

## Greetings your President June

Thank you for the wonderful support at our meetings. Here is a report on a recent Grey Power Lobbying Team, Dick Stark, Roy Reid, Ian Anderson and President Les Howard's activities during their Wellington visit where they met various Government Cabinet Ministers, Members of Parliament and representatives from Age Concern, Ministry of Health and Rest Home Care. The team fitted in as many meetings as possible endeavouring to obtain the best information for the Grey Power membership and sow many seeds to advance the Grey Power cause. **Topics Covered** **A** Access to and funding of rural resthomes. **B** Amendments covering Enduring Power of Attorney. **C** Use of the Super Gold card and it's value in areas where there is no public bus service. **D** Discounts from Power Companies for holders of the Super Gold Card. **E** Nonqualified spouse rate of national super. **F** Home Insulation Scheme is too costly for many on low incomes. **G** Green Party is campaigning for Country of Origin labelling. **I** Spot audits on resthomes... possible closure because of smell. **J** Concern about the make up of the Health Review committee. **K** Suspension of contributions to the Cullen Superannuation Fund. **L** Enquiry in to the failures of Financial Advisors. **M** Review os Widow and Sickness benefits. **N** Special Needs Dental Grants for the elderly. **O** Opposition to patients being reassessed by phone and also that they are not informed that the interview was a reassessment. **P** The issue of cuts in Adults Tertiary education grants. **Q** Will there to be an increase in GST and a capital gains? **R** The value of Question Time in the House of Parliament was raised by the team. **S** Binge Drinking and "Boy Racers." **T** The Labour Party view on parole. **U** Increase in charges for services normally covered by ACC. **V** Pollution caused by carbon monoxide emissions. As you have read a lot of work was done by the Lobbying Team. If you would like further information please ring me...439 1736.

From our Zone Meeting we sent a vote of confidence in Les Howard, Federation President and Dick Stark, requesting the Board forget about personal issues and concentrate on the Grey Power membership's concerns. We also asked that our energy portfolio holder, Terry King, actively pursue to have consumer representation on the State Owned Energy Enterprises. Looking ahead.... next meeting is Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October at 1pm. Secretary Ken will be showing a variety of video taken in the past year. Our November Luncheon get together will be on Friday 20.<sup>th</sup> Please arrive at noon. The fingerfood lunch will be about 12.15. The last day for booking is 18<sup>th</sup> November....please ring 439 4452. We will not meet in December. We hope to have the community constable Ian Anderson and Senior Citizens Minister John Carter as our guests at February's meeting. Thank you again for attending our meetings. It is very encouraging

Jean Johnson, one of our sponsors, will be displaying and selling tuppaware at our next meeting. These will be in the foyer and available following the meeting. Please let others know.

### Important Notice to Electricity Consumers

If for reasons of age, health, or disability disconnection of electricity presents a clear threat to your, or a member of your household's health you should register this with your electricity supplier. This can normally be done by a telephone call or through the retailer's web site.

If you qualify for this service you will need a certificate from your District Health Board or a doctor. This does not exempt you from paying your bills but you will receive consideration for paying off any arrears.

If you could have trouble communicating the details to your retailer you can nominate someone to speak on your behalf. This could be a family member, a friend or a social agency such as you local Citizen's Advice Bureau.

*Kaipara District Council have an Open Forum on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October from 5.30 to 7pm in the Northern Wairoa Memorial Town Hall, Dargaville which will give you the chance to say what you would like the Council to address in the 2010/11 year.*

**"Looking for tertiary students for one-off, part-time, full-time or casual work in your household or business? List your vacancy with **Student Job Search** free of charge at [www.sjs.co.nz](http://www.sjs.co.nz) or by ringing our friendly staff on 0800 757 562, and we will refer students that we think are right for you and your position – it's that easy!"**