

# ROTORUA GREY POWER

Phone: 07 - 346 1739 | Email: [greypower.rotorua@gmail.com](mailto:greypower.rotorua@gmail.com) | [www.greypowerrotorua.org.nz](http://www.greypowerrotorua.org.nz)

WINTER ISSUE 2023

## The Grim Reaper has called

**Meet our new  
Rotorua President** PAGE 3

**Building Back Better** PAGE 7  
**2023 Calendar** PAGE 10

**Grey Power Advocacy Visit** PAGE 14

GREY POWER ROTORUA  
1333 Eruera Street, Rotorua  
PO Box 414, Rotorua  
Phone: 07 - 346 1739  
Email: greypower.rotorua@gmail.com

**Office Hours:**  
11am to 2pm Tuesday to Thursday inclusive.



**Committee Members 2022/23:**

**PRESIDENT:** Michelle Nahu  
**VICE-PRESIDENT:** Vacant  
**SECRETARY:** Christine Bavister  
**TREASURER:** David McPherson  
**OUTINGS COORDINATOR:** Wieland Hartwig  
**OFFICE ROSTER COORDINATOR:** Lyn Walker  
**MEMBERSHIP OFFICER:** Felix Hohener  
**WEB MASTER:** Vacant  
**COMMITTEE:** Wieland Hartwig / Ann Wattam / Felix Hohener / Gerald Hanson

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**

**DISCLAIMER:** Opinions expressed in this magazine are those of the contributors. All information is given in good faith and believed to be reliable. Nevertheless, Grey Power Rotorua Inc accepts no liability for its contents.

**This publication is designed and printed by Kiwi Publications Limited.**

For advertising phone Sam on 027 872 6629 or email: [samanta@kiwipublications.nz](mailto:samanta@kiwipublications.nz)

[www.kiwipublications.co.nz](http://www.kiwipublications.co.nz)

Please refer to our website for disclaimer.



**The Rotorua Citizens Advice Bureau provides free, confidential, impartial advice, information and advocacy on any issues or problems that anyone can access.**

- Common areas of enquiry for people over 55 are:
- Who can help to write a will.
  - What should be included in a will.
  - How to obtain probate.
  - Requests for information on Enduring Power of Attorney – how to complete the forms, who can witness the signing of the forms, what happens if family members disagree with the decisions made by the Attorney.
  - Information on eligibility for a Residential Care Subsidy.
  - Gifting and family trusts.

These are just a few of the topics that the Volunteers at the Bureau can provide information on, but sometimes it is necessary to refer you to a lawyer - so we can provide names of local lawyers, including which lawyers do legal aid.

The Bureau also offers Justice of the Peace clinics three times a week, can assist clients who are struggling with digital communication with government departments, banks, utility services and can scan documents, create REAL Me accounts, as well as provide information on neighbourhood issues, employment, consumer, relationships and tenancy.

**Our catchphrase is “Not sure? Ask Us!”**



**Not sure? Ask us.**

Need **FREE** information and advice on your rights and responsibilities around Enduring Power of Attorney | Wills | Applying for Residential Care Subsidy | Resthome Living Clubs and organisations you can join?

Visit, call or email the Rotorua Citizens Advice Bureau, 1143 Eruera Street, Rotorua  
**0800 367 222 or 07 348 3936**  
[rotorua@cab.org.nz](mailto:rotorua@cab.org.nz)



**The Final Report From The Editor?**

**Yes folks the time has come.**

While I have really enjoyed presenting the Grey Power Rotorua magazine to you every three months, cost related issues have made this Winter Issue 2023, the last one.

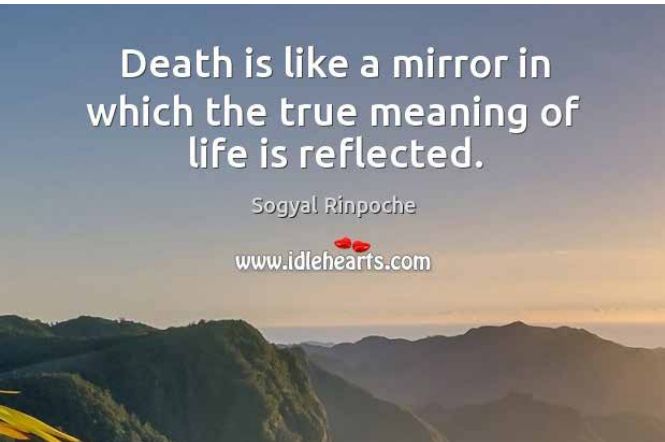
With increased costs going through the roof, we can no longer continue to subsidise the magazine. This will most likely mean that all future news from Grey Power Rotorua will be sent out to members with whom we have email contact. This will be in the form of a monthly newsletter.

