

Grey Power Napier & Districts

PO Box 4247, Marewa, Napier 4143

Quarterly Newsletter

www.napiergreypower.org

Spring 2019



VOTE!

When your voting papers come out between 20-25 September.

Napier & Districts Grey Power Association holds monthly meetings on the second Tuesday of each month for members and the public.

The two meetings remaining this year are:

October 15 - End Of Life Choices

November 26 - Xmas Luncheon

at Pukemokimoki Marae

Members will be contacted closer to these dates.

Come along to

MEET THE CANDIDATES NAPIER CITY COUNCIL ELECTION

We are hosting all NCC Ward Candidates and Mayoral Candidates.

**When? Tuesday, 17 September
at 1:30pm**

**Where? St Columba's Church
176 Gloucester Street
Taradale**

There will be no questions from the floor but members' questions already compiled by the President will be asked where practicable.

Bring money for subs, raffles and goods for the Foodbank.

Enjoy a delicious free afternoon tea and great fellowship!

ALL WELCOME

Our 2019-2020 Committee

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Helpers folding the Grey Power newsletter



Members who put the finishing touches to the June newsletter, folding and labelling for distribution.

From left: Bruce Carnegie, Rana Ross, Jacquie Hurst, Patricia Wawatai, Dawn Harvey (front), Laurie Jenkin, Shona Jenkin (obscured) Anne Mitchell, Barbara Turner.



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From the President...

Spring Greetings Everyone!

After a well-attended August meeting where the 230-plus attendees were able to listen to Hawke's Bay Regional Council candidates, we are now highlighting this month's meeting, where we will be hosting all Napier City Council candidates - for Mayoral and Ward councillor positions.

With local body elections happening soon (you get your booklets and voting papers between 20 - 25 September, for voting that closes noon on 12 October) and considering the importance of electing the right candidates, we decided to help you get to know more about the candidates by featuring their profiles within the newsletter.

Every candidate was invited to submit their photo and answer questions relevant to your decision-making.

This year we also have the opportunity to elect a new Mayor and due to this very important responsibility of leadership we have added extra questions just for them on what we see as important concerns and issues, that in our opinion, need to be addressed.

There have been many concerning issues within the last three years e.g. contaminated water, location and cost of the \$41 million Aquatic

Centre; the War Memorial debacle and others which the new council will have to work through. To do this we need to have the right people with the passion and ability that will be required of each elected councillor representing their ward and the whole of Napier.

The structure of the voting has changed, we now have four wards and 21 candidates contesting 12 ward positions, so this gives us the opportunity to vote for who we believe will be the best person to do and hold this position as our councillor for the next three years.

We have invited each candidate to our next public meeting and hopefully you can come to this but we also realise that many members are not able to come to our monthly meetings and hope that this newsletter will assist you in deciding who to vote for.

This election gives us the opportunity to move forward positively with the right people but will need your vote to do so.

Please read, study, go to meetings if you can and vote for the future.

Best wishes everyone, hope to see you at our September meeting, "Meet the NCC Candidates".



Bruce Carnegie

Questions we asked Council candidates (see responses on pages 4, 5, 7 and 9)

All candidates were asked to provide *their name, where they are running, their age and how long they had lived in Napier; then why they would be a good councillor or Mayor; plus which of the seven Priority Areas of NCC's Positive Ageing Strategy did they consider to be top priority, why and what they would do about it if elected.*

These are: Being informed and involved; Being safe; Community Spirit; Getting around; Health and well-being; Housing; Things to do (for more see <https://www.napier.govt.nz/napier/seniors/>)

Mayoral Candidates



Steve Gibson



David Hannay



Chris Tremain



Kirsten Wise

Acknowledgements: This newsletter was compiled by Publicity Officer Maxine Boag with the assistance of committee members. It was printed by VW Print, folded and distributed by member volunteers and delivered by members or emailed by the Membership Secretary.

Neither the Association, nor any person or persons associated with it accepts any liability whatsoever for the contents of this newsletter, nor do we necessarily endorse any product advertised.

It costs the Association \$2 for each newsletter to be printed in full colour; so we appreciate emailing it where applicable which saves us a lot of money.

Thank you!



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Mayoral Candidates Answer Our Questions

We asked the four Mayoral candidates these questions: name, age, how long you have lived in Napier.

David Hannay: 57. Born in Napier Hospital.

Steve Gibson: 49. I am running for Mayor and Councillor in the Onekawa/Tamatea electorate. Our family of 5 moved to Napier in 2015.

Chris Tremain: 53. I have lived in Napier for 46 years.

