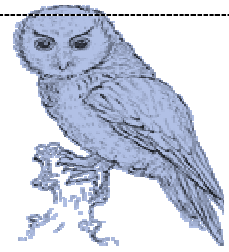


Waitakere

Grey Power

Association Inc.

Incorporating Rodney West



PUBLISHED BY THE WAITAKERE GREYPOWER ASSOCIATION. For all enquiries PH: 838-5207 FAX: 838-5237 EMAIL: waitakgp@xtra.co.nz PO BOX 83-300 Edmonton (Te Atatu South) The Active Organization for the 50+ Builders of the Nation

Quarterly Publication – February 2010

PRESIDENTS REPORT

The last time that I sat down to write a report for the newsletter it was mid winter and the expectation was for unpleasant weather conditions. Now it is October, midway through Spring and what have we? Unpleasant weather conditions. It is chilly too and the need is there for a bit of warmth during the evening. It is quite feasible to be thinking along the lines of power (and cash) saving at the present time, but I'm sure that there are many of you, like me, who have used their heaters. The cost of power has been addressed by our Federation representatives who have been in Parliament and lobbied the appropriate Minister – Mr G Brownlee – but to no sign of any relief when it comes time to pay our power accounts. I know that there are those of you who have been contacted by power companies promising you wonderful savings if you switch to their supply, but I feel that it is a swings and roundabout situation and no great overall advantage will be obtained. It is time that folk with the Gold Card are given some recognition and assistance when it comes to the price of power. Warmth is so very necessary to the health and well being of older people and it should not have to be the case of "Can I afford it?" when the weather deems it essential to 'flick that switch' What a travesty the recent referendum on the 'Anti-smacking' situation turned out to be. Just a terrible waste of time and trouble. Binding Citizen's Initiated Referenda has to be the way forward. It

REMINDER 2010

**YOUR FEES ARE NOW DUE PLEASE
PAY BY POST OR AT THE
OFFICE 247 Edmonton Rd
Te Atatu South**

Opening Hours 9.30am – 12 Noon
Fees \$10 Single or \$18 Double
Looking forward to seeing you

MARCH 2010

**GENERAL
MEETING
Thursday
18th MARCH
9.30 am**

At 247 Edmonton Road
Te Atatu South
Community centre.

Light Refreshments
Tea, coffee & biscuits

Speaker will be
speaking on Defensive
Driving.
Gold Coin donation
Would like to see as
many of you as possible

APRIL 2010

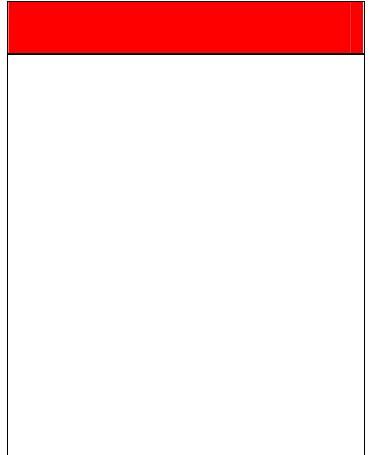
**FILM MORNING
Tuesday
20th April
West City 10am
THE BOUNTY
HUNTER**

Comedy starring
Jennifer Anniston &
Gerard Butler
\$7 Per Person R60
Card
\$9 Per Person R60
Non card
Tea/Coffee & Light
refreshments
Please pay at Grey
Power Office by
Tuesday 13th April
Sky City has requested
NO Door Sales

is true democracy at work and perhaps that is why politicians shy away from the idea. The present situation allows an MP who has not been elected by the people, who represents no electorate, to have a Bill passed through Parliament which is totally abhorrent to the majority of the people. BCIR would allow every eligible citizen of this country to have his or her voice heard. Truly the sign of democracy, wouldn't you say? There would have to be guide lines in place and a certain percentage of registered electors would have to be signatories to the referendum (never more than 5% surely!) for it to be acted upon. If this ever comes to pass we would be seeing true democracy orking and what more could we wish fs

GET OUT OF THE CAR PLEASE

This is a true account recorded in the Police log of Sarasota, Florida. An elderly Florida lady did her shopping and upon returning to her car, found 4 males in the act of leaving her vehicle. She dropped her shopping bags and drew her handgun, proceeding to scream at the top of her lungs, "I have a gun and I know how to use it! Get out of the car! The four men didn't wait for a second threat. They got out and ran like mad. The lady, somewhat shaken, then proceeded to load her shopping bags into the back of the car and got into the driver's seat. She was so shaken that she could not get her key into the ignition. She tried and tried, why...it was for the same reason she wondered why there was a football, a Frisbee and two 12 packs of beer in the front seat. A few minutes later, she found her own car parked four or five spaces farther down. She loaded her bags into the car and drove to the police station to report her mistake. The sergeant she told the story to couldn't stop laughing. He pointed to the other end of the counter, where 4 pale men were reporting a car jacking by a mad, elderly woman described as white, less than five feet tall, glasses, curly white hair and carrying a large handgun. No charges were filed. Moral of the story? If you're going to have a senior moment.....MAKE IT MEMORABLE..



