

# GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN TRUST NZ

National Office Newsletter

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



REPORT TO: Support Group Co-ordinators, GRG Members,  
Kin Carers, Community Organisations and others.

FROM: NZ National Office Convenor

SUBJECT: National Office NZ Report March 2011

**Carer Data base: 4637 members.**

Tena Koutou, Talofa Lava, Kia Orana, Fakaalofa Lahi Atu, Malo e Lelei, Bula Vinaka, Taloha Ni, Kam Na Mauri, Greetings to all.



## **From the National Office:**

### **To our very special members: (yes that's you)**

In this newsletter you have a car sticker; we ask very politely if you would be kind enough to place this on your car bumper or back window. As we have very little funding for advertising, we have to be lean and mean (but hey, we are used to that raising our grandchildren) Will you help us to help you by spreading the word please, not only to alert other GRG potential members but also the powers that be and the general public. Be part of our movement and spread the word! If you get this newsletter via email, please let us know if you would like one posted out. Just email us with your address and post code. Together we can do this! Thank you so much. **Grand Power comes to my mind.....**

### **Christchurch;**

How do we even begin to address this? Our hearts are absolutely ripped for you all. But being practical as we are, we get going. So what can we do as an organisation to assist you? I watched our 18 year old grand-daughter as she watched this unfold on TV and what impacted me was her reaction and re – trauma. This brought out, her very high anxiety. She was quite hysterical. It dawned on me for those children who have suffered trauma in the past this awakened something deep inside of her and what has it done it for yours? It also made me think what it must be like in particular for children in Christchurch who are living with their grandparents. Some will be resilient but others may not fair so well. These children can hide this sort of stuff. In the middle of April we have school holidays looming.

There have been many thousands of people offering a break away in their homes all over the country. Therefore we at GRG Trust would like to be able to take Christchurch GRG's into other GRG homes for some respite care; you would be with others who understand your particular issues. If you would like to avail yourselves of this offer, please contact Di on free phone 0800 472 637 or email us at

[office@grg.org.nz](mailto:office@grg.org.nz)

To make it easier please let us know the area you would prefer, dates, how many of you etc.

If you, as a GRG member could offer accommodation then please do the same. We stand beside you!

1. Name of person offering accommodation:
2. Home (contact) address:
3. Home telephone number:
4. Mobile phone number (if applicable):
5. Email address:
6. Location of available accommodation (town/suburb)?:
7. Accommodation type – share home: Bach/crib/flat: caravan please state)?:
8. Number of bedrooms?:
9. Number/type of beds?:
10. Accommodation available for a family OR females only OR males only? (please specify):
11. Other information: pets welcome? Special details on power/heating/cooking etc/meals supplied.
12. IMPORTANT: please specify the length of time that the accommodation is available:

Thank you.

*Also to let your know that GRG Trust NZ supplied hundreds of toothbrushes, (battery, with battery included and manual) razors for ladies & men, sanitary products, teddies, and water which were taken to Whenuapai base in Auckland and were distributed to people & families flying in from ravaged Christchurch, this was done by working with Victim Support. Thank you Maree Hemana in particular. Some families arrived with just the clothes on their backs. These products were all brand new of course, which we had been donated. A simple thing like a toothbrush can make a world of difference in these troubled times.*

## Work & Income Support;

For people affected by the Christchurch earthquake there is help available from W & I it is called 'Civil Defence Emergency Benefit'. An advance can be made to Christchurch residents for clothing and food payments, not necessarily a one off either. You do not have to be already on a benefit and it is not asset tested. You must prove you live in Christchurch. Displaced Ch/Ch people can access this in the area they are staying. Also for those of you who have lost family members a funeral grant can be made through ACC. We send you our condolences.

## From Wairarapa:

We have a HUGE manse available for accommodation for anyone that needs it. It used to be a dormitory at a private school, but was shifted next to our church. So it is completely empty, clean, carpeted, powered, and watered! From memory it has four or five huge bedrooms, two lounges, an enormous dining room and kitchen. Please contact Wendy on 06 377 2236

## Conference for us in November 2011: For GRG Members.

Advanced warning that this is happening and we will have heavily reduced fees for a certain number of our members, so watch this space.....it will be, first in first served. Note your diaries: November 16 and 17<sup>th</sup> at the Ellerslie Convention Centre in Auckland.