Kirsten Wise: 45. Born and raised in Napier.

Why you think you would be a good Mayor?

David Hannay: As a community advocate with nearly 30 years of service under my belt I have had many dealings with council and know the issues facing our community and getting council to listen without management's manipulation.

Steve Gibson: With 24 years police experience and 2 terms as a Manawatu District Councillor and motel operator, I will keep Council honest, invest in Onekawa pools and bring about clean unchlorinated tap water.

Chris Tremain: I will unify the council. I will promote ideas that take our city forward. I will reconsult the pool, sort the War Memorial debacle, prioritise the basics, and clean up our water supply.

Kirsten Wise: Representing the community is at the heart of everything I do and I'm running for Mayor because the people of Napier need their voice back. We need a council that listens to the community.

Which of the seven Priority Areas in NCC's Positive Ageing Strategy do you consider to be top priority?

David Hannay: I feel the biggest issue facing our people on fixed incomes is the increases of rates over inflation yearly. Within ten years it is likely our rates will be 50% more than it is today. This will force people off their properties causing unneeded worry and stress to our seniors.

Steve Gibson: Safety. As an ex police officer in Huntly in the 1990s we arrested patched members in public areas, until they disbanded. 2012-2015 I was a police officer in Darwin solving property crime within 24 hours. Partnering with police to focus on community needs in a timely manner.

Chris Tremain: My number one priority is keeping you safe. I am very concerned about the increase in the gang population, crime, and the impact of that on your safety and wellbeing. I will work closely with police and our local Member of Parliament to address this priority. One option will be to consider the additional use of security cameras, at the entrance to pensioner villages, to assist keeping our city safe.

Kirsten Wise: I believe Nga whare – Housing is the top priority. Safe, affordable housing is pivotal to achieving the other six priority areas and is an area council can take the lead on. Council needs to assess its current housing stock and protect this for our ageing population.

1. Chlorination and discoloration of the water supply is a major concern in Napier. If elected as Mayor, how would you go about fixing this problem?

David Hannay: The question should be who is going to control water, thus losing water control. We simply can't afford to upgrade to a point of pleasing a standard that is shaped as blackmail to gain that control and is justified from a knee jerk reaction to chlorinate pristine water. Discoloration starts with chlorination but is dislodgement of bio film.

Steve Gibson: Set about to replace ageing infrastructure. Secure our bores, remove chlorination and look into UV treatment instead.

Chris Tremain: Clean drinking water is my number one priority. I have proposed a Mayoral Taskforce on Drinking Water which I will lead if elected. That taskforce will have responsibility to bring forward spend to clean water mains. The Taskforce will consult with the community on options to remove chlorine including the cost to rates of the various options. Public Health will be a cornerstone criteria of the taskforce.

Kirsten Wise: We must meet with Christchurch City Council and learn from their extensive research into the removal of their chlorine. Then complete a full assessment of our infrastructure, identify the areas of the network which need an urgent upgrade and make this the top priority in our capital plan.

2. Many of Napier's 376 flats are not really fit for purpose, having been built in the 1960s and 1980s, but the rent does not return enough to pay for future maintenance, rebuilding or refurbishment. They could be sold or leased to HNZN or another social housing provider, but this would change the tenancies and many pensioners would be ineligible. Do you think that these should be retained in Council's hands for pensioners, and that some money from rates should be used to refurbish and rebuild to maintain the stock? Please give reasons.

David Hannay: We need to start building up, not out, (within strict zones) and take a serious look at "change of purpose" rules to start utilizing second storey empty spaces into apartments. Council should be looking at its own stock and updating for future years. The near future is not aquariums or pools.

Steve Gibson: It's important to maintain all our assets including housing. My experience in the Manawatu Council was that putting Council housing into a "not for profit trust" was cheaper to operate and gave access to fund maintenance through charities and government grants. Otherwise as I currently house a number of homeless at our motels it would be a conflict of interest to comment further.

Chris Tremain: I have proposed a solution which would move our social housing stock into a Council Controlled Organisation. In partnership with central government we would apply for Approved Housing Status to allow tenants to access Market Rent Related Subsidies. The CCO would then be able to leverage its balance sheet to purchase more social houses and to improve the existing rental stock. See www.christremainformayor.co.nz for details.

Kirsten Wise: Our flats should definitely be retained in Council's hands as we are one of the main local providers for pensioners. We need to look at a combination of rates and reconfiguration of our current housing to refurbish, maintain and potentially increase the stock.

3. We would like to see meaningful public consultations on all future projects, especially those that are "nice to have" vs "need to have"? Do you agree and if so how could you help facilitate this process?

