



# Grey Power Napier & Districts

P O Box 4247, Marewa, Napier 4143

Quarterly Newsletter

<http://napiergreypower.org>

Summer 2018

## Season's Greetings!

Your Grey Power committee (that's us below!) would like to thank you all for your support this year whether it be in simply maintaining your membership, in attending our meetings, or for volunteering. We appreciate your help!

Special thanks to our sponsors including all our advertisers, especially, Dunstalls Funeral Services, for enabling us to reach more of you.

It's been a good year all round, with a record number of you attending our meetings, a general increase in our membership, the publication of four newsletters (now in full colour) and a new Discount Book!

We hope you enjoy this newsletter, which is our last until March 2019, when we will be asking for you to update your membership as we start an interesting year, particularly with the Local Body elections in October 2019. As usual we will be holding candidates meetings for you to meet hopefuls!

Once our Christmas Luncheon is done and dusted, we're on leave till we meet again in February, so we wish all of you and your loved ones a happy, safe Festive Season, and see you in 2019!

*Bruce, Maxine, John, Isabel, Carol, Anne, Rana, Lillian and June.*



**We'd love to see YOU at:**

## **Our Xmas Luncheon**

**Tuesday, 27 November**

**11:30 am, dine at 12 noon**

**Pukemokimoki Marae Whare Kai (dining room)**

**191 Riverbend Rd**

**\$10 per person, pay at the door**

**Bookings Essential: ring Isabel 843 0524**



Entertainment by:

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## 2018-19 Grey Power Committee

### **President**

**Bruce Carnegie**

(06) 844 5635

[bpcarnegie@gmail.com](mailto:bpcarnegie@gmail.com)

### **Deputy Chairperson**

**Maxine Boag**

021 024 70484

[maxine.boag@gmail.com](mailto:maxine.boag@gmail.com)

### **Secretary**

**Isabel Wood**

(06) 843 0524

[iawood@slingshot.co.nz](mailto:iawood@slingshot.co.nz)

### **Treasurer**

**Carol Brunton**

(06) 843 0212

[carolgarry@xtra.co.nz](mailto:carolgarry@xtra.co.nz)

### **Membership Officer**

**John Wuts**

(06) 844 4751

[wutsie@xtra.co.nz](mailto:wutsie@xtra.co.nz)

### **Publicity**

[maxine.boag@gmail.com](mailto:maxine.boag@gmail.com)

### **Committee**

**June Graham** 845 4353

**Anne Mitchell** 844 7011

[lilyannemitchell@outlook.com](mailto:lilyannemitchell@outlook.com)

**Lillian Rennett** 843 9522

**Rana Dallas** 844 7347

[ranar@xtra.co.nz](mailto:ranar@xtra.co.nz)

<http://napiergreypower.org>

**Find us on Facebook**



Front from left: Bruce Carnegie, June Graham, Lillian Rennett, Carol Brunton

Second row: Maxine Boag, Anne Mitchell, John Wuts, Isabel Wood, Rana Dallas.



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# From the President

## Greetings to you all.

Like Santa, I've got a gift for you—enclosed with this newsletter if you have it delivered - or mailed to you otherwise.

Yes, it's the **new Discount book!** Bigger and better, and free to all Grey Power members, the 2019-20 edition has 200 advertisers, and 80 pages—30 more than last time. All offer some discount to Grey Power members—there for the asking. While I was putting it together, some businesses said that many of you don't ask for discount, and I remind you, if you don't ask, you will not receive, so be brave and ask!

I always look forward to our **monthly meetings** and the excellent speakers that we are privileged to have.

Our last meeting, in October was particularly lively and broke our attendance records, with over 250 present to hear a robust discussion on the pros and cons of selling our Port.

In September, Gary Holden from Grey Power Electricity shared their plans for the future, to an audience of 200. Financial advisor Michael Warrington offered free tips on investing at our August meeting.

We try to have suitable speakers and if you know of someone or an organisation who you think could be of interest to talk at our monthly meetings please let us know.

**International Day of the Older Persons** is held each year on the 1<sup>st</sup>. October. This year was the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Universal Declaration of Human Rights and on December 1990 the United Nations General Assembly designated the 1<sup>st</sup> October International Day of the Older Persons seeing it as an opportunity to high light the important contribution that older people make to society.

