

# ROTORUA GREY POWER

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SUMMER ISSUE 2022



*Queen  
Elizabeth II*  
—1926-2022—

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Ian Cairns / John Somerville / Wieland Hartwig /  
Miriam Ruberl

If there are issues you would like Grey Power Rotorua to take up on your behalf, let your Committee know by phone or contact us via our website [www.greypowerrotorua.org.nz](http://www.greypowerrotorua.org.nz) or email [greypower.rotorua@gmail.com](mailto:greypower.rotorua@gmail.com)

**REMEMBER Grey Power Rotorua when you change your contact details**

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## What has the Ed been thinking about.....?

I must say that I really enjoyed chairing the “Meet the Candidates” sessions in September. Having the candidates there, telling us what they would like to see and do helped me and many others, I guess, make the right decision with our vote. What an incredible turnout to both sessions. A big thank you to both our audience and attending candidates for a very successful Grey Power Rotorua event.

We at Grey Power Rotorua are looking forward to working closely with the new Rotorua Lakes Council, Mayor and team. We are here to help an Age-Friendly city goal be achieved by our council.

As this is the last magazine for 2022, I would like to thank our advertisers, publisher, and the regular contributors of articles. We at GPR look forward to your continued support in making this magazine a well read and interesting publication.

Many thanks to our members and other readers of the magazine. I do hope that you have enjoyed reading and possibly learning something new and interesting in each issue. I’m looking for more member contributions in 2023 so please don’t hold back.

Seasons Greetings.

*Gerald Hanson* | ANZIM. BGE  
Editor of the GPR quarterly magazine  
[geraldhanson.gpr@gmail.com](mailto:geraldhanson.gpr@gmail.com)

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## A word or two from our President



The major event for us over the last month or two was our electoral candidates forums on 12 September. Because of the large numbers of candidates, we were forced to confine these forums to candidates for Rotorua Mayor and Rotorua Lakes Council. I apologise to our regional council candidates. Even with this limitation, we potentially had 33 candidates to hear from. I believe that we can count the forums as a success. Nearly all the candidates attended. The turnout from Grey Power members and the public was astounding. In the afternoon session, the venue was at capacity with an audience of around 200, with many required to stand, both inside and outside. The evening venue was almost a full house with all the audience seated. Our apologies to the many others that were unable to get in. The candidates respected each other and adhered to the tight time limit we had to impose. The audience listened quietly and respectfully. My thanks to all involved in the organisation of the event, and particularly to Gerald Hanson for his able chairmanship and to John Somerville for his efficient timekeeping.

By the time you receive this newsletter, we will know the election results. Whatever the outcome, there will be significant changes at Rotorua Lakes Council.

At the candidates forum, each candidate was asked to indicate what initiatives they would take to make Rotorua an age-friendly city. There was a variety of responses. The idea of making Rotorua an age-friendly city is something we plan to pursue. It is not a new idea, and many other cities in New Zealand and around the world have adopted it. As reported in our last newsletter, we already have a proposal before Council for a system to make parking in the CBD easier and cheaper for the elderly. Once the new Mayor and Council are in place, we will follow this up, and explore other things that Council can do to work towards making Rotorua a more age-friendly city. One obvious issue is to ensure that our pavements and street crossings are easy and safe for people with mobility scooters and powered wheelchairs.

However, this may not be all down to Council. We could ask businesses and tourist enterprises what more they can do to make Rotorua inviting for the older generation to live in or visit. As just one example, maybe restaurants and cafes could consider helping people with eyesight or hearing problems by providing

large-print menus and quiet areas with good lighting away from loud background music. Maybe we could encourage all house building companies to offer age-friendly design options.

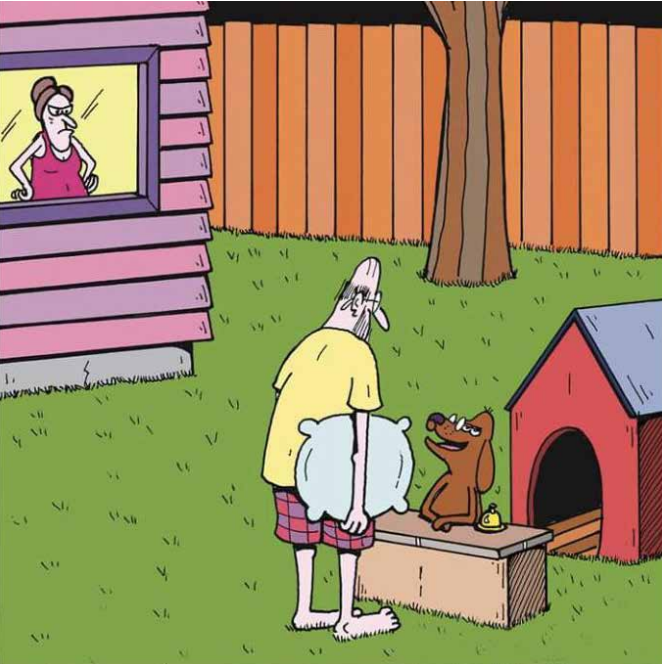
Looking at overseas experience, an important issue for an age-friendly city is to have good facilities for social interaction and activities for the older generation. In Rotorua, we are fortunate to have the magnificent Parksyde activities centre as a venue for activities for the older generation. I understand that is unique in the country.