**Happy Birthday to us! We are now 12 years old. Oh, oh teenage years approach! Wonder if we will get stroppey like they do?**



## God moves in Mysterious ways:

We at the Trust have just had our updated green brochures reprinted 5000 of them. I (Di) was bemoaning the fact that I would have to stuff 100's of envelopes with these brochures for all manner of organisations. I said to Linda from our secretarial service that I needed a volunteer to do this. Low and behold less than 4 hours later the phone rang and it was a lady offering her services for volunteer work for GRG. She said she had, had a nagging thought to phone us to see if we needed a volunteer that very day! This gave me the shivers. Guess who now does not have to do this.

I have constantly said to our Board that we are blessed and indeed we are, often when things happen something pops up to ease the problem. Thank you Lord.

Speaking of brochures if you are an agency/service provider email us for updated version please we will need a postal address and post code.

## Next Available KidzaCool Adventures Programmes and Contact Details

Please contact the camps direct for Application forms or you can download from here: Ages of children are 5-12 and GRG Trust is your referral Agency, this is a free service. If camps are full they will roll applications over to the next camp. <http://www.healthcamps.org.nz/kidzacool>.

**April dates: 17<sup>th</sup> April – 21<sup>st</sup> April 2011**

<b>Whangarei</b> - Te Puna Whaiora Maunu Children's Health Camp <b>Phone</b> 09 437 9050 <b>Fax</b> 09 437 9059	<b>Auckland</b> - Te Puna Whaiora Pakuranga Children's Health Camp <b>Phone</b> 09 534 4017 <b>Fax</b> 09 537 4885
<b>Rotorua</b> - Te Puna Whaiora Rotorua <b>Phone</b> 07 345 9097 <b>Fax</b> 07 345 9096	<b>Gisborne</b> -Te Kainga Whaiora Children's Village, <b>Phone</b> 06 867 5614 <b>Fax</b> 06867 2876
<b>Otaki</b> Te Puna Whaiora Otaki Children's Health Camp <b>Phone</b> 06 364 8069 <b>Fax</b> 06 364 8072	<b>Roxburgh</b> Te Puna Whaiora Roxburgh Children's Health Camp <b>Phone</b> 03 446 8119 <b>Fax</b> 03 446 8064
<b>Christchurch</b> - Te Puna Whaiora Glenelg Children's Health Camp <b>Phone</b> 03 332 2541 <b>Fax</b> 03 332 7988 (Not operational due to earthquake Ph for possible alternative)	



## Your Voices:

### Always look on the bright side of life:

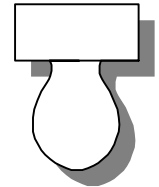
When I feel a little down or begin to feel sorry for myself I always sing that Monty Python, Life of Brian song. 'Always look on the bright side of life', complete with the whistling. It cheers me up no end. Imagine my surprise after a day at school my 8 year old grandson began singing it and then asked could I teach him how to whistle the tune. Wonder if he had had a bad day too? *Nanna*

### Raising Children and Mother Nature:

I can now understand why women of a certain age get menopause, it is a signal that their child rearing days are over I am convinced, this is why we have our babies young, to give us the strength and stamina to raise them. Fast forward the clock some 40 odd years and then to be confronted with raising children is another ball game all together! Albeit in our situations we did not have to go through the birth bit but everything else is all the same. But many things have changed, our energy levels are lower, our health may not be the best, hearing starting to go and eye sight begins to fail, this is in the mixing bowl. Now add to this a brand new baby or a truculent teen, give the mix a good stir around, add in a few negative outside influences and pour onto to tray. What have you got, sometimes, it is a recipe for disaster? The magic ingredient which we can contribute to this mixture is a good dose of wisdom. And if all else fails pop them on the back of your mobility scooter and take them for a ride. But all joking aside, it is NOT an easy task that we have all taken on is it. Yes the little successes we see make up for a lot, grab those moments and hang on to them dearly for you sure are going to need them thru the teen years. *Nana\**

