



THE WIRE

Gore District Memorial RSA (Inc.)

November 2017 – Xmas Edition

Newsletter

Issue 63

PRESIDENTS REPORT

It is with great pleasure that I present my first Wire report as President.

2017 has been an amazing year for the Gore RSA. We have seen the true value of the extension that was completed last year with the new function room being used by many local events and companies, from weddings to funerals. Steve and his staff have excelled in making and showcasing not only the venue but also the catering and service that they are renowned for.

2017 also marked a very special milestone for the club when we celebrated the club's 100th birthday, the Formal birthday dinner with the colours of the 2/4 Battalion were a massive success with everyone enjoying the night, then followed our fantastic open day that drew large interest from the public.

There has also been changes to our Veterans Welfare with the committee deciding to engage the services of Niall Sheppard from the Dunedin Welfare Trust, we felt the need to engage Niall due to his strong understanding of the current legislation and the changes to the qualifications needed to especially deal with Veterans Affairs and the National Poppy Trust.

Last month a group of us travelled to Wellington for the 101st RNZRSA National Council where I was asked to do a ten-minute presentation on the Gore RSA and its relevance in the community, this seemed to go down well with the 400 delegates from around the country with many positive comments and questions about what we are doing down here in the deep south.

2018 sees us celebrating our 100th ANZAC day service in Gore as well as the 100th Anniversary of Armistice day, so stay tuned for updates on both these events.

Sadly 2017 has seen us lose some of our members and I wish to convey my condolences to all the families that have lost a loved one in the past year.

I would like to give a special thanks to the members of the Executive Committee, these people give up their valuable time often with no thanks to ensure that this club runs smoothly. They are a great bunch of people and to be honest this is the best committee that I personally have served with in my 12 years with this organisation.

Lastly, I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Jarrad Scott
Gore RSA President
RNZRSA Otago Southland Snr Vice President



RSA**Attention Service, ex-service, police & partners.**

- 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 welfare@dn-rsa.org.nz for help

**INTRODUCING OUR NEW SUPPORT OFFICER****NIALL SHEPHARD**

“Making pensions advice and welfare services easily accessible and widely available to all ex-service people, police and their families.” is the by line, or motto that sits on the front cover of the RSA Welfare Trust brochure. Those few words encapsulate the reason why RSAs exist and why there are Support Advisors or Welfare Officers at each RSA.

The ex-service family can have specific needs which may not be entirely met by other services or agencies. The RSA’s Support Services team may be able to help with applications or referrals to a number of trusts and agencies both in New Zealand and overseas. Funding may be available for services and support which aims to reduce hardship and suffering, for ex-service people, police, their spouses and dependent children or parents – the ex-service family.

Recognising the changing and growing nature of welfare support, Gore RSA recently contracted the services of Dunedin’s full time Support Advisor, Niall Shephard, to assist with complex cases and to augment the services offered by the existing volunteer visiting network. Based in Dunedin, Niall visits Gore regularly – usually on the first Monday of every month, and is available between visits by phone or email. Niall is well versed in the issues faced by the ex-service family and has an Army and Police background. He has also worked for Age Concern Otago, is a Justice of the Peace, and has been Welfare Officer / Support Advisor at Dunedin RSA Welfare Trust for the last 3 ½ years.

One of the biggest problems faced by Support Advisors across the country is identifying those eligible people who need assistance. There is no list of ex-service people, they no longer stand out because they wear a uniform, and they simply get absorbed into the greater community so unless they experience problems along the road of life they remain anonymous like everyone else. When a need starts to surface, often later in life, it can be very hard for people to ask for help. There are many reasons for this; a certain amount of pride could be involved, perhaps some embarrassment, lack of knowledge of what is available, desire not to be a burden, stubbornness, or simply the refusal to accept the need for help.

If you or anyone you know from the ex-service family is struggling there is no shame in putting your hand up for help. Our Support Services team 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 freely available.

For a confidential appointment with our Support Advisor phone 0800 664 888, email welfare@dn-rsa.org.nz, or leave a message with staff at the club.