David Hannay: My position is councillors will not sign a code of conduct that doesn't state that their allegiance is to the territories and peoples of Napier and that the predetermination rule isn't used to stop representatives from gathering outside information over executive/management information. Without a regime change public consultation will be eroded further.

Steve Gibson: Common sense dictates that we cannot keep spending rates on glamour projects when we have many pensioners on fixed incomes that cannot afford big rate rises. I intend to make sure Council provides all the facts to the public, keeps them well informed, listens to submissions and keeps in mind the impact on rate increases. Reminding Council to move away from the mindset

Mayoral Candidates Answer Our Questions (continued)

that it's easy to spend other people's money and think more like a private consumer.

Chris Tremain: Yes – I totally agree with meaningful consultation whereby councillors understand what the public think of key initiatives. But I do not propose to run the council by referendum. Democracy allows the election, or not, of political representation to make decisions on behalf of you all. This does not mean that I will always vote with popular opinion.

Kirsten Wise: Council must engage and consult more with our community. Consultation must be far-reaching and accessible to all via formal hearings, community/stakeholder meetings, online surveys and a variety of tools to take the conversation out to the people. Council must respect and value the input from the community and empower them to set the priorities for our city.

Napier Mayoral Debates

Wednesday, 18th September

6.30pm

Napier Boys' High School Hall

Questions to hb.elect@nzme.co.nz

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Napier Mayoral Debates

Tuesday, 24th September

7.00pm

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Keeping Kiwis warmer and healthier

Grants for energy efficient heaters are now available as part of the Government's Warmer Kiwi Homes programme which aims to make homes warmer and more energy efficient.

The grants will cover two-thirds of the cost of efficient wood burners and heat pumps, up to a maximum grant of \$2,500. Home insulation has also been funded through the programme since July last year.

Our government wants to help people stay healthy and warm, and keep their power bills in check over winter so we're making it easier for people by funding the installation of heat pumps and insulation.

Insulated and heated homes are healthier, and we know there are huge benefits for households with fewer respiratory illnesses and hospital visits.

This is one part of the package of the Government's winter support. We're also helping people keep their heaters on through the Winter Energy Payment, and we're investigating consumer electricity prices which we'll report on soon.

To be eligible for insulation and heater grants, homeowners must have a Community Services Card or live in a lower-income area. In most cases homes will need to have ceiling and underfloor insulation installed before qualifying for a grant for a heater.

Eligible homeowners should take action if they don't have insulation or a wood burner because there is likely to be high demand for grants for heaters. Below is the website link:

www.energywise.govt.nz/at-home/

Keep a look out for my Half Term Report featuring our achievements so far which will be delivered to your letterbox, along with a fridge magnet listing a quick reference for emergency numbers. If you don't receive one, we have some spares available in our electorate office, so please contact us.

Thanks for your support. 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 for Small Business

Authorised by Stuart Nash, 155A Tennyson Street, Napier



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Council candidates answer our questions (see page 3 for questions)



Apiata Tapine: 46, Nelson Park Ward, 11 years

A people person, I am widely connected in the community and have brought cultural diversity and understanding to the Council table. A team worker, I look forward to sharing the Ward workload with three others. *Community Spirit - Te wairua hapori*: Council should be encouraging and resourcing community groups which provide opportunities for older people in particular to engage and become active to combat loneliness and physical isolation.



Greg Mawson: but my friends call me "Grego". Nelson Park Ward. 43, have lived in Napier for just over 40 years.

With my background in international competition and personal training, I am a committed, good listener and love to help people - qualities of a councillor. Napier needs listeners and doers, more than ever. All are top priority and all link together. Feeling valued, socializing through to affordable housing and leisure/fitness. Stability and fall prevention are also paramount: quality of life dramatically drops with injury and a fall which results in a broken hip and has frightening statistics.



Annette Brosnan: 31, Onekawa/Tamatea Ward. All my life.

I have been raised and am now raising my family in this Ward, I am extremely passionate about our representation. I believe my assertive, well researched and common sense contributions make a positive difference for our Ward. Having access to affordable health and support services to remain healthy, active and independent. I have chosen this priority as I truly believe our health is our wealth. With health you have the freedom of mind and body to be as independent as you wish for as long as possible. I am also seeking to contribute to the HBDHB this year and build a partnership with Napier City Council.



Steve Gibson: 49, I am running for Mayor and Councillor in the Onekawa/Tamatea Ward.