This system, if adopted by our new committee, may well mean that there will not be any mail-outs via the Postal Service as the expense out-weighs this form of communication.

Yes, this is the Digital Age folks, and Grey Power Rotorua have to move with the times.

I do hope that you have both enjoyed, and gained, some knowledge from our magazine.

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



**Meet our new Rotorua President**

Kia ora to all our Rotorua members.  
I am Michelle Nahu and I am very pleased to be the new President of Grey Power Rotorua Inc.




I have worked with various community based businesses for a number of years and joined Grey Power Rotorua three years ago when the then president twisted my arm to join and be part of the committee also.

With Covid and a small committee these times have been challenging. In saying that I stepped up to my new role within Grey Power because I want to see us go forward as advocates for our members in Rotorua and countrywide (through our Federation Office).

With that said I look forward to meeting members, new and existing, at our forums and other events.

Nga mihi  
**Michelle Nahu**  
President of Grey Power Rotorua Inc.

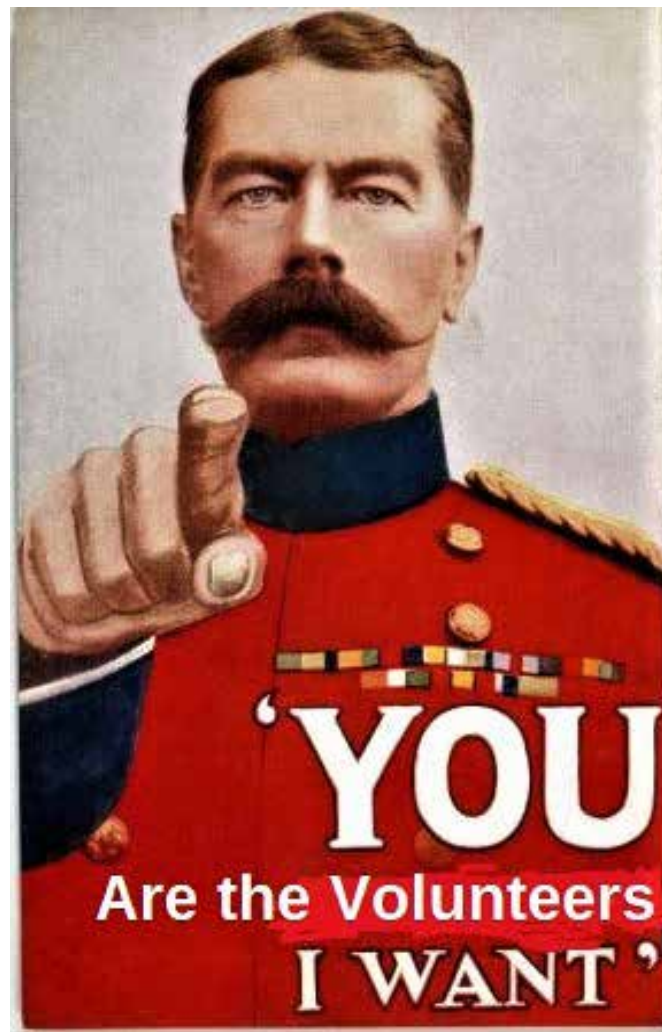
**No matter who you are, or what you are going through, Samaritans are here to listen.**



Samaritans listen without judgement, available 24/7, so that no one in New Zealand ever has to feel alone when dealing with life's challenges.

**samaritans** 0800 72 66 66  
Aotearoa New Zealand [samaritans.org.nz](http://samaritans.org.nz)





Over the years there have been many wars that our servicemen have been involved in. While Anzac Day should remain as part of our heritage, it is time for an update to the name. After all there have been many of our family members that have fought for freedom and peace since those early days.

All veterans of our armed services from the 1950's to now and the future should be recognised on April the 25th. So the name change should be Anzac And Veterans Day. Then again, maybe mankind will come to their senses in our lifetime. At this point in time it seems doubtful. Oh. if only the words of the late John Lennon's song "Imagine" could come true.

Gerald Hanson, ANZIM, BGE. *(This is the opinion of the writer only).*

## URGENT

This matter requires  
**IMMEDIATE  
ATTENTION**

DO YOU HAVE A GREY POWER  
ELECTRICITY ACCOUNT?