DINNER ARRANGEMENTS

A group of 40 year old men discuss where they should meet for dinner, Finally it is agreed that they should meet at the Pavement Café restaurant as the waitresses there have low cut blouses and nice breasts. Ten years later, at 50 years of age, the group meets again and once again they discuss where they should meet. Finally it is agreed that they should meet at the Pavement Café because the food there is very good and the wine selection also. Ten years later at 60 years of age, the group meets again and once again they discuss where they should meet. Finally it is agreed that they should meet at the Pavement Café because they can eat in peace and quiet And the restaurant is smoke free. Ten years later at 70 years of age, the group meets again and once again they discuss where they should meet. Finally it is agreed that they should meet at the Pavement Café because the restaurant is wheelchair accessible and they even have an elevator. Ten years later at 80 years of age, the group meets again and once more they discuss where they should meet. Finally it is agreed that they should meet at the Pavement Café because that would be a great idea because they have never been there before!

Hi Everybody

I am going on holiday to the U.K. then on to Spain on The 10th October and won't be back in N.Z. until 1st Feb. I will wish all of you the very best for the festive season 2009, and hope you all have a wonderful, Happy and prosperous New Year 2010. I hope all who can attend the Christmas Party to be held in the Te Atatu South Community Centre on 19th November 2009 to come along and enjoy themselves. I am sure all the Committee and Office Staff of Grey Power would like to see as many of our Members coming along and enjoying themselves.

I would like to wish all of my Wonderful Staff, and Committee Members a very Happy Christmas and a very prosperous and Happy New Year 2010.

I leave you all on a very sad note. Our Treasurer Heather Beare is in Hospital with a very serious Stroke. She is in the Muruwai Ward Waitakere Hospital. I am sure she would be very pleased to see anyone who is visiting the hospital, to call in and say hello.

With reference to your rates. Charges for the Rugby World Cup of \$4.50. If you feel that you as a rate payer should not have to pay for the Rugby World Cup you should write to the Waitakere City Council. You will receive a letter informing you that in accordance with the Local Government (Rating) Act 2002, all landowners have to pay a tax progressive and on-going. I asked the Council to show me where in that Act it states that I have to pay for the World Cup. I received an answer to state that the Act did not state that the World Cup had to be paid, but the council had the right to charge for what was right and proper. I wrote back to them that without including the rate payers the Councillors voted the \$4.50 rate charge, the Councillor's can pay for

the World Cup out of their own pockets. No reply to this at this stage.

All the Best

Percy

(Office Manager & Vice President)

THE OBEDIENT WIFE

There was a man, who had worked all his life and had saved hard, but was a real miser when it came to his money. Just before he died, he said to his wife, "When I die, I want you to take all my money and put it in the coffin with me." I want to take my money to the afterlife with me" So, he got his wife to promise him, with all of her heart, that when he died, she would put all of the money into the casket with him. Well he died. He was stretched out in the coffin, his wife was sitting there- dressed in black, and her friend was sitting next to her. When they finished the ceremony, and just before the undertakers got ready to close the coffin, the wife said "Wait a moment!" She had a small metal box with her, she came over with the box and put it in the coffin. Then the undertakers closed the lid and they rolled it away. So her friend said "Girl tell me you were not foolish enough to put all that money in there with your husband" The loyal wife replied "Listen I'm a Christian, I cannot go back on my word" I promised him that I was going to put the money into the coffin with him" "You mean to tell me you put that money in there with him"???? "I sure did", said the wife. I collected it all together, put it into my account and wrote him a cheque... if he can cash it, then he can spend it"

(Who says women are more stupid than men!!)

Always marry a man your own age or older, as your beauty fades so will his eyesight.

Hello everyone, I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and are now looking forward to a Healthy and Prosperous New Year.
Editor.

Thought for the week.

“Remember the end result of any argument should be progress, not victory”.