As in the picture below, to celebrate this day we at-

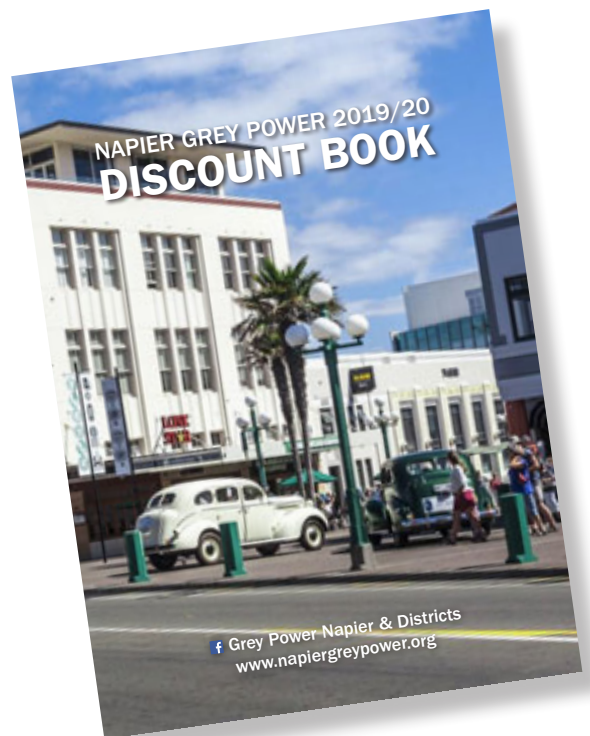


tended an afternoon tea at the Kennedy Park Rose Garden. Entertainment and a delicious afternoon tea were highlights for the 100 or so older people who attended. We had a stand there and thoroughly enjoyed meeting and talking with many of our peers.

Some time back June Graham and myself sat in on the **Hawke's Bay Trust Power** Financial end of year Report and heard about the size of this year's rebate, which is much more than it was last year and will be most welcome especially at this time of the year leading up to Christmas.

If you or anyone you know would like to participate in this year's **Community Christmas Lunch-  
eon**, it will be held at the Salvation Army premises on Tait Drive, all welcome. For more information or to register for this, or volunteer to help, phone Ruth at 845 3547, or 027 338.3591

## *Bruce Carnegie, President.*



## Positive Ageing Strategy update

A very early draft of Napier's Positive Ageing Strategy has been shared with the Strategy Steering Group and Reference Group for their feedback.

The next step is to work with members of both groups to determine a governance structure for taking the strategy forward to implementation.

Once we have some ideas for this, we will present the draft Strategy to a Napier City Council meeting in the New Year to seek Councillors' approval to ask the community for their feedback.

## Lest we Forget...

Armistice Day was commemorated in Memorial Square, Napier



Dignitaries and community were supported by City of Napier cadets and crew from HMS Te Kaha and HMS Hawea.



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## Reports from Meetings

At our August meeting we welcomed Michael Warrington from Chris Lee & Partners, Financial Advisors.

Michael's presentation included advice on how to manage our savings; setting up simple investment portfolios; advice on compiling portfolios and managed funds.

These come in three categories – bonds, property, and investing in shares. He outlined the risks involved explaining that financial advisors help clients make decisions re their money, helping them make the best choices as to when and where to place savings to get the best return for the future.

The most important message from Michael was: "make sure your money works for you."



The September meeting saw us hosting Gary Holden, CEO of Grey Power Electricity (see above). Gary has been involved in the industry since 1991 with the aim of providing a better environment of competition for electricity prices and so giving people choices.

20,000 Grey Power customers are taking advantage of their better prices.

Competition is fierce – there are now 22 electricity retailers trying to reduce costs and give a better outcome.

Pulse Energy (under which Grey Power electricity sits) was leading the industry in 2017 gaining 12,000 new customers – a good year with huge growth, having 70,000 customers overall.

Gary was critical of the prompt payment service offered by some companies which in reality is not a discount at all.

Pulse Energy is aiming to be at the forefront of industry change. They are working towards promoting solar power for low electricity users, particularly those whose homes are situated for the sun. They are trialing this now and exploring all the options. Gary explained that it was not necessary to go off grid – the grid and solar batteries work together.

Gary spoke of how great the relationship was with Grey Power as electricity customers and that Pulse Energy will continue to bring lower costs to our members.