At our forum on 3 October, we had a very interesting and informative talk from Annette Hall of Dementia Lakes. This was well attended, and the lively questioning that followed showed that people were very interested in this important subject.

Since becoming President, I have become concerned that we have many members that we cannot communicate with by email. For example, they miss out on notifications about our forums. Email has become the only practicable form of communication. It is not economic or practicable for us to do repeated mail-outs or to use regular newspaper advertising. Can I urge anyone who has access to email but does not have an email address registered with us to notify us of an email address.

You can email us to [greypower.rotorua@gmail.com](mailto:greypower.rotorua@gmail.com).

*Keith Garratt* | President of Grey Power Rotorua Inc.



“Welcome back, sir. Are you planning on being our guest for one night only, or will this be your usual extended stay?”



## Eldernet services and 'Where from here' publication

Eldernet is a service that provides a wide variety of resources for older people and their support networks. The service is available via their website or by hard copy request. They also profile a range of products and services for the older person, including: Community Groups; Dental and Denture services; Hearing; Vision; Travel, Tours and Recreation; and Equipment and Products.

The Eldernet website includes a nationwide database directory and comprehensive information about community groups and organisations, home help services, rest homes, aged care facilities, retirement villages, private hospitals, dementia care, public hospitals and other third age services for seniors. Eldernet have asked us to remind associations that the 'Where from here publication' (which is updated every 12 months) is free. Hard copy books can also be ordered on-line on [www.wherefromhere.co.nz](http://www.wherefromhere.co.nz) or by phoning 0800 162 706.

**Ross Fallen** | Acting National Secretary

Booklets will be available from the Grey Power Rotorua office from the end of November.

## REMEMBERING THE 70's Car-less days introduced 30 July 1979

Car-less days for motor vehicles were introduced to combat the second 'oil shock' (petrol shortage) of the 1970s. They did little to reduce consumption and were scrapped in May 1980.

Under the legislation, all private owners of petrol-driven motor vehicles were required to select a day of the week on which they would not use their car. A coloured sticker on the windscreen indicated the chosen day. Those caught on the roads on their designated day off could be fined.

Other measures introduced to reduce petrol consumption included cutting the open-road speed limit from 100 km/hr to 80 km/hr and restricting the hours during which service stations could sell petrol.

Several factors contributed to the scheme's ultimate failure. One centred on the issue of exemption – it was possible to apply for an 'X sticker' exemption if the vehicle was needed for urgent business. A black market in exemption stickers emerged, as did forgeries, making enforcement difficult. Households able to afford to run two cars simply chose different car-less days for each vehicle.

**URGENT**  
This matter requires  
**IMMEDIATE  
ATTENTION**

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**EITHER PULSE OR ELECTRICITY.**  
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REFERENCE.**

EXPLANATION: Our Rotorua office is continually inundated with deposits to the Grey Power Rotorua Inc bank account when these payments should go to Pulse Energy (Grey Power Electricity). Their monthly statement clearly shows the Pulse account number that you should be using. As Grey Power Electricity is a service via Grey Power Federation NZ and not part of Grey Power Rotorua Inc we cannot accept this bill payment to process. If you have done this in the past, please complete the above solutions to any future issues. In the meantime to receive a refund from us due to incorrect account information you will need Membership Number, Payee Name, Bank Account Number for Refund, Bank Account Number that you paid to, Date that you Paid and the Amount Paid. Without this information our office cannot help you sort out your error.

**PLEASE NOTE as from 1st January 2023 there will be a \$10.00 service charge to do this for you.**

## Free Programmes

Me ako ināiane! Learn Now!



**Do you have a great digital device, but are unsure how to use all its functions?**

**We run free community classes across Aotearoa, offering all sorts of help with digital devices, the internet, and computing.**

Our small group classes cover,

- Understanding your device (computer, laptop or smartphone)
- Emailing, and texting
- Social media, including sharing your videos and photos
- Using the internet safely
- Online banking and shopping
- Finding, downloading and using apps
- Basic computing

Bring your own device and learn on it - or we have laptops we can supply for learning.

We can also come out to a retirement village or other group setting to run sessions.