PLEASE CHECK THAT THE ACCOUNT NUMBER  
IS 02-0108-0333798-029

CHANGE TO THIS IF YOU NEED TO. ALSO  
CHANGE YOUR REFERENCE TO EITHER PULSE  
OR ELECTRICITY. DO NOT USE GREY POWER  
AS YOUR 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.

A \$10.00 SERVICE CHARGE IS NOW ACTIVE TO PROCESS THIS

## LYNMORE RISE ROTORUA

Lynmore Rise is a Lifestyle Retirement Village you will be proud to live in - modern and homely, situated in a friendly community.

The Village offers views of Lake Rotorua, and the best of community living - Close to Lynmore Primary School, so the grandkids are always nearby.

---

"Lynmore Rise is one of the best choices I have ever made, with wonderful facilities, people and support."

- Sally Lynmore Rise Resident.

---

**Showhome Open Hours:**  
Wednesday - Saturday, 10am - 3pm

**40 Owhatiura Drive,**  
Lynmore, Rotorua

---

Village brought to you by

Carolyn Waugh | M 021 197 3612 | E carolyn.waugh@lynmorerise.co.nz
\*Applications are by Licence to Occupy.



## The Postie Stone Moffat, Scotland

A memorial to two dedicated postal workers who lost their lives delivering mail.

THIS ROADSIDE MEMORIAL COMMEMORATES THE lives of John Goodfellow, the coach driver, and James McGeorge, the coach guard of a mail coach. The pair were on a mail coach travelling from Dumfries to Edinburgh in February 1831. They became caught in a fierce blizzard which forced them to abandon the coach and set off on foot through the snow to try and deliver the mail and make it to safety. They took the mailbags and horses but eventually, the men were overcome by the elements and died of exposure near the head of Cross Burn. The horses continued on, eventually reaching a nearby farm which raised the alarm.

The stone was erected in their memory in 1931, a century after the event. The men were laid to rest in the churchyard in nearby Moffat.



## Flexible lawyers that fit around your lifestyle

There will be times in your life that you'll need the expertise of a lawyer. You may need to organise an Enduring Power of Attorney, update your Will, or help with finalising an estate. Perhaps you are looking for a lawyer who can clearly explain the ins and outs of an Occupation Licence agreement if you are considering retirement village living.

At The Law Shop, you'll find everyday lawyers for everyday people. Our friendly and approachable team brings a fresh, practical approach to legal services. We take the time to explain things to you without making them more complicated, we forgo the legal jargon, and we don't charge the earth.

Our team communicates with you in a way and at a time that suits you best, which could be by phone

or email, at our Arawa Street office, or we could visit you at your home. It's important to us to make things stress-free, and we deliver on time. That's why we're the preferred solicitors for Rotorua businesses, families and retirees.

Call us anytime on  
**0800 529 7467**  
07 - 349 2924

if you are looking for professional,  
no-nonsense legal advice.

*editorial supplied by The Law Shop*

## Trusted lawyers that help get your affairs in order

We offer expertise in these fields

Retiree law • Family law • Personal law • Property law & more

Plus we can come to you.

Contact our friendly team  
to find out more today.

[www.thelawshop.co.nz](http://www.thelawshop.co.nz)

ROTORUA  
1268 Arawa St  
0800 529 7467  
07 349 2924

THE  
**LAW**  
SHOP

Call  
0800  
529  
7467

## Building Back Better

In the wake of Cyclone Gabrielle, New Zealand is again talking about "building back better". But how do we build back better when we don't necessarily understand what "better" means? Or how to achieve this across a country with significantly different risk profiles?

At its most basic level, build back better is an opportunity to rebuild homes and other buildings in a way that is responsive to future risks and sustainability needs. To achieve this, we need to use the circular economy approach. A circular economy is one that swaps the typical cycle of make, use, dispose in favour of re-using and recycling as much as possible. A sustainable building in the circular economy model will minimise emissions and its impact on climate and natural resources across its entire life cycle. This life cycle includes the manufacturing of materials and construction, passive lifetime emissions, maintenance, as well as end-of-life requirements (deconstruction).

The New Zealand government has committed to the circular economy model in its plans to deal with waste.

Presently, we're building sustainable homes on the premise of being carbon neutral by 2050, but they also need to be built on the premise of being carbon neutral at the end-of-life in 50 years. We are not even close to achieving that. The solution to this issue may lie in modular homes and the development of new materials.

Quick and easy to make, modular homes provide fast options to house displaced people. They are also valuable for community wellbeing after the trauma of natural disasters. Finally, modular homes offer exciting opportunities for sustainability. They can be easily reconfigured to adapt to changing needs, for example, with the addition or removal of modules.