### What's in the Toilet?

Had 5 and 6 year old grand-daughters stay the night, (ones we do not raise) older one came to me with a very odd look on her face. "Nan something strange is in the toilet" Fearing goodness knows what, I went to check. There in the toilet were 4 petals off the Tiger Lily (orange) which were in a vase on the sink bench. Turns out the younger one found they had fallen off so dropped them in the loo. "Oh" says Miss 6 "I thought they were prawns!" Never expected that! *Nan*



### Who needs skinny people?

Over the holidays I thought I would practice a ballet move with my 5yr old granddaughter that she hadn't mastered at the end of last year, wanting the best for my moko, (also to give her a head start before the start of the new term.) After about 15 mins of me jumping in a hop scotch pattern on the wooden deck trying to get her to follow my timing, she wasn't responding at all. I stopped and asked ' what's wrong baby and don't tell me you can't do this cause I've seen you do harder things, tell nanna' [I sensed there was something she wasn't telling me] after a little coaxing she said to my horror "can someone skinny show me" being the wise one in control, and always having the right word in season, I said,' you cheeky little monkey all the skinny people [2 uncles and granddad] in this house don't care about your ballet' [ she loves ballet ] her reply was,' but nana everytime you jump the wood bends and I don't want you to break it and get hurt if you fall through cause I love you'. Old head on baby's shoulders: in the end we went to the concrete out side and practiced. *NN*



### Tough Love, Lesson.

One of our grandchildren(now aged 9) has a habit of thinking that she is better than everyone else and continues to put people around her down, about what they have, or don't have (Pati pati cars) as she says and makes comments about other children with their dirty or stained clothes.

I am a softy and have tended to laps (give in) on punishment with her; however I finally had enough of this nasty and mean behavior and reminded her about where we had come from as children and our lifestyle. Which was no different from those she was hurting and maybe she needed a reminder lesson.

The next day she was sent to school in her dirty farm clothes that were also stained and I made sure they didn't get washed. She still looked better than when she first came to live with us, but we didn't tell her that. I let the school know what I was up to and they said "good on you"!

At the end of the day I asked her how her day went. She said that she had got teased. She didn't like it and that it was mean. We then had a discussion about it and how that is exactly how she made other people feel. That I as an adult, still remember how I felt when kids teased me at school and that is why I make sure not to judge anyone, as you don't know what their home life is like.

That people and their feelings are more important than what they have or what their clothes are like. THESE THINGS DON'T CHANGE WHO WE ARE. She is lucky that we are able to dress her nicely. We hope she has taken on board the importance of this lesson.

We have told her that next time it will be two days and with the same clothes. Don't think we will have to do it again. Was a hard thing for us to do but we are glad we did. People need to be more caring about each other.

*Tough Love Grandparents*

**I have a hard case story.** We went to the Grandparents picnic in the pouring rain on a Sunday afternoon. A lovely day to have a picnic, inside the hall at Kaharoa School, in Rotorua. Our little fella had a ball singing and dancing with all the other kiddies. We had a beautiful lunch and even given some free gifts which was a lovely surprise. Anyway we had musician there and he had some really good music going and moko was having a good old dance, so the musician asked moko what song would you like to sing and moko all of 2 1/2 said "She wears my ring".



The musician (shocked) said to moko " where on earth did you learn that song?" and moko said. "Uncle Shane" and started to sing it. What a classic. Thanks Grandparents raising Grandchildren we had a lovely day and it was so good to meet everyone else there.

*Love Nana Lorna*

### **Grandpa's school bus:**

I now understand why my husband retired! He has no time for working as he is too busy running the grandchildren to and from school, we are now not on regular bus routes so every morning and afternoon he does the run. 17 year old to her school (we raise her) 2 other grandchildren from different families pile in as well. Some may consider this a pain but he see's it as special bonding time.



