

# **Whakatane District**

## ***Greypower Association Inc.***

### ***Welcome to our November, 2015 News***

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Secretary:	Susan Anderson		021 116 9115	<a href="mailto:susananderson46@gmail.com">susananderson46@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer:	Brian Newton	07 307 7410	022 095 2862	<a href="mailto:whakatanegreypower@gmail.com">whakatanegreypower@gmail.com</a>

#### **Next General Meeting:**

Our next General meeting will be held at 1.15 pm on Friday, November 20 at the Knox Presbyterian Hall in Domain Road, the earlier start is because our guest speaker for the day, Cara Addison, Community Liaison Officer for the Eastern Bay of Plenty from Alzheimer's New Zealand, needs to be in Edgecumbe by 3.00 pm, so will commence speaking at 1.30. We recently saw Cara give a presentation to Senior Net, and can honestly say she is an excellent speaker, so please do come along and enjoy a superb highly informative and entertaining presentation.

Members who wish to attend our Christmas Lunch and who have as yet not advised or paid us, can they please do so no later than November 2; as stated in our previous news, we need to confirm to the Ohope Club a minimum of fifty (50) people for this venue, as such clarification and payment of those attending is essential. We have again listed the menu for this event within this news issue.

### ***Fun facts about getting older***

1. The pharmacist has become your best friend.
2. You look for your glasses for half an hour and then realise they were on your head the whole time.
3. People call you at 9.00 pm and ask if they have woken you.
4. Your secrets are safe with your friends – because they can't remember them either.
5. Kidnappers are not interested in you and you're the first to be released in a hostage situation.
6. Those clothes you were saving in case they came back into fashion .... are back in fashion.
7. You no longer feel the need to suck in your stomach – no matter who walks into the room.
8. There's nothing left to learn the "hard way".
9. You can't remember the last time you lay on the floor to watch TV.
10. When you bend down to tie your shoe laces, you wonder what else you can do while you're down there.
11. As you get older, there are fewer things you feel it's worth lining up for.

## Scam Warning - Be Aware

Yesterday North Canterbury Grey Power Association had a guest speaker from the Sceptics society; he spoke mainly on scams, quackery, and so called natural medicines that can do this and that.

However he put heavy emphasis on the scams that are around mainly targeting the elderly and vulnerable.

Believe it or not I had a call from an 83-year-old member who was at the meeting, about an hour after I got home she told me she had been scammed the night before.

### It went like this:

Tuesday 6.30 p.m her phone goes, **a voice** says I am from your power company, just ringing about your account.

**Janice\*** says, I am happy with my present supplier.

**Voice** says, no, I am ringing to advise you your direct credit has not been received,

**Janice\*** says, I can't understand, the voice says I will put you on to my manager.

**Manager**, yes unfortunately we need to cut your power if we don't receive the outstanding amount within 24 hrs.

**Janice\*** says can I send you a cheque.

**Manager** sorry, it will take too long to receive a cheque it will need to be paid by credit card. It is not very much, only \$17 and by the way, once you pay it, we will credit your next account \$50.

As you probably guessed Janice gave out her credit card details.

Yesterday afternoon after the meeting, when she got home her son called she advised him what had happened, he said Mum we are going straight to the bank, fortunately while her bank account had been tampered with, no money had been withdrawn, however she had to change all her details and get issued with new credit cards at her cost.

So the message is make our members aware of this scam. I called on our local police station this morning, who advised me, that the following web-site is available to view and enter any scam that one comes across.

[www.theorb.org.nz](http://www.theorb.org.nz)

Please pass this on to your members as soon as possible. Also if you could send this to your local papers, as by circulating this far and wide might help bring a stop to it.

**\*Note:**

**Janice** is not her real name, this has been changed for privacy and Identity reasons.

# ***Odds and Ends***

## ***Salespeople***

The Niagara Therapy Group is again targeting the elderly. Complaints have been received in other areas concerning the bullying tactics used to pressure people into buying hideously expensive “therapeutic medical devices”.

If you feel pressured or uncomfortable with any salesperson, no matter what they are selling, ask them to leave. If they do not do so immediately dial 111 and ask for the police who have assured us that they take these matters seriously.

## ***Flag referendum:***

Don't forget, the first referendum to choose an alternative flag runs from the 20<sup>th</sup> November until the 12<sup>th</sup> December. Then in March we get to vote to either keep our current flag or have the new one instead.

Please use your vote; we can't complain about the outcome if we don't vote. By the way, I personally want to keep the flag we have now.

## ***Car pooling:***

Remember, if you can offer transport to meetings, or need transport, Johan Groemveld is the person to contact for carpooling.

Phone: 07 308 7121 or email: [igroen@xnet.co.nz](mailto:igroen@xnet.co.nz)

## ***St John membership:***

It's a really good idea to belong to St John's, otherwise the cost of getting the ambulance may be very expensive. For example, if an ambulance is called to assess you and perhaps take you to the nearest Medical Centre or Hospital, then a fee of \$88-00+ is charged for non-members. Other charges can vary from \$200 to \$800, very expensive trips indeed.