That said, modular homes are also not the cure all for the entire building industry. The global need for sustainable and resilient buildings is a driver for the development of new construction materials, such as the plasterboard substitutes saveBOARD and Neocrete, a low-emission concrete. These products offer low-emission building options, which use recycled materials in manufacturing and provide an alternative to high-emission materials. But, due to a lack of strict regulations around adopting new materials and a lack of awareness in the industry, adoption has been slow.

The adaptation of the circular economy approach to the "build back better" strategy for buildings will be essential in reducing the risk of future catastrophes, as well as the impacts on climate and natural resources.

*Source: The Conversation*

## Seniors Being Hard Done By On Interest Rates - its Official

Seniors, who rely on bank term deposits for their savings income, have been getting a poor deal in recent times, not that you have to be told that.

Bank profitability, measured by net interest margins, hit an 8 year high in the December quarter.

According to data collected by the Reserve Bank, banks net interest margins rose by 6 basis points to 2.37% in the final three months of 2022.

The margin last reached this level in December 2014. The last time it was higher was in June 2006 when it hit 2.50%.

The interest margin is basically the difference between what they lend their (our) money out at, and what they pay to depositors.

Reserve Bank Governor Adrian Orr is on our side as he has just said he wants to see banks increase term deposit rates.

When interest rates reached rock bottom in 2020 and 2021, people took their money out of term deposits and put it into more liquid current or savings accounts.

As interest rates started rising, it took savers a while to put their money back into term deposits which pay more interest than regular savings account so cost banks more. David Tripe, Massey University Banking Professor believes there is room for banks to pay savers more for cash they keep in savings accounts. Hear hear.

An important point is always ask for a little bit better than the bank standard 'blackboard' rate when you are renewing your deposit – you can often get a .1% increase on your deposit rate – every little counts at our age.

A check on line on what other banks are paying can also help your request for a little bit more.





# AIR Studio Ruins

## Montserrat

**George Martin's Caribbean recording studio now rots within the shadow of an active volcano.**

THE RUINS OF BEATLES PRODUCER George Martin’s Montserrat recording studio now crumble within the shadow of a volatile active volcano that’s been wreaking havoc on the island since the 1990s.

Dried mud and ash cake the buildings, and murky rainwater fills the outdoor swimming pool. Wasp nests plug various nooks and hang from the ceiling as tangles of vegetation climb the walls. Forgotten bits of the recording equipment that used to produce so many albums rot inside.

You can’t tell by looking at it now, but the grimy complex was once a hot spot for the musical greats of the 1980s. George Martin, the famous English record producer and musician who was sometimes called the “fifth Beatle,” opened AIR Montserrat on the Caribbean island in 1979. It was a branch of Associated Independent Recording (AIR), the recording company he co-founded.

Martin’s island oasis studio was soon one of the most prolific recording studios of its era, cranking out a total of 76 albums. Musical legends like

the Rolling Stones, Elton John, Stevie Wonder, Jimmy Buffett, Paul McCartney, and Michael Jackson recorded within its state-of-the-art walls. Musicians spent days or weeks creating their records at what was then a small sliver of Caribbean paradise.

But only a decade after the celebrated studio opened, its life soon came to an abrupt end. When Hurricane Hugo swept across Montserrat in 1989, the storm devastated much of the island and forced the studio to shutter. Then, only six years later, the Soufrière Hills volcano erupted, bombarding the land with lava flows and thick layers of ash. (Jimmy Buffett’s album Volcano, which he recorded in the studio, was named for the then-dormant volcano.) The ongoing volcanic eruptions have made nearly half of the island uninhabitable. The decaying ruins of the studio stand near the fringe of the exclusion zone. Now too fragile to safely walk within, the studio bears little, if any at all, resemblance to its original grandeur.

Atlas Obscura 21/04/2023







EV Bikes NZ, 508 Ferguson Street, Palmerston North

## Get back your independence.

Regain your independence with your very own TM3 Trike. Go wherever you want to go in supreme comfort and classic style. Hassle-free ownership with no licence, no registration and almost no maintenance. Plus, have peace of mind with fantastic personal local support, local repair and local parts from EV Bikes.

**Order yours today and get your very own TM3 Trike for only \$4,500 tested and delivered right to your door. Buy online or call us and get back your independence today!**

★★★★★  
CALL US  
**0800 222 249**

★★★★★  
BUY ONLINE  
**EVBIKES.CO.NZ**



## Todd McClay

### Member of Parliament for Rotorua

## Delivering more Nurses and Midwives.

Worryingly an increasing number of local people have been talking to me about the health system and how much it has changed over the last five years. In fact, they have become increasingly concerned as they or friends and family wait for an operation or medical treatment. For some they just can’t get to see a GP or specialist.