**Feel free to get in touch with us!**

**Digital device skills  
for Seniors**

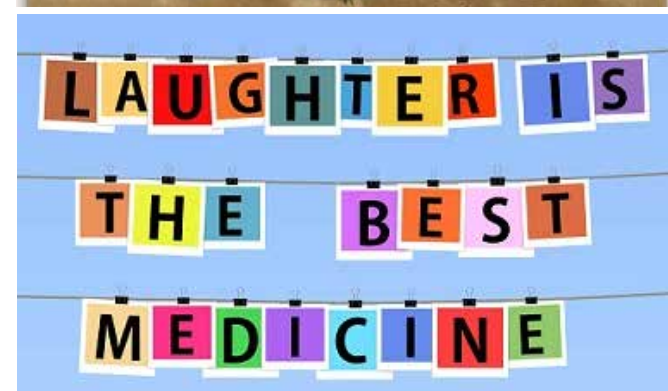
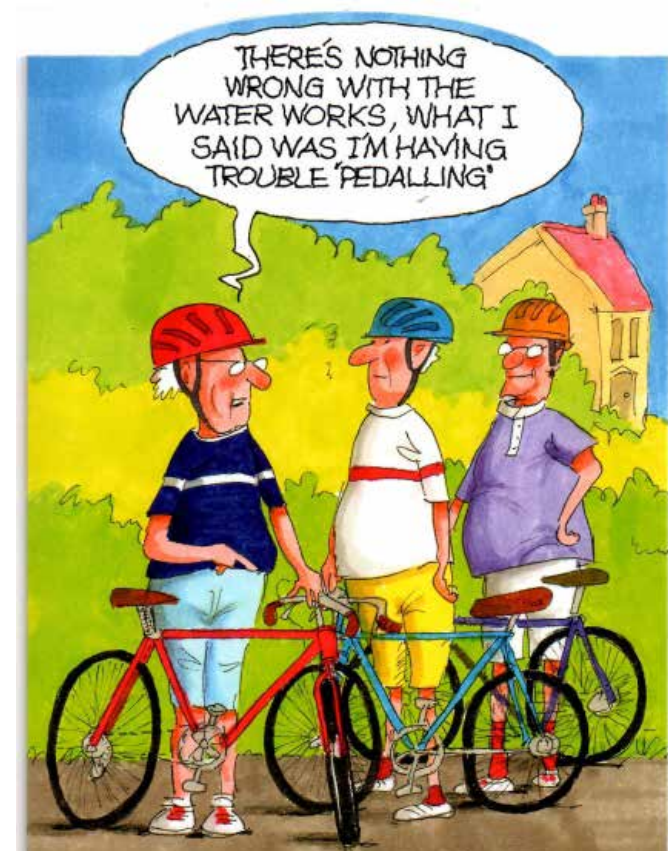


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# Jackson's Rēwena Bread

Whanganui, New Zealand

This bakery sells traditional Māori sourdough.



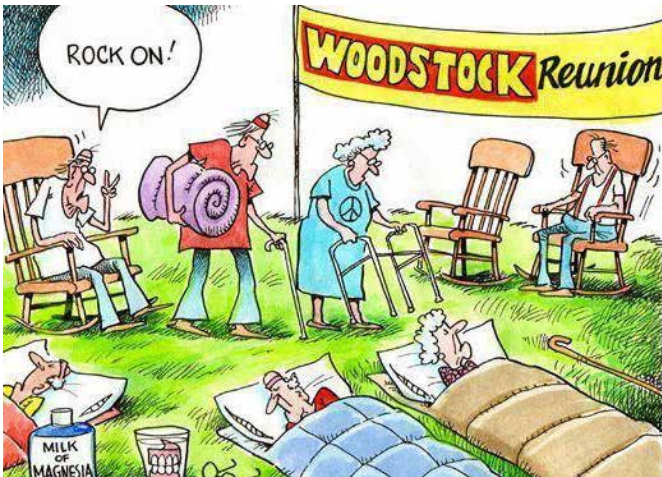
FOR GENERATIONS, GEORGE JACKSON’S FAMILY has baked with the help of the same “bug.” Said bug is actually a sourdough starter. The typical bug is a combination of flour, mashed potatoes, and the water they were boiled in. When fermented and mixed with more flour and water, the result is rēwena, traditional Māori sourdough.

Using his great-grandmother’s bug, Jackson started a bakery to make both sweet and sour parāoa, or bread. He still owns the cast-iron camp stove that his grandmother used, though he bakes the bread he sells to customers in standard rectangular tins.

Neither potatoes nor wheat arrived in New Zealand until the 18th century, but both were quickly adopted and adapted into staples by the Māori. Rēwena’s status as a cultural and culinary symbol has grown in recent years, along with other traditional foods that were long overlooked by the mainstream.

At his small shop, Jackson also serves traditional frybread and hāngi, trays of meat and vegetables cooked with steam. But it’s the rēwena that’s gotten the most attention. In June 2022, UNESCO’s Breads of the Creative Cities project chose Jackson’s rēwena bread to represent the city of Whanganui.