If you are a member however, there is no call out fee, it's free.

The annual subscriptions are as follows:

\$45.00 for a single member

\$60.00 for 2 people living in the same house

\$75.00 for 3 or more people in the same house.

Subscriptions can be paid at any Post Office or online.

For people with certain conditions, a Lifelink alarm may be partly subsidised by the government.

For further information, you can call 0800 50 23 23 for medical alarms, or 0800 785 646.

## ***Notes from Nags:***

**NAGS** are Grey Power **National Advisory Groups**. These groups liaise with Government departments and act as advocates for seniors.

The following are some of the **NAGS** with some of the matters that they are working on at the current time.

## ***Social Services:***

Grey Power were at the launch of The Ministry of Social Development's new website where, Seniors can access a wide range of information, such as superannuation entitlements, finances, health, Super Gold discounts, getting out and about, cooking, and planning where to live, etc. The website address is:

<http://superseniors.msd.govt.nz>. By the way; do you know that it's not WINZ any more, it's now the Ministry of Social Development, MSD.

## ***Health:***

At the moment reimbursement for the cost of travel to hospitals from outlying areas is worked out from satellite photographs showing the shortest route whether it is suitable to travel on or not. This Grey Power **NAG** is trying to get someone from the

ministry to work with emergency services to check on these routes and decide whether they are the preferred and/or acceptable routes for emergency services vehicles.

### **ACC:**

Grey Power is concerned that ageism is used by ACC to close claims, so that those aged 65+ are limited to 2 years of receiving ACC payments even if they were working full time at the time of the injury. This disadvantages Seniors who are still in the workforce.

### **Aged Care:**

Home based care is the Governments preference for provision of age care, but the District Health Boards are still reducing hours allocated to those already receiving care.

This **NAG** would like all Associations to collect evidence of cuts being made to the hours of care allocated without reassessments being done prior to the reduction of hours.

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### **Hearing Aid Subsidy**

All New Zealand Residents can access a hearing aid subsidy of up to \$1,022.22 from the Ministry of Health towards a pair of hearing aids every six years.

For further information; contact a specialist hearing aid provider, there are various companies providing this service in the Bay area, all of who will be able to offer assistance with choosing the right products.

### **Agewise Driver Refresher Course**

Will you or someone you know benefit from a refresher driving course aimed for the 60+?

You can enrol now and it's *free!* For more information – collect a form from the Whakatane District Council's Customer Services, or call Loreen Hartley, the organiser at Whakatane District Council on:

**07 306 0500**

Available in Whakatane, Kawerau and Opotiki.

### **Christmas Lunch:**

We have listed on the following page a repeat of the details and menus for our Christmas Lunch, which has been planned to be held at the Ohope Club. The date for this the lunch has been booked for December 4, which really isn't that far away now.

As we stated in our September News, we need to confirm numbers to the Ohope Club the first week in November, and again as stated we require a minimum of fifty people for the event, if we are unable to obtain the required numbers, then we will have no alternative but to cancel the event.

To enable us to proceed with the lunch as planned, it is essential that all those members and guests who wish to attend, to book and pay no later than Monday November 2, this will ensure the lunch can go ahead as planned.

We also stated in the September news that friends and family would be welcome, although we obviously cannot subsidise the cost to any non-financial members.

Our reason for stressing this issue is that to date, we have received only sixteen confirmed bookings, which includes those on the management committee and three non-members. We really do need to establish whether we will have the required numbers for the lunch; which we believe will be an extremely good meal and in superb surroundings.

The club have also indicated that there may well be activities going on at the club in the lower rooms in which Grey Power Members would be able to participate prior to the actual meal, should they so wish.

So, those of you who are intending to come along, and have as yet not advised us accordingly, please contact Susan Anderson by the date as advised above to confirm your booking; payments can be made in accordance with the options as listed on the next page.

## ***Christmas Luncheon***

A reservation has been made for our annual Christmas Lunch at the Ohope Club on Friday, December 4, 2015. The cost per head will be \$35.00 per person; however, Whakatane District Grey Power will subsidise this by \$5.00, thus making the price to members \$30.00 per person.

We are required to have a minimum number of fifty people for this venue, as such we are throwing open the invitation to friends and family, although any non-member will of course not receive any subsidy.

The function will be from nominally around 11.30 (actual Dinner Setting at midday) to whenever the last guest leaves, so there will not be any rush to get us out! The meal will be a buffet style Full Christmas Lunch with a selection of breads, main course and dessert.

Should any members require assistance it getting to the venue, please do contact Johan, details as previously listed, in respect of the car-pooling he is offering to set up; alternatively, the Bay Hopper runs between Whakatane and Ohope with times which will suit the luncheon.