At a time when our doctors and nurses and healthcare workers are under extreme pressure the Labour Government has made some terrible decisions that’s made it harder to get treatment not better.

More Wellington bureaucrats and an expensive health restructure has resulted in a considerable increase in wait times for surgery and overcrowding in emergency departments. Furthermore, there is a growing list of Kiwis who are facing increasing delays for those who need access to urgent cancer treatment.

Our nurses are at the frontline of this and are bearing the brunt of the nursing shortage New Zealand is experiencing. We now have a shortage of at least 4000 nurses across the country.

Over the last five years we have lost 19,000 nurses from the public system, which is far more than we have trained. Nearly 5,000 have registered to work in Australia since August last year, and a third of our nurses say they are considering moving overseas.

National has a plan to change this. We will deliver more nurses and midwives to address the shortage so you can get the treatment you need. Chris Luxon recently announced policy that will:

- Provide Incentives to encourage more Kiwis to study nursing or midwifery**  
To provide the level of health care we need, there has to be a significant increase in the number of people studying for a career in nursing or midwifery. National will pay nurses’ and midwives’ student loan repayments up to a total of \$4,500 per year for the first five years of their career. This means a nurse or midwife over five years would be \$22,500 better off.
- Bonding to retain nurses in New Zealand once they graduate**  
To access the student loan repayment scheme,

nurses and midwives will need to enter into a bonding agreement with Government where they commit to working in New Zealand in their profession for at least five years after they graduate.

This scheme will also be open to registered nurses and midwives who are already in the workforce on a pro-rata basis. For example, a nurse who has already been in the workforce for two years would be able to sign up for the remaining three years of student loan repayments in return for three years of bonding. This will provide more support to the health sector to retain early-career nurses and midwives in New Zealand.

- Competitive immigration setting to attract more overseas nurses and midwives**  
Given the significant and urgent shortages facing our health sector today, we need to supplement training and retaining more nurses at home by recruiting more from overseas.

National will make it easier for competent, qualified overseas nurses and midwives to choose New Zealand as their next home by removing barriers to migration and making our offering more competitive with other countries.

We will do what it takes to ensure we get the skilled migrants we desperately need into our hospitals and other health care facilities so we can bring down waitlists and ensure Kiwis get access to the health care and maternity services they deserve.

You can access the full policy at [www.national.org.nz/deliveringmorenursesandmidwives](http://www.national.org.nz/deliveringmorenursesandmidwives)

*Hon Todd McClay, Member of Parliament for Rotorua  
Spokesperson for Agriculture, Trade, Hunting & Fishing  
Authorised by T.McClay, Parliament Buildings Wellington*

## Hon Todd McClay

### MP for Rotorua

### Working for Rotorua

Call me if I can help: 07 348 5871

1301 Amohau Street  
[rotorua.mp@parliament.govt.nz](mailto:rotorua.mp@parliament.govt.nz)



Authorised by Todd McClay, Parliament Buildings, Wgtn.



## Grey Power Rotorua Calendar 2023

All Forums are on the first Monday of the month at 1pm at Linton Park. All Outings are on the third Monday of the month at 9:30am at Parksye.

### May

**15 Mon** - 10:30 Parksye outing to Tikitere Gardens (*nice autumn colours with all the maple leaves*)

### June

**5 Mon** - King's Birthday, no Forum  
**19 Mon** - 10:30: Parksye outing

### July

**3 Mon** - 13:00  
Linton Park GPR Forum with Energy Mate, helping you make the most of your electricity  
**17 Mon** - 10:30: Parksye outing

### August

**7 Mon** - 13:00  
Linton Park GPR Forum  
**21 Mon** - 10:30: Parksye outing

### September

**4 Mon** - 13:00  
Linton Park GPR Forum: Meet the Candidates  
**18 Mon** - 10:30: Parksye outing

### October

**2 Mon** - 13:00  
Linton Park GPR Forum  
**14 Sat** - General Elections  
**16 Mon** - 10:30: Parksye outing  
**23 Mon** - Labour Day

### November

(no Forum, no Outing till February 2024)

### December

**2 Sat** - Noon  
CT Club?  
GPR Christmas Lunch?  
**8 Fri** - 11:00  
GPR office last day at the office, re-opens 13 Feb 2024

## Tamati Coffey | Labour List MP

### Delivering for Waiariki through trade

Our Government's historic record on trade is providing greater opportunities for New Zealanders to get ahead. We've unlocked access to some of the world's biggest and most lucrative markets. So I'm pleased to share that we're bringing forward our trade agreement with the United Kingdom, and I wanted to let you know what that means for Waiariki.