GORE RSA TIN HAT REPORT

Our 378th Tattoo and final one for the year will be held on the 26th November at 1:30pm. There will be no guest speaker however there will be entertainment from Nick Bourke and Friends. Please come along and enjoy the entertainment.

Thanks to all our committee members and sandwich makers. I wish the Gore RSA and their committee all the best for the years ahead and for their continued support in the future. Also thanks to everyone for their support during Judith and my ill health. We are making a great recovery.

Fred Sutherland - Chairman



*A few days after Christmas, a mother was working in the kitchen listening to her young son playing with his new electric train in the living room. She heard the train stop and her son said, "All of you sons of b*tches who want off, get the hell off now, cos this is the last stop! And all of you sons of b*tches who are getting on, get your asses in the train, cos we're going down the tracks." The mother went nuts and told her son, "We don't use that kind of language in this house. Now I want you to go to your room and you are to stay there for TWO HOURS. When you come out, you may play with your train, but I want you to use nice language." Two hours later, the son comes out of the bedroom and resumes playing with his train. Soon the train stopped and the mother heard her son say, "All passengers who are disembarking from the train, please remember to take all of your belongings with you. We thank you for riding with us today and hope your trip was a pleasant one. We hope you will ride with us again soon." She hears the little boy continue, "For those of you just boarding, we ask you to stow all of your hand luggage under your seat. Remember, there is no smoking on the train. We hope you will have a pleasant and relaxing journey with us today." As the mother began to smile, the child added, "For those of you who are pissed off about the TWO HOUR delay, please see the b*tch in the kitchen."*



GORE RSA TRAVEL CLUB

Well here we are at the end of another year. We have had some great trips throughout the year travelling around Southland and to Dunedin, enjoying lovely meals in restaurants and hotels.

Our last outing for the year is our Christmas Dinner on 19th November and for a change we are going out of Gore for this meal.

We are always looking for new members so if you are keen or know of anybody that would be interested in joining the travel section, tell them to ring me on 208-4719.

Our trips are every two months with the first one for 2018 starting in February. I would like to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Allan Bennett
President



CARDS – Gore RSA Flag 500

Flag 500 is held at the Gore RSA every Wednesday evening from 7:30pm to 9:30pm. We would like to thank the staff of the Gore RSA for setting up the gear for us each night – we appreciate it. Cards will finish on the 13th December and restart again on 7th February 2018. A Merry Christmas to you all and if you would like to have a game of cards come along on a Wednesday – you will be made to feel welcome.

Phyllis Caughey
Convener (208-7501)



THE PADRE PONDERING

It has certainly been a very busy year, the last few months have simply flown by and it only seems more like a few weeks rather than months since we gathered together for Anzac Day. In September we celebrated the centenary of the Gore R.S.A as well as commemorating with a special remembrance service for this and remembering the losses at Passchendaele.

Now it is already November and of course another Remembrance/Armistice Day service and then we have Christmas now only a matter of some weeks away. Where indeed has the year gone!

Some of you will be aware that over the last few years I have been researching the names inscribed on the numerous war memorials in Southland and West Otago. This is still very much ‘work in progress’ to identify the right people and then researching their service and other details such as their occupation and parentage and any obituaries that may have been written. Whilst there is still way to go with this project I thought that you may be interested in some rather sobering facts concerning the names inscribed on the marble panels on the Gore memorial of 171 men who died as a result of their service during WW1 and WW2.

Of these 171 war casualty names 126 are for WW1 and 45 are for WW2, with the youngest being aged 18 years for WW1 and 20 years for WW2 and the oldest being aged 48 years and the average age for both wars being 26 years.

Of the 126 WW1 names: 78 were KIA (killed in action), 29 DOW (died of wounds), 17 DOD (died of disease) and 2 as result of accidents.

Of the 45 WW2 names: 37 were KIA, 4 DOW, 2 DOD and also 2 as a result of accidents.

Looking at the WW1 casualties who were either KIA or DOW there were 20 as a result of the Gallipoli campaign and 14 from the Somme and 32 from the Ypres battles including 11 on that fateful day at Passchendaele on 12 October 1917.