**Isabel Wood, Secretary**

***Come along to this!***



**Free Family Event**

**Monday 03 December**  
**4pm to 7pm**

**Anderson Park Playground, Napier**

*While we know that not all older people are disabled, and not all disabled people are older, we see a natural synergy with the Napier Disability Advisory Group (NDAG) who are organizing this celebration.*

*We will be there at our stand, do come along and enjoy this event!*

*It's right next to the award-winning Destination Playground, so bring the grandkids, there will be plenty for all ages—face painting, music, sausage sizzles.*

*Maxine Boag, NCC representative on NDAG*



### **Healthy Feet, Healthy you**

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**GREYPOWER MEMBERS 20% OFF!**

# Stuart NASH MP for Napier

## A guide to services in your community

The first publication of the Information Kit for over 60s was produced by the Labour Party in 2008 and it has proven to be an extremely popular resource for those wishing to understand their rights and obligations across many different areas.

We have recently launched the new version of the Information Kit making some important changes and improvements that will benefit those over 60. The kit contains invaluable information in important areas such as finance and travel, health and wellbeing and living options.

With people over 60 years old representing the fastest growing sector of the population, having easy access to important information, services and social activities might just help make the difference and I hope that you will find this booklet useful.

To ensure it is easy for you to pick up a copy of the booklet we have put a supply at the following locations around the electorate:

- Office of Stuart Nash MP – 155A Tennyson Street, Napier
- Napier Library – 1 Tennyson Street, Napier
- Taradale Library – 24 White Street, Taradale
- Citizens Advice Bureau – 126 Hastings Street, (Next to BNZ Bank)
- Age Concern Napier – 98 Taradale Road, Onekawa

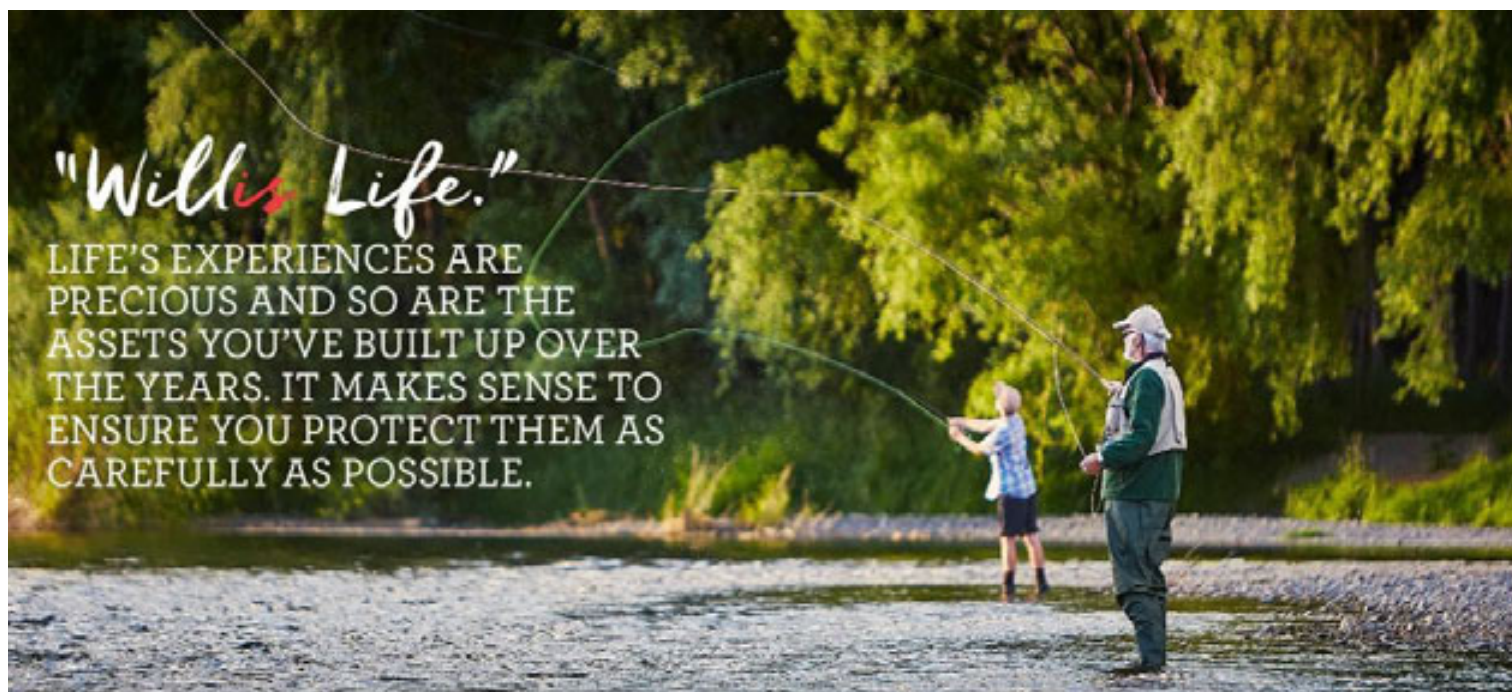
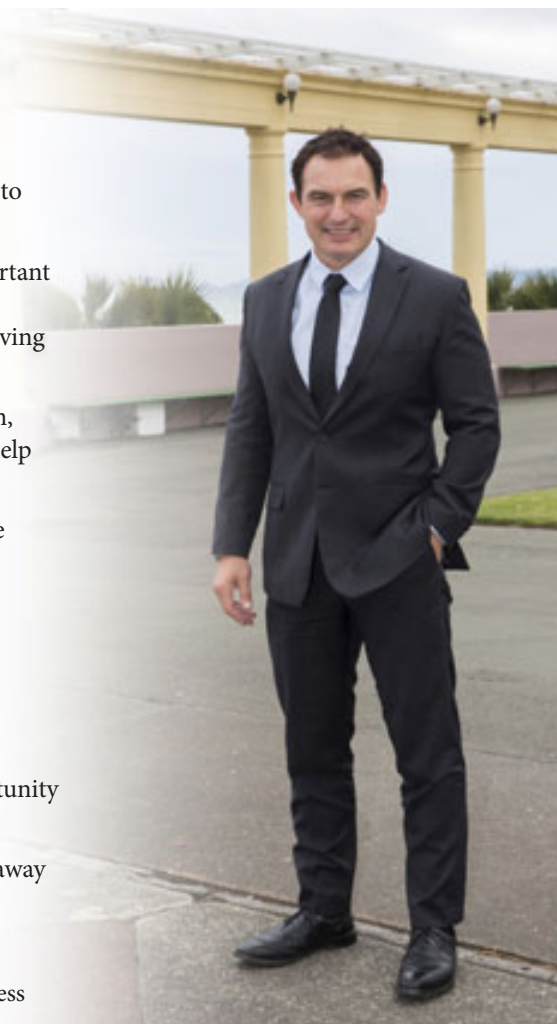
As this is the last Grey Power Newsletter for 2018, I would also like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas.