Dealing With Door to Door Sales

DO call the business or organisation’s head office the salesperson is from to check the company has representatives working in the area

DO ask to see identification. If someone is selling services on your doorstep they should be carrying some form of identification.

DON’T feel obliged to invite the salesperson in, you will probably feel more inclined to purchase a product you don’t necessarily need if they are sitting drinking tea with you.

DON’T sign anything until you’ve had a chance to read the information or contract, including fine print.

DON’T feel rushed into signing/purchasing something as a result of statements made by sales representative such as “this offer is only valid if you sign now” For more information on Door to Door sales act visit the Ministry of Consumer Affairs website www.consumeraffairs.govt.nz (source Age Concern Rodney)

NAVAL WISDOM

It was necessary to keep a good supply of cannonballs near the cannon on war ships. How to stop them rolling about the deck was a problem. The best storage method devised was to stack them as a square based pyramid, with One ball on top resting on four, resting on nine and then on sixteen. So a supply of 30 cannon balls could be stacked right next to the cannon. The problem was

how to prevent them from sliding/rolling from under the others. The solution was a metal plate with 16 round indentations called a **MONKEY**, but if this plate was made of iron the balls would quickly rust to it. The solution was to make brass **MONKEYS**. Few landlubbers realize that brass contracts much more and much faster than iron when chilled. Consequently when the temperature dropped too far the brass indentations would shrink so much that the iron cannon balls would come right off the **MONKEY**. Thus it was quite literally, “cold enough to freeze the balls off a brass monkey” and all the time you though it was a vulgar expression didn’t you??

Press Release

This National Government is shaping up more like that of the days of Jenny Shipley when she tried very hard to get the rate of National Superannuation down to 60% of the Net after tax ordinary time weekly wage.the Net after tax ordinary time weekly wage.This government is proposing to lift the rate of GST to 15% in order that those on \$70,000 per annum may have their tax rate reduced, in other words a tax cut. It is reported that the Minister of Finance has stated superannuitants are automatically compensated by the calculation of the Consumer Price Index which is adjusted annually and paid out on April 1. What he does not say is that the CPI is calculated in December for the previous 12 months which means that any increase in GST will met by National Superannuation for the previous year. Another Nail in the coffin for those superannuitants who still have a little savings left in their accounts in their banks is that this government, on 1 April is raising the rate of resident withholding tax (RWT) to 21% thus taking another bite at the hard earned savings whilst those who have incomes in excess \$70,000 per annum get tax cuts. Is this the policy of a “Fair Government” And to think superannuitants were not so long ago called the “Greedy Oldies”

Is this the policy of a “Fair Government

Les Howard
National president Grey Power Inc.

SALVATION ARMY

The Salvation Army in Glen Eden is in the process of building Independent Living Units for over 65 year olds. They are building 14 units with 4 being ready in the next few weeks and the other ten in the first 6 months of 2010. There is criteria for the rental of the units, being that people are over 65 and an asset test for prospective tenants, with the idea these units will be available to those who have little or no assets of their own. The units are 2 bedroom, brick and double glazed aluminium windows, internal access single garage and a kitchen and dish washer drawer, wall oven, hob and rangehood. Tenants would also be responsible for their power, water and personal content insurance. The Salvation Army will be responsible for all other maintenance and mowing of the lawns and grounds.

Contact David Daly, Corps leader Glen Eden
Ph 818 2363.



HOW TO CALL THE POLICE

How to call the police when you're old and don't move fast anymore.

George Phillips of Gold Coast, Australia, was going up to bed when his wife told him that he'd left the light on in the garden shed, which she could see from the bedroom window. George opened the back door to go and turn the light off but saw there were people in the shed stealing things. He phoned the police, who asked "Is there someone in your house? And he said "No" Then they said that all patrols were busy, and that he should simply lock his door and an officer would be along when available. George said "Okay"

again. "Hello, I just called you a few seconds ago because there were people stealing things from my shed, well, you don't have to worry about them now because I've just shot them" then hung up. Within minutes three police cars, an armed response unit and an ambulance showed up at the Phillip's residence and caught the burglars red handed. One policeman said to George "I thought you'd said that you'd shot them!" George said "I thought you said there was nobody available!"

Don't mess with old people!!!

