, Runner-up: Preston Cockerill
Ladies Singles:	Virginia Henderson, Runner-up: Dhana Stewart
Pairs:	Leanne Hallam & Paulette Bowden, Runner-up: Trent Stewart & Erica van Dam
Scotch Pairs:	Donna Brinsdon & Donna Kirk, Runner-up: Shaune Young & Josh Johnston



We stop for the year in November and restart in 2026 around mid-February. You can still come along in between times if you feel like a game.

Wishing you all a happy and safe Christmas and new Year.

Robbie Heads
President



CARD SECTION – Gore RSA Flag 500

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

Cards will finish for the year on 10th December and will restart on the 11th of February 2026. We welcome new members to come along and join us on Wednesday evenings.

Phyllis Caughey
Convener (208-7501)



INDOOR BOWLS

The 2025 closing night for Indoor Bowls was held on Tuesday 26th August and the following Club Championship Trophies were presented:

Singles: Graeme Dawe; **Pairs:** Bruce Hellier & Herbie Clement.

Triples: Graeme Dawe, Richard Agnew & Margaret Hughes.

Fours: Bruce Hellier, Rueben Taylor, Maureen Haywood & Russell Johnstone.

Most Improved Player: Herbie Clement.

Sue Dawe Memorial Trophy (Highest Finishing Ladies Singles) Maree Wallace.

The Club was successful in winning the Mortimer Trophy and the Challenge Cup.

In the Eastern Competitions Graeme Dawe, Bruce Hellier, Richard Agnew & Rueben Taylor won the fours and Bruce Hellier & Graeme Dawe won the pairs.





MELBOURNE CUP

What a great afternoon Melbourne Cup day brings to the club each year. Another great crowd was on hand to watch the race and join in the activities on the day. Thanks to Donna for organising the bag of goodies on the day as members were tasked with making a horse out of a certain number of items. Such an array of different styles none of which would have won a race but certainly filled up time before the big race. A very competitive competition and cries of foul play were echoed around the club. Due to this everyone was awarded a prize although Milo believes his creation was worthy of a national art award.



We had prizes for Best dressed filly and colt which went to Anne Monteith and Barry Perkins along with a great spread.



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."



FISHING SECTION

November Trip to Lake Hawea, staying two nights at the camping Ground in Hawea Friday 7th and Sat 8th November.

February Trip to Pool Burn Dam, staying two nights at the Teviot Angling Club Hut, Friday 27th Feb and Sat 28th Feb.

March Trip to Bluff for a day out on Foveaux Strait on the charter boat Lorado.

Winter trip to Twizel 30th - 31st July and 1st of August, the date for this trip is weather dependent.

We have four fishing competitions this season which are interclub competitions held between Gore, Mataura, Wyndham and Dunedin fishing clubs. These competitions are a great way to catch up with other fishermen and women.

2024 - 2025 season trophy winners - Congratulations





New members are welcome to join our section.

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

Wayne Neiman
Secretary/Treasurer



Q: Why did the can crusher quit his job?

A: Because it was soda pressing.



RAFFLES

Thank you to all the members for supporting the raffles on Thursday and Friday night. The sections have appreciated the level of support over the year, and this has helped them raise crucial funds so they can attend events outside of the area and grow their membership base.

The Oyster and Whitebait seasons were once again fairly average and we only had a few to raffle this year.

From the member nights this year the club has given away \$15,800 from the Members Draw, \$10,689 from the Lucky Wheel, \$3,000 from the 2nd Chance Jackpot Joker Card Draw and \$2,378 from Beat the Bomb, a total of \$31,867 in cash prizes. It has been nice to share this around all our regulars on Thursday and Friday nights. What better excuse to make this your regular weekly visit.

Raffles and Member draws conclude Friday 19th December and restart again on Thursday 8th January 2026.

The executive will be doing the raffles in January 2026, and all proceeds will be donated to a worthy charity.