Our family of 5 moved to Napier in 2015. With 24 years' police experience and two terms as Manawatu District Councillor and motel operator, I will keep Council honest, invest in Onekawa pools and bring about clean unchlorinated tap water. *Safety*: As an ex

police officer in Huntly in the 1990s we arrested patched members in public areas, until they disbanded. 2012-2015 I was a police officer in Darwin solving property crime within 24 hours. Partnering with Police to focus on community needs in a timely manner.



Will Jenkins: 57, Nelson Park Ward, lived in Napier 16-17 years.

I believe in community and have a track record of working in paid and voluntary roles for the Napier people. I am a good listener and come up with plans that work. I love Napier! My most important priority is housing, as without a decent roof over your head life

is difficult and unhealthy. A memorandum of understanding should keep all units in permanent ownership by the NCC, guarantee maintenance standards, heating, insulation, and keep rent increases reasonable, e.g. CPI. All the priority areas are important.



Tania Wright: 56, Taradale Ward, lived in Taradale Napier for 36 years.

I bring 15 years of local government experience to the table alongside 35 years of community service giving me an extensive knowledge of the local community and an understanding of what the needs and issues are. Having suitable housing options that are affordable and accessible so people are safe and secure, warm and healthy, and feel part of the community. I believe that this is the top priority. The Council is currently a provider in this space and looking at how we can improve on our current level of service to meet future demand as our ageing population grows.



Matthew Bonnet: 42, standing for Ahuriri Ward

I have the energy and the experience in governance to represent Ahuriri Ward and our greater city with sound judgment. I am a resident of the ward, and look forward to meeting you! The two issues where council can have the greatest impact are; 1) Providing housing that is affordable, and secure against development or any other form of upheaval to the comfort of residents; 2) Accessible facilities and activities which provide opportunities to build communities of support, particularly for those living alone.



Hayley Browne, 34, Ahuriri Ward, 5 yrs

I care about people and want to see everyone in Napier treated with dignity and respect. I'm a professional engineer and will apply a pragmatic approach to Council decisions and sound governance of our infrastructure. I believe the top priority is Te wairua hapori - Community Spirit, because having respect, social connections and feeling valued is key to feeling empowered. An empowered ageing community is best placed to identify and advocate for what they need to fulfil the other priority areas. Council should continue to work closely with and listen to the Positive Ageing Strategy Advisory Group.



Maxine Boag, 71, Nelson Park Ward, 30 years

In 12 years on Council I have consistently advocated for the city's most vulnerable while maintaining ongoing contact with community and residents' groups to represent their concerns. Listening and working collaboratively are my strengths. *Housing*: I would like to see Napier City Council retain and extend their portfolio of Council flats particularly those for pensioners. *Getting around*: I'd like the NCC and HBRC combine to provide free bus transport all hours to Gold Card carriers.



Rhonda Chrystal, 52, Taradale Ward. Born in Napier, returned 2005.

I'm intelligent, can listen to and get on well with people. I have a good understanding of Napier's issues and will stand up for what is right. I choose Health and Wellbeing, because it is hard to have quality of life without your health. Maintaining a healthy lifestyle including physical activity, is important to improving physical and mental health and aids mobility and independence. An example of how a council can help achieve this is by helping provide facilities which met elderly needs, providing subsidised classes and transportation to these facilities.

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Jake Brookie, 25, Taradale Ward.

I moved to Napier in 2011 after being a frequent visitor to Napier. My career as an educator is based on communication, leadership and knowledge, attributes councillors need. Representing you would be a massive honour which I will repay with loyal hard work. All areas are vital, but I've focused on the areas where the council can make the most difference. *Things To Do: Locals' discounts for facilities such as our aquarium. Housing: The community's 376 social houses need to be retained. Getting Around: Regular free parking days for easier shopping.*



Craig Morley: 56, Ahuriri Ward. Born in Napier, lived in Ahuriri Ward for over 20 years.

Over the last few years, I've actively engaged and confronted council on many local issues and have the knowledge and experience to represent my community, right now. We need change, we need positive, considered direction. Affordable, warm

housing is key for good health and wellbeing. Locating retirement homes close to facilities, parks and in safe neighborhoods is easily achieved with proper town planning and only granting build consents to developers that meet these priority goals. Provide subsidized grants for heating and insulation for existing retirees' homes.



Catherine Hawkins: 42 Taradale Ward.

I have lived in Napier permanently for the past 12 years and my sons are 4th generation locals on my husband's side. Contributing 8 years experience in national politics, two school board positions and strategic commercial skills. I am a critical thinker, empathetic and I have an ability to relate to people

across the spectrum. Community minded. *Health and wellbeing: Councillors need to be accessible to constituents who find navigating council overwhelming or are unable to travel to go to council in person. We have an amazing resource in our senior citizens and council needs to utilise this through various mediums and value the feedback it receives.*



Nigel Simpson: Taradale Ward. I have lived in Taradale for 25 years.