Article from Atlas Obscura Online 22 July 2022



# Gumboot Capital of the World

Taihape, New Zealand

Taihape's claim to fame is a fictional Kiwi farmer wearing gumboots.



SITTING IN THE MIDDLE OF Taihape, a small town of 1790 (June 2021) in New Zealand, rests a gigantic iron boot. This multicolored, climbable gumboot may seem randomly placed at first, but it is actually there as a result of a fictional character that is Taihape’s singular claim to fame.

John Clarke, a satirist from New Zealand, often played a fictional character named “Fred Dagg” in his TV sketches. Dagg represented a stereotypical farmer from New Zealand, or, in Clarke’s words, a “Kiwi bloke.” As was the case with many of the farmers in the region, Dagg wore gumboots on his feet. Clarke had to choose a hometown for Dagg, and he decided on Taihape. The small town took its 15 minutes of fame to its full advantage. Taihape was soon dubbed the “Gumboot Capital of the World,” and, beginning ten years after Dagg’s first appearance, the town began to celebrate “Gumboot Day” on the Tuesday following Easter every year. Beginning in 1985 and growing in popularity ever since, Gumboot Day revolves around the Gumboot Toss, where hundreds of contestants chuck men’s size eight gumboots as far as they can in hopes of setting the Gumboot Toss world record.

Other competitions on Gumboot Day include the best-dressed gumboot and the “shoot the loop” competition. Taihape’s bizarre gumboot attraction has completely shaped the city. The local quilt shop is now named “The Quilted Gumboot,” the tearooms are located in “Gumboot Manor,” and a giant iron gumboot rests in the centre of town.

Article from Atlas Obscura Online, with population update and a spelling correction.  
RIP John Clarke alias Fred Dagg. 1948-2017.

# Flexible lawyers that fit around your lifestyle

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editorial supplied by The Law Shop

# Labour government cancels Springbok rugby tour

10 April 1973

Prime Minister Norman Kirk informed the New Zealand Rugby Football Union (NZRFU) that the government saw ‘no alternative’ to a ‘postponement’ of the planned tour by the South African Springboks. This decision followed advice from the Police that if the tour went ahead it would ‘engender the greatest eruption of violence this country has ever known’.

During the 1972 election campaign, Kirk (then leader of the Opposition) had promised not to interfere with the tour. After Labour won office, he attempted unsuccessfully to persuade the NZRFU to withdraw its invitation to the Springboks. At the same time he negotiated with anti-tour activists and groups. While he was aware of the likely fallout from the decision to postpone – there was strong public support for the tour – Kirk argued that he would be ‘failing in his duty’ if he didn’t ‘accept the criticism and do what [he] believed to be right ... the Government was elected to govern’.

Those who believed that ‘sport and politics don’t mix’ never forgave Kirk. The National Party exploited the issue during the 1975 election campaign, and it undoubtedly contributed to Labour’s crushing defeat.

National Party leader Robert Muldoon stressed that his government would welcome a Springbok team to New Zealand, ‘even if there were threats of violence and civil strife’. In 1981, Muldoon made good this pledge and the Springboks finally toured – at a high cost to New Zealand society.

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# Landfills - A Major Source of Methane Emissions



Open landfills are not a pretty sight. And what's more, they cause - among other ecological damage - enormous greenhouse gas emissions. They emit large amounts of methane, which is produced by biological processes during decay or fermentation in the absence of oxygen. This gas contributes to about one third of global warming.

Methane (CH4) is the main component of natural gas and is also found in permafrost and on the ocean floor. The combustible gas belongs to the group of short-lived climate-impacting pollutants and is a potent greenhouse gas: Methane does not remain in the atmosphere as long as CO2 - it lasts about 12 years, while CO2 lasts about 120 years - but it has a significantly higher global warming potential (GWP) than CO2. Within the first 100 years after release, 1 kg of CH4 contributes 28 times as much to the greenhouse effect as 1 kg of CO2. Within the first 20 years, the effect is even about 85 times greater. The gas also contributes to the formation of ozone.

Worldwide, about 380 million tonnes of methane are released each year through human activities, and the trend is rising. Almost half of this comes from agriculture, while the oil and gas industry and coal mining are also significant sources. And waste: between 7 and 10 per cent of man-made methane emissions are due to waste. According to the World Bank, the amount of waste in landfills will increase by 70 percent worldwide by 2050 due to population growth.

The findings of an international research team led by Bram Maasakkers, from the Netherlands Institute for Space Research (SRON), searched for global methane hotspots using data from the Dutch spectrometer TROPOMI, which is located on ESA's Sentinel 5P satellite. This data from 2018 and 2019 allowed

the identification of regions where particularly large methane clouds are emitted, but not the exact localisation of the sources.

The team then matched the results with data on wind strengths and directions to further narrow down the origin of the methane sources. A first overview showed the team that large amounts of methane were emitted in urban regions. Four metropolises stood out in particular: Buenos Aires in Argentina, Mumbai and Delhi in India, and Lahore in Pakistan.