While overseas last week, Prime Minister Chris Hipkins announced that New Zealand's new trade agreement with the United Kingdom will enter into force early, delivering unprecedented access into the UK market by the end of this month.

This is great news, particularly for local exporters, farmers and growers, as the deal is gold-standard. It's expected to boost our economy by up to \$1 billion a year, with New Zealand exports to the UK estimated to grow by over 50%.

From day one the deal will cut costs for Kiwi exporters, saving them approximately \$37 million a year in tariff elimination alone. In fact, 99.5% of current exports will enter the UK duty-free through a combination of tariff elimination and duty-free quotas.

It will also unlock opportunities for Waiariki businesses to boost and diversify their trade – helping them to succeed and to grow jobs and wages. On top of this, it will help to bring down the cost of living by delivering price-competitive UK imports.

More information on the NZ-UK FTA, including information for exporters and the outcomes for each market, is available at [www.mfat.govt.nz/nzukfta](http://www.mfat.govt.nz/nzukfta)

### COMPUTER AND CELL PHONE HINTS :

To make an email larger to read or to print it out in a larger size just hold down "Control" and press + and the document will become larger. Control with - (minus) will reduce the size. I have also found on my cellphone that if I press the up arrow twice that the Capitals will continue until I change to the lower case format.

If you are unsure whether your smoke alarm is clean or working, or if you can't replace the batteries without assistance, ring your local fire brigade. They will provide this service for you ....

**It could save lives!**



# Tāmati Coffey

Labour List MP based in the Waiariki

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](mailto:tamati.coffeymp@parliament.govt.nz)

0800 Tāmati (826284)

 /tamaticoffey

 /tamaticoffeymp



**Labour**



Authorised by Tamati Coffey MP,  
Parliament Buildings, Wellington.





Retirement village residents sign open letter in support of villages

Representatives of New Zealand’s retirement village residents have signed an open letter in metropolitan newspapers fighting back against criticism of the sector.

The open letter in Saturday’s Dominion Post and The Press (15th April) and Herald on Sunday (16th April) responds to negative commentary and mis-information about retirement village living.



Sixty representatives of retirement village Residents Committees across the country have signed the letter while hundreds of residents have also backed the letter in emails to the Retirement Villages Association (RVA). Collectively, the committee chairs and residents represent more than 10,000 village residents.

“The retirement villages sector and our residents have been concerned for some time about the inaccurate and sometimes demeaning comments about retirement village living,” says John Collyns, executive director of the RVA, which facilitated and placed the letter.

“That’s fuelled a massive response from retirement village residents who jumped at the opportunity to support this open letter.

“The residents I talk to are angry and frustrated at the suggestion they have been somehow hoodwinked into moving into a village.

“Our residents may be older but they are certainly not stupid. Independent research shows overwhelming satisfaction rates among residents and 100 Kiwis are moving to a village every week.

“Many residents are puzzled at the picture some commentators paint about retirement village living, which is at odds with the experiences of most village residents.

“The residents I talk to are really happy with their decision to move into a village. They did their homework, they talked with family and friends, engaged a solicitor to review the contract as is required under the law and visited a range of villages – they made an informed decision so let’s give our residents some credit.

“Our research shows most people move into a village for the lifestyle. They don’t want to worry about ongoing maintenance or insurance, they want a greater sense of security, companionship, a community and the convenience of on-site healthcare services.

“However, we have always accepted the need for improvements to the sector’s consumer protections regime where they are feasible and make sense.

“We have already announced significant changes to the way we operate including addressing unfair clauses in Occupation Rights Agreements and best practice disclosure guidelines regarding residents’ transfer to care.”

“The majority of operators have already stopped charging fees after termination and many other villages are following.”

“The RVA’s Blueprint for Improvement has a target of all villages to institute some best practices and later this year these currently voluntary provisions will be voted on by RVA members to become mandatory.”

“We are also working constructively with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development through a review of the Retirement Villages Act.”

**For more information, please contact:**  
**John Collyns, RVA Executive Director,**  
**021 952 945 | john@retirementvillages.org.nz**

*Editorial supplied by Retirement Villages Assn*

Transparent Restroom

Tokyo, Japan

These unique toilets feature transparent glass covered in PDLC film.

