

Grey Power Napier & Districts

P O Box 4247, Marewa, Napier 4143

Quarterly Newsletter

<http://napiergreypower.org>

November 2017



You're invited

to our

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

at

PUKEMOKIMOKI MARAE

191 Riverbend Road Onekawa

TUESDAY, 28 NOVEMBER 11.30 am

***Only \$5 - pay at the door,
but you must book before***

***Bookings through Laurie at 844 3734—cutoff date Monday 27
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**Bring money for raffles, something for the Food Bank,
an item for Gabriela's Romanian Orphan op shop ...and a friend!**

Merry Xmas from the 2017-18 Grey Power Committee!

President:

Laurie Jenkin
(06) 844 3734

Membership Officer

John Wuts
(06) 844 4751

Deputy Chairperson

Bruce Carnegie
(06) 844 5635

Publicity Officer

Maxine Boag
(06) 835 6495

Secretary

Isabel Wood
(06) 8430524

Committee:

June Graham 845 4353
Anne Mitchell 844 7011
Lillian Rennett 843 9522
Bubbles Munro 845 4642
Jane Smart 0274 595716
Rana Dallas 844 7347

Treasurer:

Carol Brunton
(06) 843 0212



Front from left: Bruce Carnegie, Lillian Rennett, June Graham, Bubbles Munro, Maxine Boag, Anne Mitchell
Second row: Rana Dallas, Carol Brunton, Jane Smart, Isabel Wood
Back: Laurie Jenkin, John Wuts

For all Gold Card Holders

New Zealand Government

The AA will put a photo on your Gold Card for you. Take in your Gold Card and proof of identity.

This can be useful if you don't have a Drivers Licence or a passport.

Many will then accept the card with photo as identification.

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If you have a Kiwibank account, tell them you are a member of Grey Power and they will flag the account as a GP member. Then your account will attract sponsorship (at no cost to you) for Grey Power NZ.

Over \$100,000 p.a. is received by GP in this way.

Central Hawke's Bay celebration



Central Hawkes Bay Grey Power members with invited guests from Hastings and Napier associations after a delicious lunch at Nola's restaurant in Waipawa to celebrate Xmas together.

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From the President's Desk

SINCE the last newsletter, Shona and I have exited the country and are now residents in a lovely flat in Laurent Place, Greenmeadows. The only thing both places have in common is they are both in the flight path of planes preparing to land, but they are lower here! The water quality is different. We have no garden, but lots of pot plants on the tiny concrete courtyard out the back. However, everything we are involved with is so much closer and we are enjoying it already – good neighbours, a quiet cul-de-sac, a huge bottlebrush tree, sporting an occasional tui among the cacophony of bird songs. Surely, city living at its best!

After a surprisingly close election, we endured patiently while all the parties negotiated intensely, until NZ First were satisfied that a Labour/NZ First/Greens coalition was the most attractive solution for NZ. Jacinda and her team have wasted no time setting out their programme for the first 100 days, and have shown laudable enthusiasm for getting projects up and running asap. Clearly, nine years in Opposition has galvanised them into action, and their diligence is commendable.

I feel like I'm in a slow car, watching a speeding vehicle ahead, which I call "The Future", gradually fading from sight. I've had to change using my whole computer system, including (reluctantly) going up to Windows 10 again. While I can get emails, I have been unable to send any for five weeks. My smart phone continues to be too smart for me, and appears to change the rules all the time.

The fact that I'm getting old has started to show, and that is why I have decided to call time on my presidency of our GP Association.

I joined the Association in 2006, became president in 2010. I have enjoyed the position immensely, because of a wonderful, stable committee all the way through. I have seen the membership grow from 400 to 1200 and it has been very heartening. We have a large number of very talented people in our association, some of whom will assume leadership roles and continue to promote growth.

Next target – 2000 members!

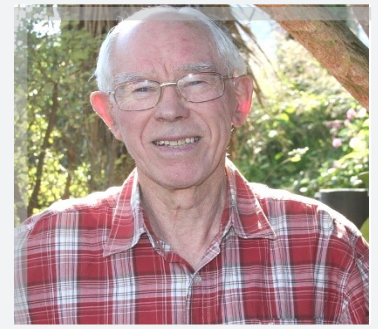
Just a reminder that our last meeting for the year will be held at Pukemokimoki marae on Tuesday, 28th November starting at 11.30 am. Tickets are being subsidised from our Grey Power account, as a way of us returning your money to you and for us to say thank you for your support!