I offer considerable experience, appropriate qualifications and applied skills for council's governance role. I will represent ratepayers as a competent, capable, strategic custodian governing assets and managing costs. *Being safe and housing:*

are top priorities. Feeling safe and secure enables people to have confidence to freely get around to social activities which enhances social wellbeing, involvement and being informed. Council maintains programmes which need to evolve to support the Positive Ageing Strategy and coordinate contribution of other organisations.



Graeme Taylor: 66, Taradale Ward. Lived in Napier on and off for the last 35 years, permanently for the last 10 years.

I am responsive to the requests of my constituents and work to obtain an acceptable solution to their problems. Having served two terms as a Taradale Ward Councillor I understand the process of local government. *Being safe, health and well-being and housing: The Council can assist by investing in a variety of community organisations such as Community Patrols and CCTV to make our city safer for all, social agencies that can reduce social isolation for the elderly living alone and social housing projects that provide affordable options for pensioners who have limited resources.*



Keith Price: 65, Ahuriri Ward, have lived in Napier for over 30 years.

After serving the city for 4 terms as a councillor, I offer both experience and a future focus. I want to see progress, while ensuring a safe and well governed city for the ratepayer. Many of these areas need addressing, however safety should be the priority for NCC. The focus will be on working more with CCTV and community patrols. However, improving social connections with family, friends, and the community will not only give people a sense of belonging, but also provide a network to ensure safety.



Sally Crown: 37, Nelson Park Ward, 6 years.

As a communications specialist, my process is to listen, think and then act. I'm solution focussed and a natural connector, identifying opportunities across groups and organisations. To lead is to bring people along with you. *Tē wairua hāpori - Community Spirit* as it connects back into many of the other priorities.

The advisory group is a good start and equipping them with the resources to facilitate programmes with schools, youth groups and building networks with other age groups would be great. Encouraging multigenerational events!



Chris Stewart: 32, Nelson Park Ward, 5 years

I have a broad skill set including military, manufacturing and business as well as a high level of university education that would work well to complement the skills of the other councillors. *Being Safe: I believe that if those in the community feel safe, they will feel more open to provide feedback and to contribute to help grow the region. This feedback would then support the other six strategies, because we would find the right goals to work towards.*



Richard McGrath: I have lived in Napier for 47 years.

I believe I have the right qualities and background to represent you on Council. I'm experienced, knowledgeable, caring, enthusiastic and I'm a good listener. I want Napier to be a great place for all to live, work and raise a family. With my background in nursing I have a good understanding of the Positive Ageing Strategy. All aspects are important but the highest priority is housing. We all need a roof over our heads and should have access to warm dry affordable housing. Council is part of the housing solutions for Napier, and is reviewing its housing stock to see if it meets our future needs.



James Crow: Ahuriri Ward, 2 years.

In my 16 successful years of business I have employed dozens of people, always paying the Living Wage. I bring a strong governance perspective to council, sitting on both a company and charitable trust board. Although I see the total package as being required to build a successful strategy, I would first focus on the issues of housing (which council is championing at government level), Being Safe and Being Informed and Involved. This last point is critical in allowing informed decision-making by our older community.



Gary Wise, 55, Taradale Ward, all my life

I have a wide range of skill sets, from financial services, commercial property, 19 years as a volunteer firefighter in the Taradale Brigade, sportsman, family man. *Housing: Housing to me incorporates many other priority areas. I believe we can achieve this by working closer with current retirement village operators and possibly looking at joint venture type scenarios; NCC can supply the land and services.*



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PLEASE JOIN US FOR AN

Afternoon Tea Party

to celebrate International Day of Older Persons.

Join Hostess Acting Mayor Faye White to celebrate seniors in our community.

Bring your favourite tea cup and dress up for afternoon tea.

When: Tuesday 1 October 2019

Time: 2pm - 3pm

Venue: Napier Municipal Theatre, Tennyson Street, Napier City

RSVP's essential: 06 842 1346 or napier@ageconcernhb.org.nz
by **Monday 23 September 2019.**



INVOICE for GREY POWER MEMBERSHIP 2019-2020

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Figures at left: www.zerohedge.com/news/2017-02-03/un-official-admits-global-warming-agenda-really-about-destroying-capitalism

Strong from: www.azquotes.com/author/14256-Maurice_Strong



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