IN 2020, UNUSUAL PUBLIC TOILETS were installed in two parks in the ever-popular Yoyogi district of Tokyo and quickly, although for a brief period, became an internet sensation. The stalls, in particular, are quite easy to find, encased by transparent glass walls of a variety of vibrant colours, looking immaculate—and yes, you read it right: the restroom’s walls are transparent, totally seethrough.

You can see everything inside, from the flush toilet to the hand wash sink. Now the question is, how does one use it? It’s quite simple, actually. Once you go inside and lock the door, the walls automatically turn opaque, obscuring the user. The walls are made of glass covered with PDLC film, which renders them transparent when electricity is applied. Locking the door turns off the electricity, giving the glass walls its original opacity back.

The innovative design was conceived by Shigeru Ban as a response to the park-goers’ need for a safe and comfortable restroom, where one can be sure that the toilet is clean and that nobody is hiding in the stall. It’s part of the ongoing THE TOKYO TOILET project led by the Nippon Foundation, which seeks to improve public restrooms across Shibuya City, making all of them accessible and comfortable while giving them a bit of artistic twist.



“Why Keep It Secret?”  
Available from Grey Power Rotorua

We’re now on our 6th reprint. The foreword says: “Nothing is surer than death and taxes”. “Why Keep It Secret?” does not replace a Will and is not a legally binding document. WKIS guides us through documenting our important information, so that those responsible for carrying out our wishes are clearly advised.

■ **Order Form for Booklet**  
**“Why Keep It Secret?”**  
**Payment must accompany order**

**SEND TO:**

Name: .....

Address: .....

.....

Postcode .....

Internet purchase: **2 steps:** Complete order form at our website [www.greypowerrotorua.org.nz](http://www.greypowerrotorua.org.nz) and pay by **internet banking.** 38 9020 0355889 01 Include reference: **WKIS**

Purchase at the office: Cash/Eftpos

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| QTY:              | .....  |
| <b>1-2 copies</b> | \$5.00 each + \$3.50 postage and packaging.                |
| <b>3-9 copies</b> | \$5.00 each + \$2.50 EACH for postage and packaging.       |
| <b>10+ copies</b> | \$4.50 each. Please ask for a quote on post and packaging. |
| TOTAL:            | \$ .....   |

**I finally did it!**  
Bought a new pair of shoes with memory foam insoles.  
No more forgetting why I walked into the kitchen.



# Stories to Back up the Grey Power Advocacy Visit

## Jan Pentecost - Advocacy Standing Committee

The Grey Power Federation Advocacy Team will be visiting decision makers in Wellington in mid-May and the following issues will be discussed. Therefore if any of these issues affect you pass on your stories to our team so we have plenty of evidence to take on our visits.

Please send your stories to [jan.pentecost@gmail.com](mailto:jan.pentecost@gmail.com) or post to the Grey Power Federation Office, PO Box 2721719, Papakura 2244.

### Issues to be Discussed:

1. SuperGold card as a national ID.
2. Lack of banking facilities for older people.
3. The sufficiency or not of national superannuation.
4. Lack of home care and support services, bed numbers in aged care facilities reducing dramatically - what will happen to the older people.
5. Query re the cessation of NZ superannuation payments when a super annuitant is out of the country for more than 6 months but the govt. continues to receive their UK pension during this time.
6. Digital exclusion.
7. Request for an increase in the funeral grant.
8. Cost of the shingles vaccine.
9. Annual free health check and eye check was in the 2019 budget but removed in 2020. The 2019 budget announced from Dec 1st, 2019 no one with a community service card would pay more than \$18.50 for a doctor's visit but this has been increasing by 50c a year on the 1st July. (Ministry of Health agreement with General Practitioners Association?).
10. Costs for people who order repeat prescriptions - they are being charged \$19 via access to a nurse, manage my health portal or online requests.
11. People with disabilities - The new health system policy needs to be more precise about the groups that have poor outcomes and that seniors with disabilities be remembered.
12. Age restrictions on access to tests and vaccines and equity of access in the new health system.
13. Palliative Care under funded.
14. Community involvement in services in their localities.

15. Shortages of medical staff/access to health services - why is the health system in such disarray?
16. Health system privatisation.
17. Funding for dental care.
18. Ring-fencing of older peoples health funding.
19. Booking times for older people, living in rural areas, for outpatient and hospital appointments.
20. Affordability and housing shortage Councils to access income-related rent subsidies for their pensioner and social housing tenants.
21. That the low-interest loans for councils to build social/senior housing be returned to Councils to access income-related rent subsidies for their pensioner and social housing tenants.
22. Low-interest loans for councils to build social/senior housing to be returned.
23. Rising insurance costs.
24. Loss of postal deliveries.