*Go Poppy*

*The best and most beautiful things cannot be seen or touched - they must be felt with the heart -*

*Helen Keller*

- Happy moments, praise God.
- Difficult moments, seek God.
- Quiet moments, worship God.
- Painful moments, trust God.
- Every moment, thank God



### **Priority #1 is you!**

*New Year's resolution for caregivers: put yourself first*

By Dr. Marion Somers. PH.D.

With every New Year comes the promise of new beginnings, with many a resolution centered on improving on one's health, happiness and well-being. For those caring for an aging parent and or a young grandchild, though, it's tough to put yourself first. Caregivers tend to overlook their own mental and physical health, and often feel guilty about taking time for their selves. But did you know that's actually the best possible thing you can do for your loved one? The fact is, staying healthy and happy yourself will ultimately allow you to provide better care for someone else.

#### **Here's how you can get started:**

**Ask for help.** Caring for a loved one can be an overwhelming job, yet many caregivers are determined to go it alone. This is a mistake. You're not any less of a caregiver if you take some time out for yourself, seek out support or delegate tasks to others. All too often I see caregivers play the martyr when all they need to do is ask for help. It can be as simple as asking someone to help you fold laundry, or having a child visit or send a friendly card or e-mail to brighten a loved one's day.

**Mind your health.** I've seen caregivers who become so overworked and overwhelmed that they get sick and can no longer help their loved ones.

Studies have shown that care giving can lead to increased health problems; in fact, one third of caregivers report themselves to be in fair-to-poor health. This doesn't only mean physical illness; the impact also could be as simple as feeling exhausted or becoming bitter and resentful. This is not productive, and ultimately your loved ones' care could suffer.

**Get organised.** Keep track of everything: doctors' appointments, financial outlays, short-term and long-term goals. Take a close look at you own schedule and resources, and determine what it will really require for you to take care of yourself first, then to care for your loved. Be realistic about your limitations, your energy ever, your time constraints, your family obligations and your work commitments.

**Talk it out.** It often helps to have someone outside of your family to talk to, someone who won't judge you. If nobody is available or you're not comfortable with therapy, consider keeping a journal of your caregiving

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experience. Keeping perspective will help you stay balanced and give you more energy for yourself and your loved one.

(Jan Feb 2011) GRAND Magazine (Source) [http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/grand/20110102\\_v3/#/28](http://www.nxtbook.com/nxtbooks/grand/20110102_v3/#/28)

## Free National Caregiver Courses. May – July:

We strongly recommend the **Non Violent Crisis Intervention Course** if you are having problems with pre teens or teenagers out of control. Please use GRG Trust as your referring Agency

### May

Otago	<b>Legal Issues</b> Thursday 5 & Friday 6 May 9am-3pm both days	Gisborne	<b>Family Dynamics</b> Wednesday 18 & Thursday 19 May 9am-3pm both days
Lower Hutt	<b>Family Dynamics</b> Thursday 6 & Friday 7 May 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm	Blenheim	<b>Understanding Maltreatment</b> Friday 20 & Saturday 21 May 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm
Invercargill	<b>Family Dynamics</b> Thursday 6 & Friday 7 May 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm	Taupo	<b>Non-Violent Crisis Intervention</b> Friday 20 & Saturday 21 May 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm
Tauranga	<b>Older Child</b> Friday 6 & Saturday 7 May 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm	Waitakere	<b>Non-Violent Crisis Intervention</b> Friday 27 & Saturday 28 May 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm
Whanganui	<b>Understanding Maltreatment</b> Thursday 12 & Friday 13 May 9am-3pm both days	Palmerston North	<b>Safe Caring</b> Friday 27 & Saturday 28 May 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm
Timaru	<b>Older Child</b> Friday 13 & Saturday 14 May 9am-3pm both days	Dunedin	<b>Legal Issues</b> Friday 27 & Saturday 28 May 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm

### June

Christchurch	<b>Understanding &amp; Managing Behaviour</b> Tuesday 7 & Wednesday 8 June 9am-3pm both days	Nelson	<b>Family Dynamics</b> Friday 17 & Saturday 18 June 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm
Napier	<b>Family Dynamics</b> Wednesday 8 & Thursday 9 June 9am-3pm both days	Invercargill	<b>Non-Violent Crisis Intervention</b> Friday 17 & Saturday 18 June 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm
Henderson	<b>Understanding Maltreatment</b> Friday 10 & Saturday 11 June 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm	New Plymouth	<b>Non-Violent Crisis Intervention</b> Friday 24 & Saturday 25 June 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm
Hamilton	<b>Understanding Maltreatment</b> Friday 10 & Saturday 11 June 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm	Tauranga	<b>Non-Violent Crisis Intervention</b> Friday 24 & Saturday 25 June 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm
Masterton	<b>Older Child</b> Friday 17 & Saturday 18 June 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm	Nelson	<b>Older Child</b> Tuesdays: 28 June, 5 & 12 July 6pm-9pm
Wellington Central	<b>Non-Violent Crisis Intervention</b> Friday 17 & Saturday 18 June 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm		

### July

Levin	<b>Understanding &amp; Managing Behaviour</b> Friday 1 & Saturday 2 July 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm	Gisborne	<b>Child Health</b> Friday 8 & Saturday 9 July 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm
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Timaru	<b>Legal Issues</b> Friday 1 & Saturday 2 July 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm 9am-3pm	Hamilton	<b>Older Child</b> Friday 8 & Saturday 9 July 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm
Grey Lynn	<b>Older Child</b> Thursday 7 & Friday 8 July 9am-3pm both days		

If you have any questions please contact: Matt de Wit 0800 227 305 [Matt.dewit002@cyf.govt.nz](mailto:Matt.dewit002@cyf.govt.nz)  
To register use free phone or register on line. [www.caregivertraining.org.nz](http://www.caregivertraining.org.nz)

**This is very interesting:**

We deal with personal GPS locators for at risk children and adults. It is 'Live' tracking, and accurate to within a metre of the wearer.

This is brand new technology in NZ. We were personal users of the locator with our son Nathan who has Down Syndrome, before being persuaded by the company in Australia to promote it here.

The peace of mind it gives is beyond gold! And, it gave us our first good night's sleep, for quite a number of years.

The purchase and ongoing costs can be fully funded, if you are eligible, through Winz and AccessAble. Alternatively, Children's Variety and Lotteries Board will also look towards funding the purchase costs.

Could I invite you to check out our web site at [www.trakakiwi.co.nz](http://www.trakakiwi.co.nz) , where you will find our own personal testimony about our experience.

Our story was also in the Family Care magazine for December. Below is the link:

[http://www.carers.net.nz/resources/family\\_care\\_magazine](http://www.carers.net.nz/resources/family_care_magazine)

If you look at the box to the left you will see the article listed as 'Nathan Houdini Hartley'.

Can I add that we think your members do a fantastic job. I'm a Grandmother too, so I can imagine what it would be like raising my six grandchildren, if anything happened to my daughters.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Yours Sincerely,

**Susie Hartley**

Ph: 021 0294 9833 E;Mail/Skype: [Susie@trakakiwi.co.nz](mailto:Susie@trakakiwi.co.nz)



**For Auckland Caregivers:**



**Free Legal Education Session**

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Topics to be discussed:

10am to 11am

- Parenting Orders

- WILLS

11am to 12pm

- Powers of Attorney

- Guardianship

Date: Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2011

Time: 10am sharp to 12pm.

Venue: Freyburg Lounge  
Manurewa RSA  
8 Maich Road,  
Manurewa

Light lunch will be provided. Freyburg Lounge seats up to 50 people, if there is anyone that is interested please ask them to RSVP by Friday 25<sup>th</sup> March 3.00pm to: Ina Croft (Community Liaison Worker)

Ph: (09) 262 2007 Ext: 6 Email: [ina.croft@ntklaw.org.nz](mailto:ina.croft@ntklaw.org.nz)