We can cater for another 50 members, with a maximum of 200. Please phone me at 844 3734 if you have not already booked to attend. It is always an enjoyable programme!

My thanks to Pat Magill for organising the recent Puketitiri trip to his place, and to visit the bush and gardens in the area. It was a lovely excursion, enjoyed by all 14 members who went.

My best wishes to all members for the upcoming Christmas/New Year break. May you all have a fulfilling and refreshing time over the holiday season. Seasons Greetings to you all.

Laurie Jenkin



Happy diners at last year's Xmas Luncheon at Pukemokimoki marae.

Have your say on Napier's Positive Ageing Strategy

By Michele Grigg, Senior Advisor Policy, Napier City Council

KIA ora, hello everyone. Things are ticking along with the development of a Positive Ageing Strategy for Napier. The Strategy's Steering Group and Reference Group have met a few times over the last couple of months.

They are now looking forward to hearing from providers and agencies, and older persons in the community, about what vision people have for positive ageing in Napier. Several workshops are planned for late November.

We're asking seniors **"What's important to you as you get older?"**.

If you'd like to feed your ideas into the Strategy, please RSVP for this workshop for seniors:

When: Thursday 30 November, 10am-12noon
Where: Age Concern Napier, 98 Taradale Road, Napier

RSVP by 27 November to: Christelle on 06 8365607 or communityservices@napier.govt.nz



Stuart NASH MP for Napier

Wishing you Season's Greetings and a safe and Happy New Year.

For the first time in nine years there has been a change in government. This will mean a change in focus towards a more community-oriented investment approach in areas where we believe that many in our society are struggling.

For example, much greater levels of investment in mental health, education, policing, social housing and infrastructure.

It is an exciting time and it is an absolute privilege to serve in the Ardern cabinet. My Ministerial portfolios are Police, Revenue, Small Business and Fisheries. Each area presents a number of opportunities and challenges that I cannot wait to get stuck into.

The thing that I will never ever forget, however, is that first and foremost I am the Member of Parliament for Napier. This priority will never change, and I am adamant that the level of service provided to the constituents of my electorate will only improve as we seek to better support the diverse communities of Napier.

My office hours are 10.00 am – 4.00 pm Monday, and 9.00 am – 4.00 pm Tuesday to Friday and we are just a phone call away on (06) 835 6093.



Stuart NASH MP for Napier

Electorate Office

155A Tennyson Street | PO Box 827 | 06 835 6093

stuart.nashmp@parliament.govt.nz

www.stuarnash.co.nz

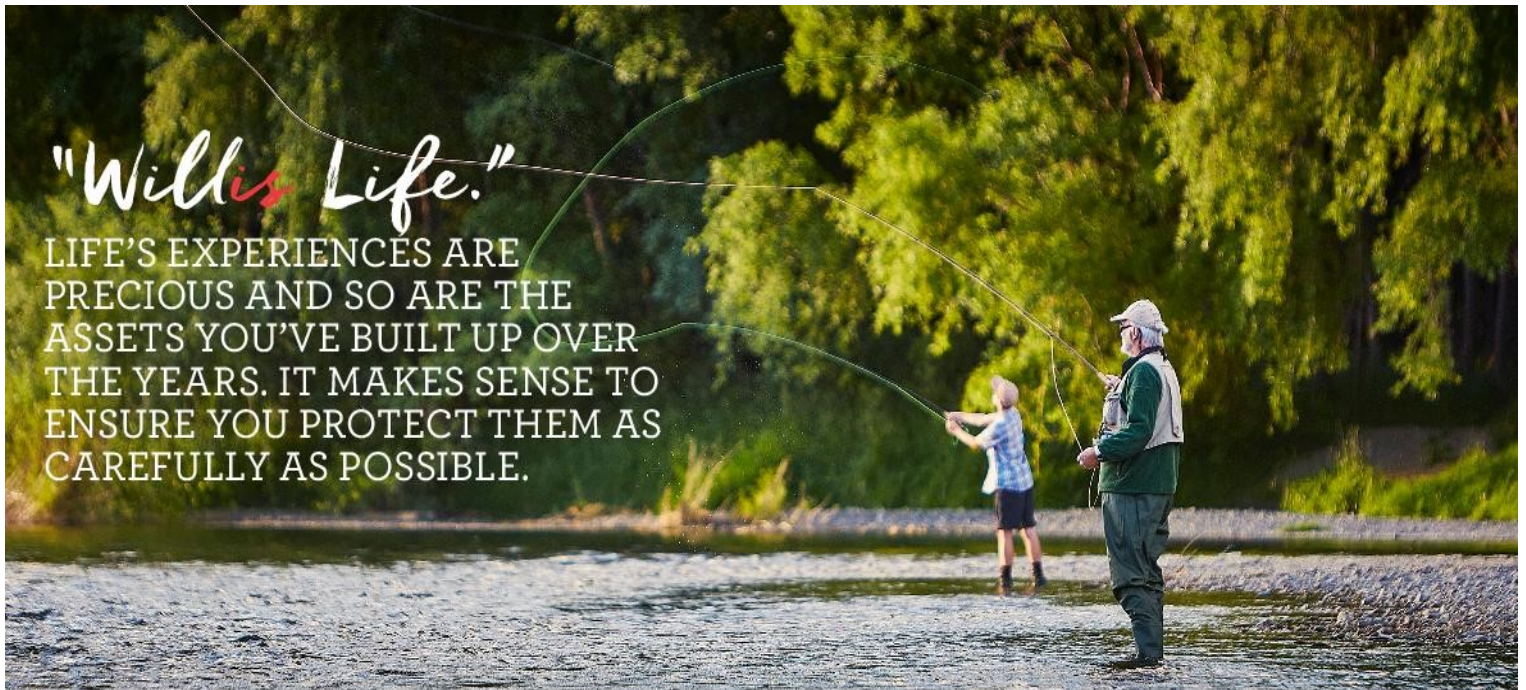
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Authorised by Stuart Nash MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington



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Resurrecting the Napier War Memorial

Victoria White, *HB Today*, 28 September 2017

Applause rang out at a Napier City Council meeting yesterday, after it resolved to "get this right" on the Napier War Memorial.

This has been embroiled in a months-long emotional saga, after the council agreed to remove commemorative items from the Napier Conference Centre during its multi-million dollar redevelopment, to be installed in a more appropriate location- moves not widely known by the public.

There has since been widespread upset, particularly as the building was built through public funding to be a memorial.

Speaking to his 840-signature petition at the start of the meeting, resident Selwyn Hawthorne appealed to Napier mayor Bill Dalton to make decisions "that will allow you to have a clear conscience when you say 'lest we forget'".

If the council voted to restore the memorial items, and "consult openly and meaningfully with the community regarding the return of the correct name of the building, you will be remembered, hopefully for the right reasons."

His appeal appears answered - yesterday council unanimously agreed to reinstall the items at the Floral Clock site, and to consult with the community on the process going forward - including memorial design concepts, the roll of honour plaques, and the building's name.

This consultation was included in five new recommendations put forward by councillor Kirsten Wise.

"The message I have received loud and clear is that [the community] are unhappy with the decisions that have been made," she said.

"It is our responsibility I believe as elected representatives to consult and listen to what our community is telling us, and I don't believe we should be rushing into any decisions going forward.

"We need to get this right, and we need to get the whole of our community and certainly stakeholders such as Guy Natusch, the original architect of this building, involved."

This was echoed by deputy mayor Faye White, who said "sometimes we need to undo our mistakes".

"Today is about putting right what has gone wrong. We didn't start off to make it wrong but unfortunately it did go wrong."

When asked if the new recommendations had any disadvantages, Napier Mayor Bill Dalton said undertaking a full consultation process would take time, and would add to the workload of staff, who were



Les Hewett and Selwyn Hawthorne with other petitioners after presenting their petition to the NCC and having council agree to answer their concerns.

Photo credit: Warren Buckland

already working on other "major" consultation processes.

In response, Ms Wise said she appreciated people wanted the memorial back, but time was not an issue.

She understood once the design concepts were completed consultation could begin - which could occur in the new year.

Cheers rang out from the 20-person audience when council agreed to include the new recommendations.

It was known the council would restore the memorial items, however some remained upset about "War Memorial" being removed from the Napier Conference Centre title as they saw the building and memorial as linked.

Ms Wise's recommendation would see the building's name consulted on. The original recommendation was to rename the centre's ballroom as the "War Memorial Hall".

It was also suggested this name could be restored on the outside of the centre directly above the new memorial site, although Napier Conference Centre would be used for branding.

The new recommendations also meant the existing roll of honour plaques would remain in storage until the community were consulted on how they could be incorporated into the new memorial.

And, additional funding would be allocated to the project once design concepts and project costs were completed. About \$50,000 had been allocated for the relocation of the war memorial.