For further information and to make reservations, please contact Susan Anderson; to enable us to meet the minimum requirements of the Ohope Club, we ask that payment be made at the time of reservation, payment may be made by Internet Banking and by typing "Lunch" in the Code Field, by mailing to:

Whakatane District Grey Power Association Inc.  
P O Box 830  
Whakatane  
3158

If using either of the latter option, please ensure you provide your name, and state that the money is in respect of the Christmas Lunch.

## ***Ohope Club Christmas Lunch***

### **\$35.00 Per Head Menu**

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#### **Selection of Breads & Butter**

#### **Selection of Hot Dish's**

Honey Glazed Ham on the Bone  
Roast Pork and Gravy  
Battered Fresh Dory  
Roast Pumpkin, Kumara & Potato  
Beef Curry & Rice  
Broccoli, Cauliflower & Carrot in a Mornay Sauce  
Selection of Condiments

#### **Selection of Salads**

Potato & Gherkin Salad  
Tossed Salad  
Coleslaw Beetroot  
Kumara & Bacon Salad  
Savoury Egg

#### **Selection of Desserts**

Selection of Various Slices & Cakes  
Fresh Fruit Salad  
Pavlova  
Whipped Cream

#### **Tea and Coffee**

Wines, beers and spirits, for purchase separately, will be available and can be brought to the tables, from the Ohope club's fully licensed bar at club prices.

The function room where the luncheon will be served is at first floor level overlooking the stunning Ohope Beach. An elevator is available, and the club has its own wheelchair, which will be made available should anyone require this facility.

## *And Finally - A Quiz For Us All.....*

Count all the ones that you remember; **NOT** the ones you were told about.  
Ratings at the bottom.

1. Innes Tartan soft drinks
2. Carbon Paper
3. Sweet cigarettes
4. Soft drinks machines that dispensed glass bottles
5. Espresso and milk bars with juke boxes
6. Home milk delivery in glass bottles with cardboard tops
7. Party lines on the telephone
8. Newsreels before the movie
9. Frys Chocolate Cream
10. Cinema Usherettes selling ice creams during the interval
11. TV test patterns that came on at night after the last show and were there until TV shows started again the next day. Also known as Test Cards
12. Peashooters
13. Ludo
14. 45 RPM records
15. Green Shield Stamps
16. Auto Changer Record Players
17. Extended Play records
17. Metal ice trays with lever
18. Mimeograph paper
19. Blue flashbulbs
20. Wolseleys
21. Roller skate keys
22. Cork popguns
23. Scrubbing Boards
24. Main & "B" Feature Movie Programmes
25. Wash tub wringers

### *Now Be Honest:*

## *Really Honest!!*

If you remembered 0-5 = You're still young

If you remembered 6-10 = You are getting older

If you remembered 11-18 = Don't tell your age,

If you remembered 19-25 = You don't care about your age anymore

We might be older than we'd like to be, but those memories are some of the best parts of our lives.

*Don't forget to pass this along!!*

*Especially to all your really **OLD** friends*

**WHAKATANE DISTRICT GREY POWER ASSOCIATION INCORPORATED**  
**MEMBERSHIP SUBSCRIPTION FORM**

Mr / Mrs / Ms \* (Please Circle One)

Given Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Family Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ 'Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership No: (Renewal) \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile: \_\_\_\_\_

**Annual Membership \$15.00 Single**  
**\$25.00 Double**

**Renewal / New \*\* (Please Circle One)**  
**Valid to March 31, 2016**

*Any donation to help with the cost of paper, postage and stationery would be greatly appreciated.*

Subscription ..... Birth date - (if under 50) \_\_\_\_\_

Donation ..... **To: Whakatane Grey Power**

**Total Remitted \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**P.O. Box 830**  
**Whakatane 3158**

If you post to our P.O. Box or pay at The Community Handcrafts Shop in King Street, it will assist us immensely if you could please include a stamped addressed envelope for mailing your Membership Card (s) and if paying by cash, your receipt.

**INTERNET BANKING**

Payment can be made direct to our kiwi bank account via internet banking, our preferred method of payment; details of our account together with the required details are as listed below:

**Account Name:** Whakatane Grey Power  
**Account Number:** 38 9003 0986339 02

**Details To Appear On Our Statement:**

<b>Particulars</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Reference</b>
Initials & Given Name	Subs – Don	Membership Number ***

\*\*\* (New Members please leave the reference field blank;  
your membership number will be emailed to you once payment is received).

\*\*\*\* Do you wish to receive material from Grey Power Federation? YES / NO \*\*\*\* (Please Circle One)



*The Management Committee  
would like to wish all our  
members a very Merry  
Christmas and Happy 2016,  
we look forward to seeing you  
at our November meeting  
together with those in the  
coming year — details for the  
first of which will be advised  
in our first news issue of  
2016.*