Zooming in on the satellite images, it turned out that up to almost half of the methane from these cities came from landfills. The landfill near Buneos Aires alone emits 28 tonnes of methane every hour - equivalent to the emissions of 1.5 million cars in terms of climate impact (using the US EPA's estimate of 4.6 tonnes of CO2 emissions per car per year). In Mumbai it is 10 tonnes per hour, in Lahore 6 and in Delhi 3.

Maasakkers points out that this methane emission could be reduced with little effort - for example by separating waste. Organic waste should be composted or used to produce biogas. In addition, the methane produced could be captured or at least flared. Moreover, since methane does not remain in the atmosphere for long, the result of measures taken now would soon be seen in the form of less global warming. Of course, methane containment alone is not enough, but one further step to halt global warming.

The Rotorua Lakes Council has adopted the Waste Management and Minimisation Plan 2022 - 2028 earlier this year which incorporates the way organic waste is collected and treated after collection. The community will be educated as the plan is put into action. The Council is doing their part; let's do our part.

Sources: WatsOn.ch, Rotorua Lakes Council, SpaceRef.com



Hon. Todd McClay MP for Rotorua



I value your views and the views of our community. Please take a moment to complete this survey and send it back to me freepost at Parliament:

Authorised by T.McClay, Parliament Buildings, Wellington

1. Are you concerned about Labour's Three Waters plan to centralise ownership of our water assets to Hamilton?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

2. Do you support Labour's co-governance agenda?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

3. Is the rising cost of living affecting you or your friends?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

4. Do you feel safe in your neighbourhood?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

5. Would you like to see more Police in your community?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

6. Do you think homelessness is affecting Rotorua?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ Not sure

7. What issues are important to you?

- ☐ Reducing New Zealand's debt
- ☐ Fixing the Cost-of-Living-crisis
- ☐ Welfare that supports people into work
- ☐ Safer communities for families
- ☐ Improving core Health services
- ☐ Improving Education standards
- ☐ Growing our economy to create jobs & lift incomes
- ☐ Other (please specify)

8. What are the most important things that Todd should work on as your elected MP?

Please provide contact details if you would like to receive updates from Todd McClay MP or National.

Name:

Email:



Hon Todd McClay  
Freepost Parliament  
Private Bag 18888  
Wellington 6160



President  
Jan Pentecoste’s  
address to Zone 3  
Members  
– 2 Sept 2022



Recent Federation Board meetings have been held concerning a way forward for the Board in 2022/23 –

- Improve media exposure for Grey Power.
- There have already been two media releases this week – on TV1 news 30 August and myself on Radio NZ morning programme 31 August about superannuation adequacy in the current climate and reference to the Retirement Commission’s press release – will super be enough to support a nation of people paying off mortgages and rent?

Important point – Radio New Zealand have asked that we keep them informed of the issues we are looking at and I will arrange for all our press releases to go to them.

For the first time in my 12 years with the Federation Board, we have set up a sub-committee to provide the Federation with the formal strategic plan based on the 2012 modernisation plan – the plans aim, in brief is to:

- Clearly definite and implement the roles and responsibilities of the Associations, Zones and the Federation Board
- Achieve a membership of 100,000 within five years – recruiting new members using advertising and IT.
- Currently the NAGS include Health, Energy, Climate and Finance.
- Use appropriate technology, develop communications protocols to ensure that complaints of poor communication are eliminated, to develop specific protocols for politicians and government bodies and to develop a marketing/communications strategy - (draft plan has been written) with particular emphasis on marketing to increase membership.
- Use effective advocacy and lobbying – advance, support and protect the welfare and wellbeing of all persons in New Zealand
- Other items commented on: The Retirement Commission, Changes to Superannuation.
- There is a new sub-committee with two university trained researchers.
- Pensioner Housing by Councils – Government support needed for these – re-introducing income-related rent policy.
- Do research which aims to utilise the expertise of

members and eternal organisations to provide a research resource for all activities of Grey Power. (This Board sub committee is preparing a research plan to achieve these goals) Develop a sustainable financial model that ensures the viability of the Federation (maximise revenue from all sources).

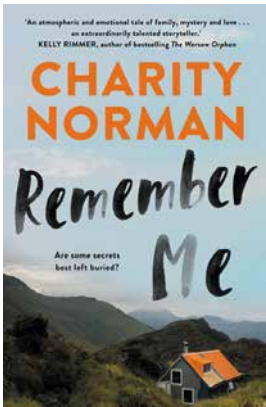
- Zone boundaries will be reviewed
- Update the constitution in line with the changes proposed by the new Incorporated Society Act

Zone 3 Zone Director – Gerald Hanson thanked Louise for her presentation and information – all those present showed their appreciation.