My office hours are 9.00 am – 4.00 pm Monday to Friday and we are just a phone call away on (06) 835 6093.

### Stuart Nash MP for Napier

• Minister of Police • Minister of Fisheries • Minister of Revenue • Minister of Small Business

Authorised by Stuart Nash, 155A Tennyson Street, Napier



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## Storm over the Port

One of our largest, and most heated meeting was held last month to discuss the proposal from the Regional Council to sell some of the Port of Napier.

250 people, many of whom were obviously not our Grey Power cohort, packed the meeting to hear the HB Regional Council staff's presentation as well as opponents of any sale of the port.

The presenters explained that expansion of the port was inevitable, to meet growing demand for more, bigger ships and more cruise vessels, so money had to be found.

They believed that the best way to do this was to sell just under half the Port in order to generate the necessary funds.

A comprehensive consultation process started the day of our meeting, and closes 4 pm on Thursday, 22 November. So if you want to have your say and haven't already done so, go to the HBRC website or offices to make your opinion known.

Former TukiTuki candidate Anna Lorck (right) spoke about her petition for the HB RC to hold a referendum after the consultation hearings, when they have chosen their preferred option, and for that option to be sent out as a yes-no referendum to the shareholders—the people of Hawkes Bay.

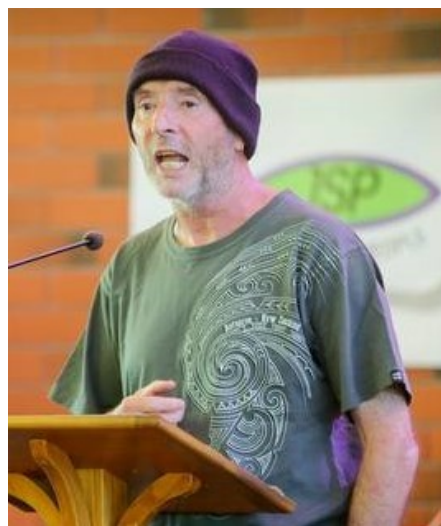
Port employee and union member Dave Mardon (top right) said Option four—that of retaining full ownership but leasing the port—would be a killer for the region.