Looking at the WW2 casualties who were either KIA or DOW there were 10 as a result of action in the middle east countries of Egypt, Tunisia & Libya, in the Mediterranean countries; 3 in Greece, 7 in Crete and 9 in Italy. There were also 9 casualties in Europe as a result of action involving those serving in the Airforce and 2 in the Pacific. Looking at the nationalities of those 126 casualties from WW1: there were 5 born in Australia, 3 born

in England, 3 born in Scotland and 2 born in Ireland. The rest of course were all noted as being born in N.Z. and mainly local but also from various places in Southland, Otago and Canterbury.

On a more sobering and even sadder aspect of the WW1 casualties eight families lost more than one son, namely the Davies from Gore who lost 3 sons (2 of them within 24 hours of each other), and seven other local families who each lost 2 sons, surnames of Fleming, Inglis, Kirk, Milne, Sim, Turnbull and Wilson. Such indeed was the cost of freedom!

On the Gore memorial there are 3 names from WW1 that initially caused me some confusion and has taken quite some time to try and unravel the mystery surrounding them.

One name shown as L Byars, and of course the surname is well known locally, however after discovering no locals of that surname served during WW1 posed a quandary. Eventually the answer came in the form of Leonard Angus Bowers, he was born at Stewart Island and educated at Bluff, however his widowed mother was living at East Gore and a sister later married in Gore and his proper name of Bowers is also shown on the Mataura memorial.

Another name shown as T Sharp also posed a problem as he wasn't listed as having served during WW1, however it appears that he was about to enlist and was on his way up north but was killed whilst trying to board a train at Pukerua. Tom Sharp was born at Denniston, educated in Tasmania but returned to N.Z. where he was an employee of N.Z. Railways, he had a military funeral in Gore and in excess of 1000 people attended his funeral.

The last but not least name proved to be the strangest to resolve, that being shown as C Lindsay – Initially this was supposed to be Charles Lindsay who was noted on his parents headstone at Gore cemetery as "Charlie William only son of Charles Lindsay d 2 Nov 1915 on HMNZ Troopship Navua – This has proved so far to be false as there appears to be no record of a person of this name having died on that day aboard the Navua. However there was another NZ soldier named Gordon Rowland Jefferis who died aboard the Navua and was indeed buried at sea that day.

We recently came across an Honours Board for the Gore Orange Lodge which showed a Bros Andrew John Lindsay who was KIA at the Somme in 1916 and with obvious Gore or local connections is now possibly our best guess as to whom is our mysterious C Lindsay. However if anyone reading this has other ideas as to this person I would be very pleased to hear from them and also I am very happy to share whatever information that we have about the names on our war memorials and honours boards and the Gore R.S.A. welcomes any enquiries you may have.

Wishing you all every blessing for Christmas and the New Year ahead – *Padre Bruce*



GORE RSA POOL SECTION

The 2017 season for the Pool section is nearly at an end with an end of year breakup to be held on 2 December. It has been a quiet year with a hardy 6 or 7 turning up on Sundays for games.

We are looking for expressions of interest for a team to go in the Tuesday night inter-pub league next year. A team of 8 or 9 is needed as it involves some travelling. If interested, please let us know as it is not confined to pool section members. It is open to anyone who is a member of the Gore RSA. The competition starts around late April/May and runs to September.

We had a successful month selling raffles and look forward to our next turn. With the season nearly finished we will commence playing pool again in late January 2018 and look forward to the new year. If you are interested in playing pool on a Sunday, come along and give it a go with a 1 p.m. start time.

Ken Lloyd - President

manager@gorersa.co.nz

www.gorersa.co.nz

03 208-6218



GORE RSA INDOOR BOWLS

The season for the Gore RSA Indoor Bowls ended in August.

We had a good turnout for the Eastern Southland Interclub Competition on Monday nights managing to field 3 to 4 teams and also several of our players represented Eastern.