Remember Me

by Charity Norman - Pbk \$32.99

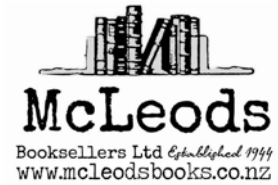
When the flu took me out in July, I found myself deeply immersed in the pages of Charity Norman's latest novel, set in the beautiful Hawkes Bay at the foot of the Ruahine Ranges.



If you haven't read a book by Charity yet, then you are in for a real treat. Her writing has such a depth and heart to it that you often end up empathising with who would traditionally be the 'bad guys' in her stories, because her characters are raw, real, authentic and never black and white.

Emily, our main character, unexpectedly finds herself leaving her life in the UK to return to NZ to temporarily care for her father who has Alzheimers. They have never been close, she has craved his love and attention her whole life and now must confront a quickly deteriorating Felix in a rural town with many secrets. 25 years ago a young woman, Leah, disappeared and was never found again. She was the sister of her childhood best friend on the neighbouring farm. As Emily's fragile bond with Felix takes a surprising turn, he begins to reveal snippets about a past with Leah that make Emily very worried about what really happened all those years ago. Over the course of this summer, she is drawn ever deeper into the web of the past and the heartbreaking truth.

A phenomenal read.  
- Jemma Morrison.



Vegetable Soup

**Ingredients:**

1 cauliflower	1 onion diced
2 Tbsp butter	1 leek sliced
3 carrots diced	2 litres hot water
3 handfuls macaroni	2 beef stock cubes
1 tsp salt	1 tsp curry powder

**Method:**  
Wash cut and separate the cauliflower.

Fry onion on medium heat in butter until soft.

Add other vegetables and stir-fry for 15 minutes. Add hot water and bring to the boil, then add the macaroni, beef stock, salt and curry powder. Bring back to the boil, stir regularly and simmer for 25 minutes.

If too thick, add water.



Our economy and the case for optimism

When we look around the world, there is no doubt that things are getting gloomier. You’ve probably seen the headlines about Europe’s energy crisis, worldwide supply chain issues, and inflation in the United States. While there will be challenges ahead for us too, there are many reasons for New Zealanders to be optimistic about the future – and, as a Labour MP based here in Rotorua, I wanted to share some of them with you.

Together, we’ve ensured that our economy has pulled through the pandemic better than the Global Financial Crisis. Debt is actually low and GDP is up. Our exports are in demand, and we’re seeing more people in work, with higher wages, which makes both Rotorua families and our economy stronger.

We’re starting the next phase of our economic recovery in a stronger position than many, despite facing the same global challenges. That’s because we’ve built unique advantages that give us reason for optimism. For example, securing New Zealand’s clean, green brand has boosted exports, tourism and business investment.

All of this means that we’re able to move forward with our Labour Government’s plan to build a high wage, low emissions economy that gives economic security in good times and bad.

ORANGE ALMOND CAKE (gluten free)



Preheat oven to 180c  
Prepare a 20cm cake tin

**Method:**  
Boil 2 navel oranges for 15 mins in water. Cool, chop roughly and whizz in a processor. Beat 3 eggs with 1 cup of sugar. Fold in 3 cups of almond meal and 1 tsp of baking powder. Fold in oranges to mixture and place in tin. Bake 1 hour at 180c until cooked

Tāmati Coffey

Labour List MP based in the Wairariki

I hold constituent meetings every week, and I’m here to help. Just email or call my team for assistance.

tamati.coffeymp@parliament.govt.nz  
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/tamaticoffey  
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Authorised by Tāmati Coffey MP, Parliament Buildings, Wellington.





# The Down Side of Dying

In today’s economic climate, influenced by the Covid Epidemic, there are many PEOPLE that cannot afford to LIVE and therefore cannot afford to DIE.

- The average cost of a Funeral is \$8000 - \$10,000
- The Government help for people who are unable to afford a funeral has just gone up to \$2280.70 (WINZ)
- If the person who dies is registered with ACC the Rate goes up every year. This year 2022, it has reached the sum of \$6569.50
- The family of a homicide victim can receive up to \$10,000.
- Assistance from Veterans' Affairs  
New Zealand Veterans' Affairs also provides a funeral grant, for the funeral costs of a veteran (eligibility criteria apply). More about this is on their website.