Our door Xmas Ham raffles are underway again this year. 2 draws of a Half Ham (4.5kg) and our smaller easy carve hams are being raffled on Thursday and Friday nights right up until the last raffle night.



GORE RSA TIN HAT REPORT

We have had between 50 and 60 members coming to our tattoo's. We have had 6 tattoos for the year and great entertainment and a variety of speakers at 4 tattoos. A big thank you to Tom McCord for organising the Tin Hat Band over the years.

I would like to thank our committee for their work during the year also to the RSA executive committee and Manager Steve, also all the workers for all their help during the year, without these ladies making sandwiches we would not be able to have afternoon tea.

I would like to thank the RSA executive and Manager for all their help and support over the year.

Tattoo dates for 2026 are Mar 22, May 24, Jun 28, Jul 26, Sep 27 & Nov 22. Our AGM will be held on Sunday 22nd February 2026 at 7pm in the Gore RSA.

Jenny Lyon – Chairperson



Politicians and diapers have one thing in common: they should both be changed regularly... and for the same reason.



FROM THE OFFICE

2025 is all but over, and Xmas is on our doorstep (hard to believe it has come around so quickly).

The Gore RSA continues to thrive despite the doom and gloom we hear about other associations (especially in the North Island). We should be proud of what we have here, and we are envied from afar. Membership continues to climb (currently sitting at 2820) and we still see new members joining each month.

Our biggest issue going forward is the never-ending change in product prices, not just for the bar and bistro, but also our suppliers and contractors who continue to push through increases. We have not changed our prices in the bar or bistro for some time and will continue to hold out as long as we can so that our members benefit.

It is a real credit to the staff who continue to put in long hours to keep the place ticking over. Big thanks to Shaunee and her team in the bar for their great service. Also, to Anne-Marie who takes care of everything in the office and looks after all our balancing and membership issues. We have been fortunate to find some good new staff to fill our vacant positions which is pleasing as we've struggled to find people wanting to work nights and weekends. This year we have welcomed Tamara as the new Kitchen Manager (who is doing a great job with her team), Judy in the kitchen and Alex in the bar. Dot is our new cleaner as well.

Our functions have really taken off this year and that is all down to the extra mile our staff take to organise the event and prepare our fantastic buffets for any occasion. Thanks to Donna for leading this area of the club and based on the comments received she is excelling in this position. There is quite a lot of work involved that goes unseen, especially when you need to change the configuration of a room from a training session to a funeral then back to an anniversary dinner. Thanks to Greg our van driver who has helped Donna with the setups.

Our Xmas Promotion has started with 3 great prizes on offer. These will be drawn on Friday 19th December around 6pm. Winners will be notified after this date, and you do not need to be here to win. Good luck to all our members. The prizes can be found on the next page. To enter this draw, purchase any alcohol over the bar scanning your membership card in the process.

We are also giving away 4 half hams as part of a 4-week promotion thanks to DB. Every Friday at 6pm one member who has purchased a DB product during the week will walk home with a ham for Christmas.

As always, we have some great entertainment coming up to finish off the year. On Saturday 20th December we have Cougan Renata performing a tribute Act to the hits of LRB, CCR and the Eagles. Tickets just \$20 available at the Gore RSA bar only. Get a group together and lock in a seat before it is too late. Normal bistro applies on the night so if you book a meal and a ticket you will be allocated a good viewing seat. The Company will finish out the year on New Year's eve - Wednesday 31st December. Free entry and a special \$35 buffet will be served at 6pm if you plan to dine on the night.

On behalf of all the staff I would like to thank you for your continued support throughout the year and hope you all have a good Xmas, and we look forward to seeing you back in 2026.