E-mail!

### Members Email Addresses:

We need to contact you regularly:

### We need your current email address...

Please assist your committee by phoning the office and providing your current email address so that we can update our records.

Or:

Simply send an email to us saying "Here is my email address" - we will handle it from there.

The provision of email addresses will allow us to contact you more regularly with what is happening with Grey Power, Rotorua. Phone: 07 3465 1739, email: [greypower.rotorua@gmail.com](mailto:greypower.rotorua@gmail.com)

Help us to help you — "Your local committee"

### NZ Post Shops with Bill Paying Services

Ngongotaha Books, Lotto and PostShop 161 Ngongotaha Road Ngongotaha

Paper Plus Rotorua Central Shop 1, Central Mall, 1170 Amohau Street

Westend Dairy 164 Malfroy Road, Utuhina

### Grey Power Rotorua Inc.

#### RENEWAL and NEW MEMBER APPLICATION FORM

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

PO Box 414, ROTORUA 3040  
1333 Eruera Street  
Phone 07 346 1739

Office hours Tuesdays-Thursdays  
11.00am - 2.00pm  
[greypower.rotorua@gmail.com](mailto:greypower.rotorua@gmail.com)

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| NAME   |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Mr <input type="checkbox"/> Mrs <input type="checkbox"/> Miss <input type="checkbox"/> Ms |
| PARTNER'S NAME   |  | MEMBER NO.   |
| ADDRESS  |  | PHONE NUMBERS  |
| SUBURB   |  |  |
| EMAIL  |  |  |
| Single \$25.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Couple \$35.00 <input type="checkbox"/> Donation: \$ |  | OFFICE USE ONLY:<br>Office volunteers: Please check application is complete and initial.                           |
| One Year Subscription. From 1 April - 31 March   |  | DATE   |

### Payment Options

**Internet banking** - Complete and submit application form at our website [www.greypowerrotorua.org.nz](http://www.greypowerrotorua.org.nz)

And pay by internet banking. Bank account 38 9020 0355889 01.

Include reference NEW and name or member number.

**Grey Power office** - Come in, complete a renewal or membership application form and pay by cash or EFTPOS.

EFTPOS : Cheque or savings only as we cannot accept Credit Cards.



# SOMETHING TO LAUGH ABOUT



Before my surgery, the anesthesiologist offered to knock me out with gas or a boat paddle ...

It was an ether/oar situation.

I relabeled all of the jars in my wife's spice rack. I'm not in trouble yet ... but the thyme is cumin.

I have a pencil that used to be owned by William Shakespeare. But he chewed it a lot. Now I can't tell if it's 2B or not 2B.

Let's face it:

 **Teacher.org**



## English is a crazy language

There is no **EGG** in **EGGPLANT** nor **HAM** in **HAMBURGER**; neither **APPLE** nor **PINE** in **PINEAPPLE**. **ENGLISH MUFFINS** weren't invented in **ENGLAND**. **QUICKSAND** can work **SLOWLY**, **BOXING RINGS** are **SQUARE**, and a **GUINEA PIG** is neither from **GUINEA** nor is it a **PIG**.

And why is it that **WRITERS WRITE** but **FINGERS DON'T FING**, **GROCERS** don't **GROCE** and **HAMMERS** don't **HAM**? Doesn't it seem crazy that you can make **AMENDS** but not one **AMEND**? If **TEACHERS TAUGHT**, why didn't **PREACHERS PRAUGHT**? If a **VEGETARIAN** eats **VEGETABLES**, what does a **HUMANITARIAN** eat?

In what other language do people **RECITE** at a **PLAY** and **PLAY** at a **RECITAL**? We **SHIP BY TRUCK** but **SEND CARGO BY SHIP**. We have **NOSES** that **RUN** and **FEET** that **SMELL**. We **PARK** in a **DRIVEWAY** and **DRIVE** in a **PARKWAY**. And how can a **SLIM CHANCE** and a **FAT CHANCE** be the same, while a **WISE MAN** and a **WISE GUY** are opposites?

You have to marvel at the unique lunacy of a language in which your **HOUSE** can **BURN UP** as it **BURNS DOWN**, in which you **FILL IN** a form by **FILLING IT OUT**, and in which an **ALARM** goes **OFF** by going **ON**. And, in closing, if Father is **POP**, how come Mother's not **MOP**?