The trouble with being punctual is that nobody is there to appreciate it

CHRISTMAS IN SOUTH AFRICA

We have never had Christmas, with our grandchildren in South Africa so last year was the time to do it. We were a long time saving money to do the trip and as we are a long way past the age of flying long distance cattle class we were going in business. We flew with an airline that went via Singapore and into Cape Town. Our eldest son, Nigel, met us on arrival and after a couple of days in Cape Town we drove across South Africa to a seaside resort town called Plettenburgbay. This was a trip of about 550Kms. For most of the year this has a population of about 6000, but over the holiday season this explodes to around 50,000 it is quite incredible. It is a very attractive town at the foot of steep cliffs, with a wide surf beach and a wide open aspect. It was first discovered by an Italian in 1470 and settled by shipwrecked sailors in the 17th century. Our youngest son, Craig has built his own house and, unlike most South African houses which are surrounded by high walls and barbed wire, it has a very open aspect with a green park in front and on two sides, with hill behind. The odd puff adder comes down at times. Two dogs, very friendly to us, help to protect the property. The children are Cameron 10, Heath 6, and Amber 4. She took us old wrinklies under her wing on the very first day. It was

with the sounds of children, I had not realised how I had missed that. On the great day we were awake early- Amber made sure of that!! We all gathered upstairs, in the living area, in front of the tree. The excitement was intense with parcels being unwrapped all over the place. Our daughter-in-law, Lauren, was trying to make notes of who had given what to who, for the 'thankyou' letters, but had to abandon that idea- she couldn't hack the pace! It was quite a delightful time and there was more to follow. All the Christmas fare was packed into two vehicles (and so were we) and off to the river. Craig has a 30ft river boat named Astrid. Everything was packed aboard and away we went up river. This river is tidal for quite a distance and has sandy beaches on each side After we moored up the Brai was burning and our tucker was underway. The children were having a wonderful time, jumping and diving off the boat- all tremendous fun. After a wonderful day it was back to the house and with three very tired and happy children and

USEFUL INFORMATION

WORK & INCOME MANAGERS Phone 0800 552 002

Managers are able to visit senior clients in their home if they are unable to come into a Work and Income office.

DESPERATELY WANTED

Baby hand knits for Waitakere Maternity Hospital. Bootees, hats and cardigans for new borns.

Donations can be left at reception Main Entrance.

ST.JOHNS WEST AUCKLAND

Have a volunteer run – door to Waitakere Hospital shuttle service for Waitakere residents. Bookings 24 hours in advance. 0800 000 606

FREE LEGAL HELP

Waitakere Community Law Service offer free legal advice. Phone 835 2130 1a Trading Place.

adults too who were quite happy to hit the sack. The following day we were off up to a "KAROU" but that's another story, if you want it.

John Watkins

The Committee always needs input from you to keep us on our toes and to let us know your concerns Your opinions are very important to us, so let us know. The AGM will be coming up again next year and we need community feedback to know which problems are bothering you and which path we should pursue on your behalf. Without you all and your input we are just following our own path and that is not our policy. We need you!!

ASTHMA AUCKLAND WEST AUCKLAND GROUP

Monthly meetings for people with chronic breathing problems –asthma, emphysema etc.

For more details Ph. 630 2293

WEST AUCKLAND ARTHRITIS SUPPORT AND SOCIAL GROUP

A support group, that meets on 2nd Tuesday of every month.

Venue Henderson Baptist Church in the "Fellowship Room" 327 Great North Road, Henderson. (Cnr of Edmonton & Gt North Rd)

TIME 1.30 – 3.30pm

Information/Speakers and social Outings

Contact Barbara Ph 8344647 Or Joyce 8324135

Cost \$3.00

HAIRDRESSING

Hairdressing In your own home Ladies, elderly can't get out to get your hair done? I will come to you, haircuts, shampoo and set, blow wave pref. I am 60 yrs of age with over 30yrs of hairdressing experience Ph Sheryl 8344115

SPEC SAVERS

Visit the friendly and helpful team at West City Henderson for your optical requirements . Next to Burger King at the Catherine Square entrance. A fully comprehensive eye exam for superannuants for \$10. Appointments must be made – Tuesdays and Wednesdays only. They have a great variety of frames and prices to suit everyone's needs, also the great offer – two for one deals.. You can even have one pair for reading and one for distance. We have brochures for you to pick up at the office with more details or just call in at West City. Phone number 838 6853



IF UNDELIVERED- RETURN TO
PO BOX 83-300 EDMONTON
(Te ATATU SOUTH) 0652

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WAITAKERE GREYPOWER
WOULD LIKE TO THANK THOSE MEMBERS
WHO INCLUDED DONATIONS IN THEIR
SUBSCRIPTION RENEWALS.
YOUR GENEROSITY IS VERY MUCH
APPRECIATED

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