It can be easily seen where the problem lies. The most important and basic needs for any person who lives, is to have Esteem, Identity and Significance in their life. Equally important is a Loving and Dignified death and farewell. It is imperative that Cultural needs are also adhered to. Whether the option is Burial or Cremation there is a significant impact on the cost. If “six foot under” is the choice ... the plot cost is the responsibility of the local Council. Prices can range from \$700 to \$6610. To bury a body on private land, permission is needed and is hard to get. If successful, an Internment

## This Historic Boozy, Fruity Preserve Is a Celebration of Summer -Tutti Frutti.

This below recipe for tutti frutti is a modern-day take on the classic. Since a wide range of fruit is now available throughout the summer season, you can begin your tutti frutti jar at any time using a mixture of fruits instead of beginning with a single fruit and adding one at a time. **Starter ingredients:** 2 cups summer fruits (should be ripe but not bruised, mushy, or going bad) | 2 cups white sugar 1/2 cup good brandy

### Equipment:

Airtight glass jar (Mason jars work well)  
Wooden spoon

### Instructions:

- 1. Sterilize your jar.** This can be done in a dishwasher with a heat setting of at least 150°F, or by submerging the jar in boiling water for at least 10 minutes.
- 2. Prepare the fruit.** Wash and thoroughly dry the fruit. Chop and slice the fruit so the pieces are all relatively the same size. 13mm pieces work well but you can adjust to slightly larger or smaller based on how chunky you want your tutti frutti. Make sure any

Fee is charged. Fees range from \$319 to \$1860. Cremation is usually cheaper than Burial. Council owned Crematoriums generally charge between \$525 to \$900. Privately owned Crematoriums generally charge between \$700 to \$1100.

All this info may seem boring but I give it to you as an idea of what it means to die having little or no money to spare. It is all about dignity and some ideas to keep you informed. The Hon. Dr Verrall, Minister for Seniors, was at the Grey Power Forum on August the 19th. I had the opportunity to speak to her about this problem. She was gracious and said she had not thought about it. Maybe the “seed has been sown” in high places now!

In Rotorua we are privileged to have the COFFIN CLUB ROTORUA. 2 Old Quarry Road (off Fairy Springs Road) Contact: Jo-Anne Phone: 021 812 611. Information, help and advice can be given, on this subject, by empathetic volunteers at this caring, non profit Club. We have plans made for a simple, dignified farewell for a LOVED one, at a cost that is favourable with the present WINZ Grant. The information in this article has been obtained from various sources and may vary in some areas. This topic is very dear to my heart (and I tend to get verbal diarrhoea.) The Coffin Club Rotorua information is factual.

Cheers *Katie Williams*

stone fruits and cherries are pitted. Smaller berries should be left whole. Fruits with thick skins like peaches should be peeled.

**3. Make the mixture.** Pour the sugar and brandy into the sterilized jar and stir until combined. With a clean wooden spoon, fold in the fruit until it’s thoroughly covered with the sugar and brandy mixture. Cover with an airtight lid and store in a cool, dry place.

**4. Feed and care for the tutti frutti.** For the first two weeks, stir the mixture daily with a clean wooden spoon to disperse the sugar (which settles to the bottom) and after that, stir once a week. Add fruits as often as you like with an equal amount of sugar, making sure to stir well to mix well. No more brandy is needed. The tutti frutti can be enjoyed after the first week of stewing and then as often as you like.



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### I finally did it!

Bought a new pair of shoes with memory foam insoles.  
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## THE TEN INDIAN COMMANDMENTS

1. *Treat the earth and all that dwell thereon with respect.*
2. *Remain close to the Great Spirit.*
3. *Show great respect for your fellow beings.*
4. *Work together for the benefit of all Mankind.*
5. *Give assistance and kindness wherever needed.*
6. *Do what you know to be right.*
7. *Look after the well-being of mind and body.*
8. *Dedicate a share of your efforts to the greater good.*
9. *Be truthful and honest at all times.*
10. *Take full responsibility for your actions.*





## Retirement villages sector launches most significant reform in a decade

New Zealand’s retirement village sector has unveiled major changes to the way the industry operates in the most significant voluntary reforms to the industry since legislation was passed in 2003. Among the key changes is a requirement that operators pay interest on outstanding capital sums if a former resident has not been repaid within nine months of leaving a unit. In addition, all operators are being asked to stop charging weekly fees once a unit is terminated and vacated.

Members of the Retirement Villages Association (RVA), which represents operators comprising over 95 per cent of all units including not-for-profits, independents and listed village operators, have approved the changes, which will be trialed for 12 months as part of the organisation’s best practice guidelines. The reforms will be voted on at the RVA’s AGM next year, and if passed, will become part of the Association’s best practice requirements that members’ performance will be audited against.

The RVA has also committed to asking members to amend Occupation Rights Agreements (the contract between an operator and resident) to eliminate any perceived unfair clauses. These include clearly setting out responsibilities for repairs and maintenance of operator-owned chattels.

The sector’s best practice disclosure guidelines regarding residents’ transfer to care will also be recommended to be incorporated into the Retirement Villages’ Code of Practice. Furthermore, if a resident is moving from a village without the necessary level of care and needs funds to pay for residential care costs in another facility, village operators will take all reasonable steps to assist them to get a residential care loan from the Ministry of Social Development. If a loan is not possible, the operator will advance sufficient funds to cover the residential care costs with the advance secured against the net proceeds when they are paid out to the former resident.