## Formal GRG Support Groups: All welcome.

Locality	Name	Phone	E-mail Address
Auckland East **	Tess Gould-Thorpe	09 535 6903	<a href="mailto:pan@xnet.co.nz">pan@xnet.co.nz</a>
Auckland North **	Bonnie Williams	09 473 9055	<a href="mailto:willingclan@xtra.co.nz">willingclan@xtra.co.nz</a>
Auckland South **	Virginia Peebles	09 256 1620	
Auckland West **	Debbie Hall	09 818 7828	<a href="mailto:debron@xtra.co.nz">debron@xtra.co.nz</a>
Canterbury** ****North	Jan Farquhar	03 313 6487	<a href="mailto:farlaw@xtra.co.nz">farlaw@xtra.co.nz</a>
Coromandel*	Keitha Jenkins	07 866 8273	<a href="mailto:northbrook@slingshot.co.nz">northbrook@slingshot.co.nz</a>
Dannevirke *	Denise Henman	06 374 5855	<a href="mailto:denise.henman@xtra.co.nz">denise.henman@xtra.co.nz</a>
Dargaville *	Barbara Sterling	09 439 4555	<a href="mailto:ladybee@vodafone.co.nz">ladybee@vodafone.co.nz</a>
Hokitika *	Fran Edwards	03 755 8142	
Huntly **	Lodi Liebert	07 828 6123	<a href="mailto:rulo@clear.net.nz">rulo@clear.net.nz</a>
Invercargill *	Christine Marsh	03 216 9773	<a href="mailto:chrisandbob@xtra.co.nz">chrisandbob@xtra.co.nz</a>
Kaitaia *	Irene Turner-Crombie	09 408 3446	<a href="mailto:iturnercrombie@gmail.com">iturnercrombie@gmail.com</a>
Kaiwaka*	Sarah Rogers	09 431 2194	<a href="mailto:sarah_jane@clear.net.nz">sarah_jane@clear.net.nz</a>
Levin*	Ann Waddell	06 362 7269	<a href="mailto:ann.hen@xtra.co.nz">ann.hen@xtra.co.nz</a>
Napier **	Sherri Mead	06 875 0720	
Nelson **	Paula Eggers	03 548 6660	<a href="mailto:paulaegggers2000@yahoo.com.au">paulaegggers2000@yahoo.com.au</a>
Otago * Est/Nth	Aad & Leonie	03 465 1764	<a href="mailto:omaandopa@xtra.co.nz">omaandopa@xtra.co.nz</a>
Rotorua **	Win Macredie	07 345 5003	<a href="mailto:winmacredie@xtra.co.nz">winmacredie@xtra.co.nz</a>
Rotorua **	Cyril Anderson	07 347 8163	<a href="mailto:judycyril@xtra.co.nz">judycyril@xtra.co.nz</a>
Te Kuiti *	Leonie Tirrell	07 878 3220	
Upper Hutt **	Margaret Pearson	04 976 9475	<a href="mailto:maggiemagpie@paradise.net.nz">maggiemagpie@paradise.net.nz</a>
Wairarapa **	Wendy Archer	06 377 2236	<a href="mailto:marcher@paradise.net.nz">marcher@paradise.net.nz</a>
Wanganui **	Lynette Dickinson	06 344 2830	<a href="mailto:lynette.deedee@gmail.com">lynette.deedee@gmail.com</a>
Wellington **	Cecilee Donovan	04 477 0632	<a href="mailto:cecileed@gmail.com">cecileed@gmail.com</a>
Wellington *	Terry Ututaonga	027 478 9448	<a href="mailto:murray.terryu@actrix.co.nz">murray.terryu@actrix.co.nz</a>
Whakatane *	Shirley Faulkner	07 322 8524	<a href="mailto:shirleyfaulkner@xtra.co.nz">shirleyfaulkner@xtra.co.nz</a>
Whangarei **	Janet Puriri	09 435 0044	<a href="mailto:jpuriri@ihug.co.nz">jpuriri@ihug.co.nz</a>

\* Telephone support only: \*\* Telephone Support & Meetings. March 2011

### **Informal Coffee group: For times and venues**

Auckland Central: June 09 630 2409  
 Coromandel/Tairua/Whitianga: Brenda 07 866 4476  
 Hamilton: Yvonne 07 829 8246  
 Howick/Manukau: Lorraine 09 271 2900  
 New Plymouth: Sue 06 756 7542 /027 8569242/txt  
 Palmerston North: Triphena 06 355 8316  
 Tauranga: Colleen 07 578 5341  
 Te Kauwhata: Denise 07 826 3779  
 Wairarapa: Sheryl 06 304 9957



If you would like to start an informal coffee group in your area please contact Di at Head Office

### **Onions:**

The value of onions: In winter time to avoid the flu place peeled onions around your home, onions absorb bacteria, do not eat them after doing this. Replace regularly. They also absorb paint fumes.