The floral clock would be relocated to the sunken gardens. The Hurst family had been consulted and had agreed with that.

Update - 18 November: Guy Natusch has submitted a design; Council will be consulting the public next year on the matters agreed upon . Editor.

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News from the Hawke's Bay Power Consumer Trust

By Trust Chair Diana Kirton



THIS year has felt like the year of elections in Hawke's Bay. With billboards still up for the Hastings mayoralty, it was a relief when the Hawke's Bay Power Consumers' Trust (HBPCT) results were declared two months ago. The resulting Trust is a strong mix of governance, business and community experience. It is an honour to be the Chair of this group.

The most pleasing aspect of the election was the higher rate of voter participation at 30%, compared with a previous 24%. Grey Power members are well known to take a keen interest in Trust matters, and it is our intention to keep you informed as we work through the challenges we face this term.

The Trust is now preparing for the 5-yearly ownership review to be held early next year. Shareholders will get their say on various issues such as continued consumer ownership and use of the dividend. These points were the focus of the election campaign and hopefully the heightened awareness will lead to strong shareholder participation during this process.

The energy sector is experiencing major technological change. Methods of generation and storage through the use of solar and batteries is changing the face of the industry. Electric vehicles will be affordable and dominant within the next decade. This provides challenges as well as opportunities for lines businesses.

As owners of the region's multi-million dollar asset, Unison, we need to consider options that ensure the financial interests of the consumer are maximised. We need your help, as shareholders, to understand this situation and keep an open mind to opportunities that arise.

Our goal will always be to maximise the dividend potential paid to the shareholder. That dividend belongs to you and it will stay that way.

Diana Kirton

dianakirton1@gmail.com

0276 300 113

Zoning in

Four Napier Grey Power members (Maxine Boag, Pete Findlay, Isabel Wood and Laurie Jenkin) spent a day in Palmerston recently at a Zone 4 meeting, networking and talking over quite meaty topics including remits for next year's Federation conference, alongside 25 other reps from 18 Lower North Island associations. Our Zone has the largest number of members of all Zones, (16,000 out of the 68,000 across NZ). We are family!



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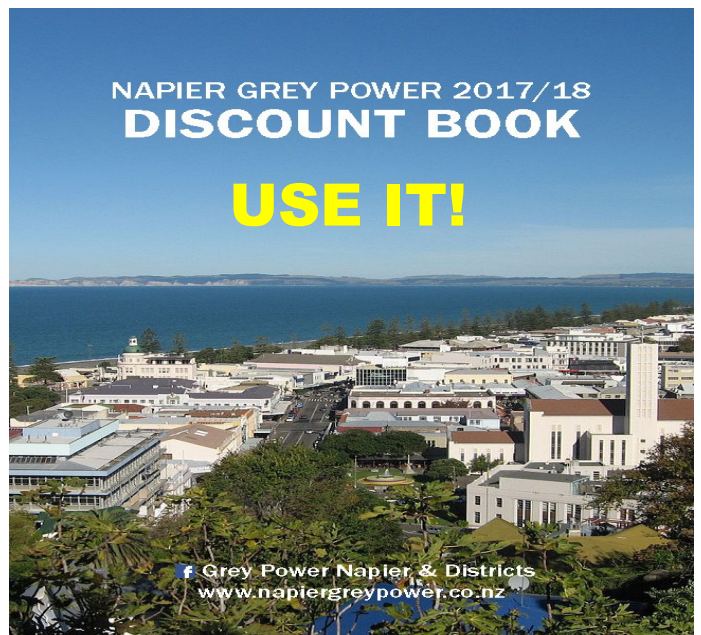
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Members Matter

Your membership is critical to our effectiveness as an organisation. Not only does it keep us going, as we receive no government or outside funding, but it strengthens the quality of our meetings and our ability to lobby on your behalf. Besides which, we are like a family of friends with much in common.



As our membership year starts on April 1st each year, we suggest you don't join or renew until after January next year, to give our hard working voluntary Membership person and the Treasurer a holiday!



We are always keen to hear your feedback on why you joined Grey Power and why you keep up your membership. As well, any feedback on Napier Grey Power, the meetings, our lobbying, what we do as well as GP Electricity and our discounts.

And what are THE issues for you, central and local government, the DHB? Email me at m.boag@xtra.co.nz please! *Maxine*

Councillor Comment *Maxine Boag*



AS I write this, my Council calendar over the next month is full of seminars and presentations, meetings, farewells, AGMs, Xmas events with highlights like the Grey Power Xmas luncheon.