Steve Brinsdon Secretary/Manager



XMAS DB PROMO

Starts Monday 6 October 2025

1st Prize *DB Purchases Only*



Laundry Package
Includes 8kg Front Load Washer & Dryer
(Delivery & Installation included - Gore District Only)
(Value - \$3,500)

2nd Prize

DB Purchases Only



**\$750
Value**

2 Outdoor Bean Bags & Chilly Bin

3rd Prize

All Products (Food & Drink)



**\$250
Value**

Christmas Hamper & 1/2 Ham

Scan your membership card when making purchases to go into the draws.

Gore RSA Members Only

Each purchase gives you one entry

Drawn Friday 19th December at 6pm

Entertainment: (Free Event)

Wednesday 31st December (New Year's Eve)
\$35 Buffet Special from 6:00pm

The Company 7:30pm - 12:30am

Ticket Show: (Ticketed Event)

Saturday 20th December (Eagles / CCR / Little River Band Tribute) 7pm - 11pm

Normal Bistro from 5pm. Tickets \$20. On Sale now at Gore RSA Only.



Bob was in trouble. He forgot his wedding anniversary. His wife was really angry. She told him "Tomorrow morning, I expect to find a gift in the driveway that goes from 0 to 200 in 6 seconds AND IT BETTER BE THERE!"

The next morning, he got up early and left for work. When his wife woke up, she looked out the window and sure enough there was a box gift-wrapped in the middle of the driveway. Confused, the wife put on her robe and ran out to the driveway, brought the box back in the house.

She opened it and found a brand-new bathroom scale.

Bob has been missing since Friday.



A family is at the dinner table. The son asks the father, "Dad, how many kinds of boobs are there?" The father, surprised, answers, "Well, son, a woman goes through three phases. In her 20s, a woman's breasts are like melons, round and firm. In her 30s and 40s, they are like pears, still nice, hanging a bit. After 50, they are like onions." "Onions?" the son asks. "Yes. You see them and they make you cry."

This infuriated his wife and daughter. The daughter asks, "Mom, how many different kinds of willies are there?" The mother smiles and says, "Well, dear, a man goes through three phases also. In his 20s, his willy is like an oak tree, mighty and hard. In his 30s and 40s, it's like a birch, flexible but reliable. After his 50s, it's like a Christmas tree." "A Christmas tree?" the daughter asks. "Yes, dead from the root up and the balls are just for decoration."

Hours over the Christmas Period:

Club closed on Thursday 25th December (Christmas Day) and Saturday 27th December 2025.

Restaurant Closed 25th - 27th December 2025, Monday 29th & Tuesday 30th December 2025, and Thursday 1st January 2026.

The Executive and Staff of the Gore RSA would like to thank everyone for their patronage this year and to wish you all a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

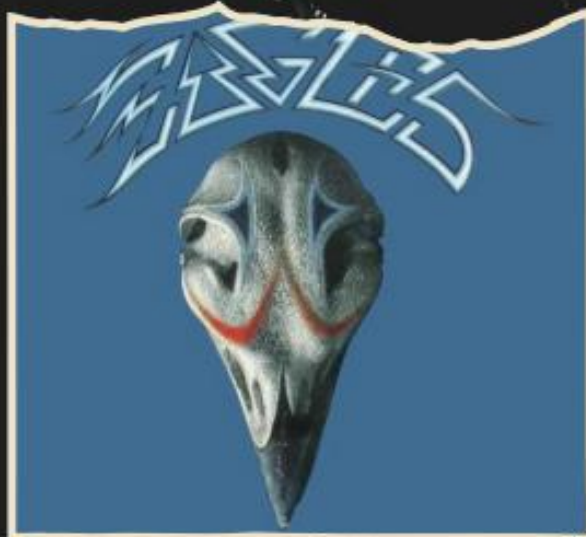


COUGAN RENATA PRESENTS

20TH
DECEMBER



GORE RSA
7PM



Tribute to the classics

LITTLE RIVER BAND
CCR
THE EAGLES

PERFORMED LIVE BY COUGAN RENATA,
CONCLUDES WITH MEGA PARTY MIX

TICKETS \$20 AT THE BAR



OPEN TO GENERAL PUBLIC