David Hewitt won the Eastern Novice Singles. **Our Club Champions for 2017:**

Singles: Bruce Hellier, **Pairs:** Pam Boek and Bruce Hellier, **Triples:** Richard Agnew, Jan Cousins and Lorraine Dickson, **Fours:** Kathleen Jarden, Owen Collins, Margaret Ferris and Margaret Hughes. **Most Improved Player:** David Hewitt. Jan Cousins won the Susie Dawe Memorial Trophy for highest finishing ladies singles

Indoor Bowls will commence again in March 2018 on Tuesdays at 7.30pm. New Members most welcome.

Bruce Hellier – President

Margaret Hughes Secretary



A husband and wife were golfing when suddenly the wife asked, "Honey, if I died would you get married again?"

The husband said, "No sweetie."

The woman said, "I'm sure you would."

So the man said, "Okay, I would"

Then the woman asked, "Would you let her sleep in our bed?"

And the man replied, "Yeah, I guess so."

Then the wife asked, "Would you let her use my golf clubs?"

And the husband replied, "No, she's left handed."



GORE RSA GOLF SECTION

Again this year, we welcomed two new members to the Golf Section.

We are looking for more members and would welcome them into the group.

We enjoy visiting Clubs in the area and over the years have been on tour to Millbrook, Jacks Point, Lawrence Golf Club as a Section we compete in the annual Otago/ Southland Clubs Tournament which is held on the last Sunday of February every year!!

We would like to thank the executive for allocating the May raffle nights to our Section.

John Speden

Convenor



GORE RSA WOMEN'S SECTION

On October 18th our section and West Otago hosted the Provincial Council meeting at the Gore RSA. The speaker was from Gore Women's Refuge. It was very enlightening, some of the ladies were aghast at what goes on. We donated all raffle moneys to the refuge.

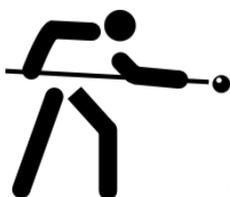
We had our own bring and buy in September. In October, a group of our ladies went to the Moth at Mandeville for lunch which was very nice, just a change to put a bit of variety into our meetings.

In November we are having our annual Christmas Dinner catered by the ladies in the bistro. Then that is the end of the year for us until February 2018. Thank you to all the ladies that participated in all our functions. We would like to wish you all a very merry and safe Christmas.

Glenise Terry - President



*A man approached a very beautiful woman in the large supermarket and asked,
"You know, I've lost my wife here in the supermarket. Can you talk to me for a couple of minutes?"
"Why?" she asked. "Because every time I talk to a beautiful woman my wife appears out of nowhere."*



GORE RSA SNOOKER SECTION

Well it has been another busy year for our snooker section hosting numerous tournaments such as the Southland Open and the Troopers Classic (won again this year by our own young gun Shannon Swain) to name just two. But probably the most topical was an over 65's two-day event held recently, The brain child of Ernie McManus. Not only was it his concept, Ernie organized the whole tournament single handed including awesome sponsorship which saw every participant go away with prizes exceeding their entry fee. The tournament attracted a southland wide field and was won most fittingly by Wattie Gee, who recently celebrated his 90th birthday. What an amazing feat!! Congratulations Wattie. And a big congratulation and thank you to Ernie for his foresight, organization and enthusiasm.

As some of you may have already heard we have managed to secure the 2018 NZ National Snooker Pair's Tournament for Sept 2018. This is fantastic news for our club and was only achievable due to our recent sports room upgrade. This event has never been held south of CHCH and is a big coup for our club and should bring good revenue to the RSA as well as the township.

A big thanks to our delegate Kerry Rusk who flew to Wellington to help secure this event at the National AGM. All in all, an enjoyable and productive snooker season. Roll on 2018!!! Merry Xmas to all.

Evan Fricker
Chairman



GORE OUTDOOR BOWLS

The bowling season for 2017-2018 has started very well for our teams entered in the Saturday competition. Both the Blue and Gold teams are 3 wins from 3 so far with the Gold team being slightly ahead on points differential.