Preparing to produce the Draft Long Term Plan (LTP) for distribution and wide consultation next year has been a focus of much extra Council time. Our LTP 2018-2028 will give us clear direction for the next three years. We have many issues and projects to consult on, such as the new Aquatic Centre, the planned Aquarium, the Civic and Library buildings, Park Island, the War Memorial, the Ahuriri Estuary Master Plan, water security, McLean park, courts at PGA to mention some. Over the next few weeks we will be deciding what goes into the Plan, which requires us to work closely as a team.

The housing crisis continues to ramp up, with the latest figures showing the quarterly Social Housing waiting list numbers in Napier increase by 28 per cent in the last three months. People seeking affordable rental accommodation are in very dire straits, both young and old. An upcoming review of Council's social housing will no doubt take this into consideration, as it affects the well being of a large number of our citizens.

The increase in beggars and homeless people has become obvious in Napier, and we have all been scratching our heads as to what to do. Cr Tapine and I attended a retailers meeting at Marewa, along with the Mayor, staff members and the police. I believe that a combination of more social housing and support, along with asking shoppers not to pay or feed them would have better outcomes for all—beggars, shoppers and retailers. Long term solutions need to be found with both Central and Local government and NGOs working with the community.

With my getting elected on the Age Concern Board, along with being Publicity Officer for Napier Grey Power, and Council rep on the HB Positive Ageing Trust, I feel well positioned to support older people in both the community and in public office.

I will be away in January, but hope you all have a fabulous Xmas and New Year!

Maxine Boag, Napier City Councillor



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Some sound advice

By Maxine Boag

“Be prepared” was the overarching message from our two speakers at our October meeting: **Katherine Dunstall, Funeral Director from Dunstalls Funeral Services**, and lawyer **Paul Morgan, Carlile Dowling**.

Young, capable and enthusiastic, Katherine expressed her pride as representing the fourth generation of Dunstalls caring for Napier families.

She challenged us by reminding us that we prepare for many things in our life: for holidays, for birthday parties and Xmas, for work, retirement, children and grandchildren.

But are we prepared for our funeral? Cremation? Burial? Church? Chapel? Marae? What do you want said when you’ve gone? Arranging a loved one’s funeral can be an extra burden on family and friends. Having a **funeral plan** will lessen their responsibilities at what is likely to be a difficult time.

Katherine pointed out that while some people choose to have no service, they miss out on something that may help the family with the loss.

“That final goodbye can be very simple but still hold onto the spirit that is needed to share how special your life has been, to share the stories that can fill that sadness left when someone passes away,” she said.

Katherine gave out Dunstalls’ Funeral Care Packs - go see them if you want to take this step.

Will power

Paul Morgan stressed on us the importance of having a will as well as a Funeral Plan. Your will determines who is in charge of managing the distribution of your estate and belongings when you die.

If we die without a will, the provisions of the Administration Act 1969 take over to determine what happens to the estate.



Paul Morgan and Katherine Dunstall presenting to us at the October Grey Power meeting. Photo by John Wuts

For example if you die intestate (without a will) and you have a partner/spouse, as well as children, the partners will get \$155,000 plus 1/3 of the rest of the estate, with 2/3 going to children/grandchildren). Not what you’d expect!

When is the right time to make a will? Now, while you are still mentally capable. “Do your loved ones a favour by making sure they are not left with an administrative mess!” Paul said. “You will feel much happier and satisfied once you have put in place arrangements which look after the ones you love.”

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Our Annual trip to Puketitiri By John Wuts

On Thursday 26 October 14 Grey Power members set off for Pat Magill's property in Puketitiri Road opposite Ball's Clearing. We were very fortunate that it was a typical gorgeous Hawke's Bay day with the sunshine beaming down on us.

After Pat had taken us for a long walk through the beautiful bush it was time for a bite to eat - whilst having lunch Pat regaled us with the story of how he acquired his property; it made for a very colourful story and Pat is a great raconteur.

From here we went to the Whittle's property at Little Bush - Elaine Whittle and her son made us very welcome and appreciated the 30 kg of sugar we had brought to feed her nectar eating birds.

On the way home we had one more stop at another one of Pat's acquaintances property, also covered in beautiful flora. It was a very satisfied group when we headed for home via Bay View where a short stop at the ice cream parlour was called for.



Acknowledgements:

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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.
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- 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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