

GREY POWER

ADVERTISING FEATURE

From the President's desk

GAYLE CHAMBERS
President
Grey Power Marlborough

Last month I wrote about the importance of being vaccinated, and yet we still have the Nay Sayers who tell us about their rights not to get vaccinated. Recently we have had a non-

vaccinated person fly to Blenheim, only to find after a test that he had Covid-19.

How many innocent people did he infect on the way?

Now we have two positive cases in Christchurch, not vaccinated and who did not use the tracer app. It just beggars belief that these people don't care about



anyone but themselves, aware that because of their actions

someone may become very ill or die. The plague, smallpox, German measles, polio, chicken pox, mumps, to name a few, have all been managed, and in some cases eradicated, by vaccinating.

Do people who are against being vaccinated still get their children immunised to prevent them getting diseases and passing

them on?

Please, get vaccinated, wear a mask when near any other members of the public and use good hygiene so we can get on top of this epidemic.

The Delta variant is not only life threatening to the young and old, but to the middle age group as well; none of us are bullet proof.

In Brief

The office will be closed on Tuesday, November 9.

For the most up to date information, come and join us on Facebook - Grey Power Marlborough

If you have a business interested in advertising in our 2022 Discount Book, please get in touch.

We have a reach of around 5000 members, (add in family and some partners on top of that), all local consumers! It's a great way to reach a truly targeted audience as we all try to shop local. We love discounts, too!

Don't forget to use the discounts available in the Grey Power Marlborough discount book. Just let them know that Grey Power sent you and remember to show your membership card.

If you still have a green membership card, please remember to renew your membership subscription.

Occasionally we send out information by email for members, so if you have an email address, and do not mind hearing from us more frequently, get in touch if you have not received any emails recently.

Please check account numbers when doing internet banking.

Help update our records with phone, email, address changes to the office, phone 578 4950.

The office has received several scam emails re renewing either vehicle registrations or computer

antivirus protection. Please be careful.

Operation Cover-Up

There are currently 46 people in Marlborough knitting and crocheting blankets, scarves, hats and gloves for a nationwide organisation called Operation Cover-Up. These are then collected once a year and sent to children in orphanages in Eastern Europe countries.

As you can imagine this takes a lot of wool and any donations would be gratefully received. The wool can be any colour, any size and any quantity as it only takes two metres of wool to make the centre of a square.

If anyone has any spare or unwanted wool, please contact Noel Frater on (027) 237 3069. See <https://mwb.org.nz/get-involved/operation-cover-up> for more details.

Grey Power Achievements

We encourage people 50+ in age to join Grey Power. You may ask what you get in return. Here are another five of the 25

- achievements we are proud to have been effective in obtaining for seniors at the national level.
1. Spot Audits for Rest Homes
 2. Retention of Graduating Doctors - (Student Loan)
 3. Lowering Electricity Increase for ETS
 4. Retention of SuperGold Card



Always check and double check when you receive an unusual email.

Off-Peak Travel
5. Rates Rebate Scheme indexed to CPI. Amount now \$580 (originally \$500) and threshold now \$23,240 (from 20,000 originally)

Join Grey Power

Our 5000 Marlborough members receive benefits such as our business discount booklet.

Grey Power electricity also offers great savings in power costs, but you have to be a member! (\$26 single, \$37 double).

With our numbers we can advocate for you from a strong position with government, our MP, our Mayor and Council, the Nelson-Marlborough District Health Board and government agencies.

Grey Power membership starts at fifty years of age? Join your friends up, even as a bit of a

giggle at their achieving that milestone; then watch as they rejoin because they see the benefits of their membership.

Your Grey Power membership card will be valid anywhere in New Zealand, not just Marlborough? If you're over the hill (in Nelson!), your card will work for you there.

Left to our own Devices

A Marlborough business woman drove past a work site and observed a line of seated men taking their morning break.

The older men sat by themselves, tea in hand, not talking to anyone but looking lonely. The younger men were all engaged with their hand-held devices.

What does this say?

For a start, where is a better place at work to build the relationships that make a work place safer, more enjoyable and rewarding than at smoko?

Where can generations of workers share their life knowledge with each other, where older wisdom, mentoring, guidance, is shared and exchanged with the youthful energy?

How rude is it to spurn your fellows seated alongside, for the distant connection with others through the internet? Our colleagues offer more than that.

When I was young and working in a factory I valued the smoko time. We sat in a cafeteria, opposite to each other, no phone

devices then, and the older men I worked with handed on their practical experience and values, and in return were subject to the enthusiasms and idealism of youth.

As older citizens we should share with our young. Teach the art of conversation face to face, story telling, listening, the ability to read facial and body language, to draw people out and be drawn out, to be together in that most social of ways- talking to each other with respect, compassion, and with humanity.

It is what we are good at. It's what language is for. Communication.

Around the dinner table, the supper cocoa, the smoko tea, the cafe latte, the bus, the car, the train, the park bench, the walk with a fellow, the neighbourly chat at the gate.

It's more than a distraction from the world of the hand-held devices.

It's the meeting of minds, the attraction of ideas, the essence of debate and persuasion. It's sharing, mentoring, commiserating, accepting, acknowledging.

It's what we do, as social beings, and if we don't, we become lonely, depressed, isolated and far less knowledgeable, insular and ultimately antisocial, fearful, and irrational.

Don't leave each other to their own devices, for humanity's sake.
- Brian McNamara



GREY POWER MARLBOROUGH

**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**

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Kiwi Can conversation

As Martin Luther King said, "the time is always right, to do what is right".

Right now, these are the lessons our young people are learning.

Integrity is all about "doing the right thing, even when no one is watching".

This is the focus for the lessons in schools around Marlborough with the Graeme Dingle Foundation's "Kiwi Can" programme.

Marlborough kids are busy learning all about good decisions, accountability; and role models.

Kiwi Can is equipping our children with these important skills and values to help them thrive in the future, and become contributing members of our communities.

Let's talk about integrity

We'd love to encourage all those in the community to help extend this learning beyond the school gate.

Here are 10 simple conversation starters to kickstart the conversation with your grandchild, your moko or your next-door neighbour!

Why not talk to a child in your life about:



1. What does integrity mean? To them - and to you?
2. What was a time when you did the right thing - even though no one was watching?
3. When you have to make an important decision to make - what do you do? Do you have any tricks that can help? Where can you get help from if you need it?
4. Why should we make good

- choices?
5. What does it mean to be influenced? What kind of things (and people) can influence us when we make decisions?
6. Can you think of a time when you had to make a hard decision? What did you decide? Would you do it differently now?
7. It can be tricky to own up when we've made a mistake.

- How might we feel, and what thoughts might we have, when we are deciding whether to be accountable?
8. Have you ever experienced somebody cheating at something? How did it make you feel?
9. Why is it important that we follow through on the promises and commitments we make?
10. Who is someone you look up to because they are a good role

model, with integrity?

Newsletter Change

Our newsletter will be published from December in The Blenheim Sun, a decision made for commercial reasons by our committee.

Our newsletter will be first appearing in the Sun on Wednesday December 1.

NZHOUSE & GARDEN
The great Kiwi summer
new zealand gardener
The TV GUIDE
Telling it like it is
Why Wendy won't fake the news

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Stuart Smith MP for Kaikoura

Supporting our local communities

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03 314 7441

Blenheim
22 Scott Street, Blenheim
03 579 3204 or 0800 STUART

Funded by the Parliamentary Service. Authorised by Stuart Smith, Parliament Buildings, Wellington.

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