Chairman of the Regional Council Rex Graham (below) said the issue was too important for people to potentially randomly tick a box, as they might on a referendum.

"What we want is for you people to really immerse yourself in this information as we have."

Consultation documents were posted to every household in Hawke's Bay, and as well there have been drop-in sessions across the region, where people have had the opportunity to talk with councillors and council staff about the options.

Once submissions close on the 22, next will be hearings when submitters can speak directly to the Council. This will be live streamed for those of you who wish to listen from home.



Dave Mardon, Port employee



Anna Lorck

*Photos by Warren Buckland, HB Today*



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# -BETH SHAN-

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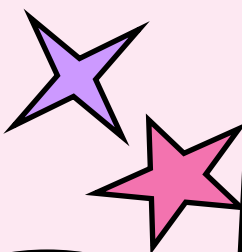
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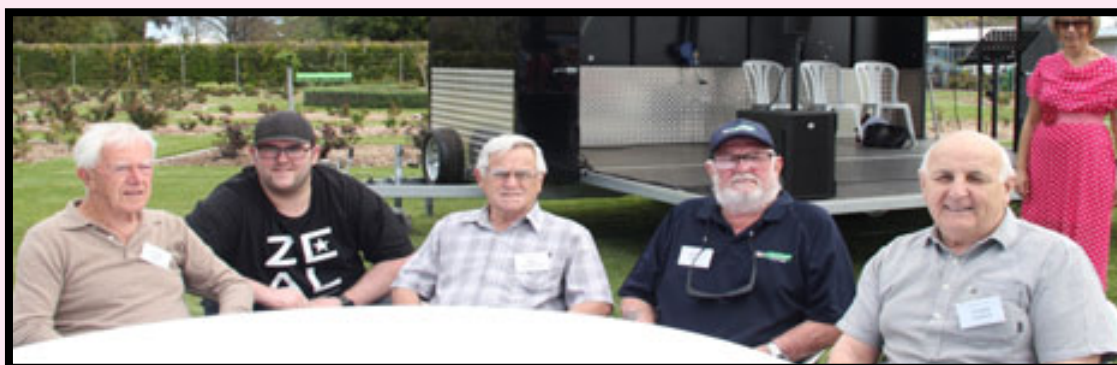
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## International Day for the Older Person

*Afternoon tea,  
October 1st in  
the Rose Garden*



### *Afternoon Tea in the Rose Garden...*

A great day was had by all at the International Day for the Older Person, celebrated this year with an afternoon tea organised and sponsored by the Napier City Council, Age Concern, Grey Power and Princess Alexandra Retirement Village.

The scene was set: an open grassy area, next to Kennedy Park's Rose Garden with a mobile stage and sound system, marquees, tables and chairs plus a selection of yummy cakes, sandwiches and slices daintily arranged to be enjoyed with a cup of tea.

While the elders sat, snacked and sipped, entertainers, including Mayoress Shirley Dalton, serenaded them with new and old songs and sounds. We had a demonstration of tai chi, and a chat from the Kennedy Park Rose Garden "rosarian". A lively uku-lele group, the Hopping Frogs, did the last performance, finishing up with the old favourite, "Blowin in the Wind" which was most appropriate as the wind had ramped up and many had gone.

Let's hope this becomes an annual event!





# “It takes the stress away”

Life presents a lot of curly questions!  
“What’s going to happen when I get older still? How can I feel safe and secure without being a burden?”

## *To see Liz’s full story*

or for more information about  
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# Membership Report

## Modern Technology

It is heartening to see that at least half our membership elects to receive their newsletter by email, it is a great saving on the shoe leather for our members who have to do the deliveries but also on printing costs.

Another advantage is that I usually send it out the minute Maxine has it ready, so the delivery will always beat the printed copy.

If you have acquired an email address and you want to avail yourself of this service, send an email to me at [wutsie@xtra.co.nz](mailto:wutsie@xtra.co.nz) with "subscribe" in the subject field; I will do the rest.

## Membership

As of mid October 2018 our membership stands at 1289 – this is made up of 719 single members and 285 doubles.

To give you some idea of the growth we have had: our membership in April 2013, just over 5 years ago, stood at 398 so you will appreciate the extra work your committee is doing.

It is always a pleasure to have a number of members come to the party when it is time to set up the church hall at our monthly meeting, and your help with the clean up afterwards is much appreciated. Our new system of positioning the food tables and supper room layout seems to work well.

We have not included a membership form in this newsletter, as it is approaching the end of the membership year, and this is the only time we can take a breath and relax from our Grey Power responsibilities.