“Retirement village living is one of the country’s most popular housing options with more than 100 New Zealanders moving into a retirement village every week and independent research shows overwhelming satisfaction rates,” says Graham Wilkinson, President of the Retirement Villages Association. “However, we have always accepted the need for improvements to the sector’s consumer protections regime where they are feasible and make sense.

“Developing and enforcing industry best practice is a more effective and fairer way to resolve these issues rather than legislative upheaval for the sake of it. Our industry’s Blueprint is clearly delivering positive outcomes for residents across New Zealand.” The sector accepts it is only fair that village operators share some of the pain where a relicensing of a unit takes over nine months, although research shows this was less than 10 per cent of all relicensing in 2021, he says. “That’s why we are trialling having members pay interest on any repayment over nine months. This has the benefit of not penalising efficient operators, which a mandatory deadline would do, while encouraging others to up their game.”

Stopping weekly fees when residents leave units has already been adopted by the six largest corporate operators

and larger independents and dozens more operators will now follow, says Mr Wilkinson. “The operators that do charge fees after a resident leaves are generally smaller or regional operators that simply cannot afford to cease this practice. Operators who are not responsible for the sale of the residential unit or independent owned villages with fewer than 50 residential units will also be exempt from the changes if the business risks failing.”

Other changes include clarification on the maintenance of chattels and upgrades of units to meet the Government’s Healthy Homes standards. “All of these changes are a continuation of the steps we have already taken to improve our policies and practices such as appointing former MP Hon Jo Goodhew to the RVA’s Executive Committee as an independent member to bring older peoples’ views to the table.

“We’re prepared to explore other changes, but want to see a more evidenced-based approach before making decisions. “For example, an industry ombudsman may be a good idea, but our initial trialling of a de-facto dispute resolution service suggests the need is extremely low, if at all. “Standardised contracts may be helpful, but what’s more important is clarity, communication and the ability for village operators to offer differentiation and innovation, not the lowest common denominator. There’s a very real risk that innovation will be stifled if contracts are essentially a template.”

The RVA is concerned about the negative unintended consequences of imposing changes to the sector’s commercial model, says Mr Wilkinson. “Villages are extremely long-term investments and operators need certainty before they can invest. Developing and fully licensing a village requires substantial capital and takes typically around 5-8 years, and many further years before any cashflow return is received. “If there is any possibility of allowing an adjustment of commercial terms in the future, operators will think twice about future investment.”

The sector is also confident residents’ needs were generally catered for when they moved into care, he says. “87 per cent of residents moved seamlessly from the village to care. Of the 13 per cent who moved to another facility in 2021, four per cent was because there wasn’t the right level of care available in their home village, two per cent needed to make a temporary move because a bed wasn’t immediately available, and seven per cent moved away for personal reasons. “This shows that very few residents in villages have trouble moving to care where it is in a village.”

“Clearly, it is in the interests of all operators to relicense units as quickly as possible. No operator wants a long drawn out process,” says Mr Wilkinson.

**Note:** the RVA’s Executive Director is willing to visit branches to outline the proposals and how they impact on residents and operators. This presentation is available entirely free of charge, but we will need an audience of at least 30 people to justify the costs of travel.  
**Contact John on 021 952945 to find out more.**

*Editorial supplied by Retirement Villages Association*



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## Early On-Demand Music Streaming Required Lots of Nickels

The machine had over 170 songs to choose from, each one assigned a different number. Customers would use its built-in telephone to connect with the local Multiphone station, filled with records and turntables. A DJ with a friendly voice would be waiting on the other end to answer the call and play the requested record. The stations, located in Seattle, Tacoma, Bremerton, and Spokane, were staffed entirely by women.

"You'd put your nickel [into the Multiphone] and you would hear a hostess from the central station ask through the speaker, 'what number, please?' And you'd say, I want number 202, 'Fools Such As I.' And then they'd grab the record from the rack, put it on the turntable associated with the location you were at, play it, and that was it," says Seattle historian John Bennett, author of the upcoming book *The Shyvers Multiphone Story*. Bennett, who runs Jukebox City, a vintage jukebox business in the Georgetown neighbourhood, is a Multiphone collector himself. A self-proclaimed antique hoarder, Bennett bought around 500 Multiphones in the 1980s, which he sold at an antique shop he owned at the time. Back then Multiphones only sold for \$100 a pop—today, they're much rarer,

and can go for over \$2,000.

The brainchild of Seattle inventor Ken Shyvers, Multiphones came onto the scene in 1939. At the time, jukeboxes were only spinning 20 or so records, at most. Shyvers wanted to expand the playlist, so he created the Shyvers Multiphone: a mini-jukebox, with an Art Deco aesthetic. It stood about 20 inches tall and, during its mid-century heyday, could be found anywhere from diner counters and bars to drive-in theatres.

*Information from Atlas Obscura online magazine Feb 2022.*



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