

# GREY POWER MARLBOROUGH

ADVERTISING FEATURE

## From the President's Desk

### Graeme Faulkner, President Grey Power Marlborough

This is my last report as I will be stepping down from the President's role, due to my appointment as the National Secretary.

Grey Power, like everyone else, has suffered due to Covid and in Marlborough, like the rest of the country, our membership has dropped slightly.

It is heartening to see that we are still getting new members. I encourage people to join not only for the benefits we give but also an increase in numbers puts us in a better position when we lobby Government. This is our number one aim.

Nationally we are always looking for commercial agreements that will give good deals to our members. There are a number in the early stages of



development.

There is a move to lobby government to improve footpaths

around the country to prevent people being injured caused by falls, and also to improve the surface for what will be an increasing number of mobility scooters.

One of our main objectives is to concentrate on health, so we have a member talking to both the Ministry of Health and Pharmac on a regular occasion. Over time we need to seek better access to services for our seniors.

We negotiated an agreement with the Nelson Marlborough District Health Board to have all Blenheim appointments in Nelson between the hours of 10am and 3pm.

If this is not working for you, please ring our local office, phone 578 4950.

I look forward to a successor who will carry on this organisation for the good of all those people aged over 50.

## Kiwi Can talks 'respect'

The Kiwi Can programme has kicked off again for 2021 in 17 primary schools around Marlborough, - teaching children important values and lifelong skills that they need to be successful in the workplaces of the future, and to become contributing members of their communities.

This term, Kiwi Can children are learning all about respect, which is explained as "treating people, things and places as important".

In 2021 the weekly Kiwi Can lessons will focus on modules including: Respect for our school. Respect for our community. Respect for our environment.

### Time to talk

"The most precious gift you can give someone is the gift of your time and undivided attention."

How about talking with the children in your life about respect? Why not chat with your grandchildren, your mokopuna, your next-door neighbours! By spending time listening to their ideas and sharing your wisdom, you can help reinforce and extend their learning beyond the school gate. Here are a dozen simple conversation starters to get the ball rolling...

1. What does respect mean to you?
2. What are some ways we can show respect?
3. Who do you know that is very respectful? What have you seen them do?



Children at Mayfield School get active with their Kiwi Can Leaders.



4. Why is it important to look after the place we work and play in?

5. What are 3 ways we can care for and show respect for (and at) your school?

6. How can you show pride in your school if you are representing your school somewhere in the community, as in a sports team or performing at a concert?

7. What are some ways we can show respect for others - at home, at school, in a team or club, or out in our community?

8. What would our town be like if everyone showed kindness to each other?

9. What are some "communities" you are a part of that you contribute to - and how? (Think about classroom community, sports team, family, club etc).

10. Why is it important that you contribute to your community? How can we encourage others to contribute to our community?

11. In what ways could we show respect for our environment? Why should we respect the environment even if other people don't?

12. If you had the power to change one thing that other people do - what would you change, and why?  
*We publish Kiwi Can news once a school term. Primarily it is for grandparents or family members to encourage important discussions with Marlborough's primary school-aged children. This term's topic or theme is 'respect'. Who can deny that respect for self and others isn't an issue for us adults as well to learn and practise? Ed.)*

## Why join Grey Power?

The first woman to be elected as Grey Power national president, Jan Pentecost, had her version of leadership, and why we need Grey Power, published in the November 2020 newsletter. She wrote.

"I think we do make a difference. Just having access to politicians and others is a good start; many other organisations don't have that. The fact that just before the election all the main political parties, for the first time, agreed to support a seniors' commissioner, after years of lobbying by Grey Power, is a good example of an important gain..."

A gain such as this is a big reason why people join Grey Power.

Invoices for 2021 membership are being emailed or posted to members.

Some also join our committee. Our secretary Annie Percy says: "I joined as it is an organisation that

supports a large sector of our community in a variety of ways and I felt I wanted to be able to contribute to this. The fact that Grey Power has a good reputation in the community greatly influenced this decision."

Vice-President Gayle Chambers says: "I joined when I turned 55 as having spent a lot of time with older people in my working life I realised that all older persons had the same rights as others. I joined the committee several years ago, to hopefully make a difference, and realised how hard this organisation works to ensure members are well presented by local and National government. At 55, people may think they are too young to join an organisation like Grey Power, but for me it was ensuring, when I entered retirement, that I had Grey Power by my side lobbying to make my older years comfortable."

## AGM March 15, 2021

Grey Power Marlborough Inc. 2021 AGM notice of meeting, Tuesday 15 March, 2pm, RSA room at the Clubs of Marlborough.

### AGM agenda:

Election of officers; President's report; Adoption of Financial Statement; Appointment of Reviewer; Approval for suspension

of honoraria; Confirmation of Annual Subscription; General Business.

Jan Pentecost, national President, is guest speaker. Come and hear Jan speak. She is well worth listening to. We can also share our ideas with her at our AGM and chat over a cup of tea afterwards.



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**Room 19, Community Centre Building.  
In the corner of the carpark behind Farmers.  
Phone 03 5784950 or  
visit our website on  
[www.greypowermarlborough.co.nz](http://www.greypowermarlborough.co.nz)**