*John Wuts, Membership Secretary*

## Spot the pot hole: Elderly on the hunt for Napier's neighbourhood hazards

31 Oct, 2018 New Zealand Herald

It's a game of spot the cracked pavement, the pot hole, the bad street light and the overly steep slope.

Teams of Hawke's Bay senior citizens are out on the streets gathering data on how suitable a neighbourhood is for older residents.

The national project is a partnership with Massey University health psychology researchers, and the results will show on a publicly available online map of New Zealand.

Professor Christine Stephens, from the Health and Ageing Research Team at Massey's School of Psychology, said the pilot scheme was being rolled out in Napier, Levin, Foxton, Wellington and Dunedin.

The aim is to identify the age-friendliness of New Zealand's residential areas and where improvements are needed, as well as to identify strengths.



Carol Brunton, left, Potace Bennett and Doug Neilson, three of the volunteers collecting information about Napier's neighbourhoods. Photo / Kirsten Simcox NZ Herald

It is in response to the reality of our ageing population set to burgeon in the coming decades.

Councils needed to factor in the needs of older people living in the community for civic planning, Stephens said.

The project trials the participatory research tool OPERAT (Older People's External Residential Assessment Tool), where seniors collect information about their local neighbourhoods.

It was developed by Welsh researchers Professor Vanessa Burholt and Dr Matthew Roberts, at the Centre for Innovative Ageing, Swansea University. Stephens said the project was empowering for volunteers because they were helping to ensure the needs of their age group are being considered.

They are provided with a manual, survey questions and clipboard and can enter the data they collect online or by posting it to the research team.

In Napier, volunteer data collectors, including members of Napier City Council's Positive Ageing Strategy Reference Group, Napier Community Patrol, Age Concern Napier, and Māori Women's Welfare League, have just begun a month-long data collection period.

It is the only New Zealand city to receive Government funding for an age-friendly project, from the Office for Seniors, which is part of the Ministry of Social Development.

The volunteers will be making observations from the street about property, for example, the state of footpaths, street lights, noise, traffic, and green spaces.

The information they collect may be used by Napier City Council to help inform its Positive Ageing Strategy, and by other organisations wanting to build a picture of how "age friendly" Napier's communities are, council spokesman Craig Ogborn said.

### Plastic Bags...

Yes we know but...

We need bags for our freshly picked fruit we sell at meetings—please save your bread bags for us and bring to meetings so we can fill with fruit!

Attending the funeral of a homeless man recently was a sad reminder of how vulnerable some of our citizens are.

Council is committed to working with central government in implementing the Housing First initiative which has been shown to be the best approach in housing the homeless. We are trying to help.

Consultation on the draft Library Strategy has now closed, so the next step will see a committee working on site selection. We have \$15.8 million set aside for our new library so keep a look out for further information!

The War Memorial continues to be a hot topic, with the consultation process on the three designs offered still being organized as we go to press.

After having our Easter Sunday Trading (EST) policy overturned in the High Court (because our consultation was inadequate), we have put out another EST policy (which would allow trading on Easter Sunday) and are hearing oral submissions on Friday, 30 November, all morning (in the HB Regional Council chambers). Then we vote on the proposal. We had about six times as many submissions this time as last time, so it looks like we got our consultation right this time!

This is a public process (including our decision making) so come along and listen if you can!

Finally, my fellow ward councilor Api Tapine and myself are intending to run again, in the 2019 council elections. We are running separately but work closely as a team. You'll see our ad in the Discount Book.

**See you at the Christmas Luncheon! Maxine**

## And now the good news...

Long term members Jane Smart and Robin Dalmer tied the knot recently—congratulations to the Love Birds!



## GREYPOWER SPECIAL REAL ESTATE OFFER

**Ray White.**

- Successful Real Estate career spanning more than 20 years.
- Being born and bred in Napier has given me an in-depth knowledge of the Napier and Hawke's Bay markets.
- Proven skilled negotiator.
- If you are considering selling your home, please call me for a market appraisal appointment. I will provide a full marketing package for your property to attract the best buyer and best price.

- John took out all the "what ifs" out of the situation, always being available at the drop of a hat, to answer a question, talk us through contracts, look at council plans, nothing was too much trouble".
- John is approachable and friendly so we were confident he would build good relationships with potential buyers at open homes. With John's experience, integrity and sound advice we wouldn't hesitate to recommend him to future vendors".

**Ray White.**

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