The Wednesday interclub is also going well with (mainly women) teams again achieving good results however it is very early in the season and we must continue to practice hard if we are to stay in front of the chasing pack. The green is playing extremely well and our thanks go to Sam Creighton for the huge effort he puts into this job. This green is now recognised as one of the best in Southland so well done Sam.

The clubrooms have received a fresh coat of paint and are now looking good. We have also installed an automatic watering system which, when we get a few technical issues sorted, will be a great asset to the club and hopefully a great time saver for the greenkeeper.

The club is now recognised as having a great “core” of highly skilled, dedicated players, with many already this season, having represented both Eastern Southland and Southland. This bodes well for the club as any increase in knowledge in bowls will be passed onto newer members.

The RSA elimination tournament was run recently with the winners being the RSA ladies team of Judy Whipps, Gay Abernethy and Maree Barclay. They now go on to represent the Gore RSA in the National tournament in Nelson next March so we wish the girls the best of luck. Other club members are also sending teams so I’m quite sure the “social side” of the tournament will be we represented.

Corporate bowls has started on Friday evenings so if anyone would like to participate in a friendly, social game of bowls please come along at 6pm and we will fit you into a team. This format is important to the club as many new members come from enjoying these evenings (and it certainly helps our bar takings).

In closing I wish everyone a safe and happy festive season and I will see you all on the green sometime.

Dan Fiveash
President.



RAFFLES

Thank you to all the sections for conducting the raffles each week and for providing the courtesy van driver. 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.

So far this year the club has given away \$21,400 from the Member Draw, Jackpot Joker and the Lucky Wheel. This only goes to those who are in the club on raffle nights so what better incentive to make this your regular visit. Raffles and Member draws conclude Friday 22nd December and restart 18th January 2018.

Our door Ham raffles are underway. 3 draws of a Half Ham (4.5kg) and the Thursday night ham raffles begin next week.



FROM THE OFFICE

Can't believe we are nearly at the end of the year already!

The club has been very busy throughout the year as bookings for the function room have picked up momentum. With so many different people coming through the doors to attend meetings in our new function room this has led to additional bookings coming through. The comments that I hear back from the attendees shows that we must be doing something right.

We have some great entertainment coming up to finish off the year in style.

Saturday 25th November (Scottish Night)

– Shindig 7-11pm
featuring Hokonui Celtic Pipe Band

Friday 1st December (Faulty Towers)

– Dinner Theatre Show **(Sold Out)**

Saturday 2nd December (Faulty Towers)

– Dinner Theatre Show \$70pp

Sunday 3rd December

– Kid's Xmas Party 1:30pm

Saturday 16th December

– Tranzition 7-11pm

Sunday 31st December (New Year's Eve)

– Contraband 7:30pm - 12:30am

We still have a few tickets remaining for the 2nd theatre restaurant show on Saturday 2nd December so see the bar about purchasing a ticket. Round up a group of 10 and secure a table to enjoy a great night out. Price includes a 3 course meal and a 2 hour show.

Registrations for the Kid's Christmas Party on Sunday 3rd December is either on the foyer sheet or through our Facebook page.

Our annual DB Promotion is underway with some great prizes up for grabs. First Prize is a Gardening Package worth \$2,500, 2nd Prize a \$1,000 Travel Voucher and for 3rd a BBQ worth \$800. All you have to do is to swipe your membership card when making purchases which enters you automatically into the draw for some, if not all of the prizes. See in club for terms and conditions. Prizes drawn Friday 22nd December.

Hokonui Gold have launched their Cash for Christmas competition and this year the cash prize has doubled to \$10,000. All you have to do is buy a meal at our bistro and fill out the card and pop it into the box. The winner will be announced on Wednesday 20th December at the special presentation in Irk Street. They will block off this street from 4:30pm with Action from 5:30pm. Come along for local entertainers on the big stage, buskers, food vendors, kid's entertainment and more. At 6:30pm, all eyes to the stage as under police supervision the draw will be made, and one lucky local shopper wins \$10,000 Cash for Christmas! **Note: You MUST** be there on the night to win.

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 2018.

Steve Brinsdon – Secretary/Manager



The Wire

November 2017

Issue 63