### **Di & Team (you as a caregiver are part of our team)**

National Convenor  
 heoi ano, na

*E te Atua, aroha mai.... O God shower us with love. Ka kite*

**Can we help you? Members Services Nationwide  
Toll free line 0800 472 637**

**Field Officers:**

**Alison Cuthbert:**

Alison was a Social worker for over 40yrs: Can attend CYF Family Group Conferences (where practicable) to act as a support person for GRG's: A Family Court Counsellor working with those who have relationship issues and is familiar with the Family Court procedures related to general counselling and court procedures when applications are being made for who will assume the Primary Care role for children. Strengthening Families support. Hours 9-3pm week days. Ph 09 445 9671

**Nola Adams:**

A GRG member for 10 years: Telephone advice can be given on the following topics Justice and Prison system, including Youth Court. Strengthening Families support.

Family Court applications: for persons wishing to self-represent: Child Youth and Family representation where practicable/advice. Disability advice and the Schooling system. Ph 06 845 3141

**Diana East:**

In depth knowledge on issues impacting on grandparents raising grandchildren; has many years working with mental health consumers and carers. This gives her a very good understanding of a wide range of mental health issues. She was also involved with research on Grandparenting issues in Australia. Hours 9 – 5pm week days. Diana can be contacted on 04 970 8177

**Tricia Corin:**

A GRG member for 10 years and a Beneficiary Advocate: If you are having problems with your Benefits from Work and Income / Inland Revenue or are unsure if you are on the right Benefit, needing advice on UCB or DPB, Disabilities Allowance or recoverable and non recoverable advances. Hours 11am – 5pm Ph 07 8685490  
**Please note that our Field Officers are Part Time.**

**Together we will and do make a difference in a child's life.**

Please feel free to send/email this report on to others whom you think may be interested:

Please pass this on to other grandparents/kin carers you know of.

Disclaimer: Views expressed in this newsletter may not be the views of the GRG Trust.

Copyright covers this newsletter.

GRG Trust Head Office hours are 9am-3pm daily. (We raise grandchildren too)

We are a voluntary organisation.

All donations to the GRG Trust are tax deductible.

Abbreviations:

GRG – Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

H/O – Head Office

H/B – Handbook

BOT – Board of Trustees

CYF – Child Youth & Family Services

Co's – Co-ordinator/s

UCB – Unsupported Child Benefit.

WINZ – Work & Income NZ now DWI – Department of Work & Income

Grands – Grandparents

G/c – grandchild/ren

Kin – Kinship Carers

BPS – Business Professional Services. Our out Secretarial Service.

**Are your children under CYF?**

Do you have trouble getting hold of your Social Worker? If this is the case then you can call

0508 CARER 0508 227 377 they will then make sure you are spoken to by your Social Worker and if they are not available then someone else will talk to you

[www.grg.org.nz](http://www.grg.org.nz) or [www.kin.org.nz](http://www.kin.org.nz) or [www.raisinggrandchildren.org.nz](http://www.raisinggrandchildren.org.nz) or [www.raisinggrandchildren.net](http://www.raisinggrandchildren.net)

Email [office@grg.org.nz](mailto:office@grg.org.nz)

National Convenor: Di Vivian

Free Phone 0800 GRANDS or 0800 472637 (not for use for Auckland callers) Landline users only.

Telephone: (09) 480 6530

Postal Add: PO Box 34 892 Birkenhead. Auckland 0742

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter please contact the Trust Office as this is where the total mail out membership is kept. Moved home or planning to? Be sure to let us know.

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