



**GRANDPARENTS RAISING GRANDCHILDREN TRUST NZ  
Grandparents and Kincares NZ**

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

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

From: NZ National Office Convenor. September 2010

**Carer Data base: 4483 members.**

Tena koutou katoa, greetings to all

**A special message:**

*Condolences we send to Christchurch members of GRG in surrounding areas. Our thoughts are with you all. We also have huge sympathy for all affected by the quakes.*

A very quick way I made my granddaughter more at ease was to make a new game. We call it Earthquake Bed shake. When everything is calm we run into the bed room and take it in turns to lie on the bed while the others shake it as hard as they can. We now have no apprehension about when the earth moves. Hope someone finds this helpful.  
Sharyn

**From Our GRG Co in Canterbury:** Yes the major earthquake - and now the after-shocks - have been horrific, to say the least.  
There are loads of traumatised children in our group and a lot of very frightened Grandparents as well - trying to cope with youngsters at the age of some of Grandparents seems so unfair really. They are not as fast at moving as they would like to be, and their own fears as well as those of the children all makes this whole natural disaster magnified.

**The GRG Board** would like to acknowledge our GRG Co Jan, although no damage was done to their home she has been dealing with traumatised grandchildren of her own plus fielding calls from many grand's needing assistance. She put on a muffin morning tea for her group and the GRG Board supplied colouring in books, felt pens and crayons, plus a little gift for the grandparents. We have sourced 2 links to help you and the grand/kin children [Helping children after trauma](#) and [Supporting children through traumatic events](#) These will also help those who are raising children who have not been through and earthquake but have traumatised children.

**Dear Members.**

We were given miss-information in regard to the article on Life Care Package in the last newsletter. This only applies if you are taking Orders over the children from now, not if you already have them.

Apparently **existing kin carers who are caring for children under CYF may also be asked to take permanency of the children**, if they agree then the Care package applies to them also. If you agree to do this then you must talk to CYF about the Care Package and get an agreement signed up.

We sincerely apologise, we printed the information in good faith as we were told from those that should have known.

For more information check out <http://www.cyf.govt.nz/info-for-caregivers/home-for-life/home-for-life.html>.

## UCB and Foster Care rates Increase: As of 1st October

Weekly board rate Weekly pocket money – included in board rate

### UCB Basic rate and Foster Care basic rate.

0 - 4 years \* \$137.64 \* 5 - 9 years \$159.72 \* 10 -13 years \$176.26 \* 14 + years \$192.70

### Foster carers only:

*Birthday & Christmas allowance:*

0 - 4 years \* \$68.82 \* 5 - 9 years \$79.86 \* 10 -13 years \$88.13 \* 14 + years \$96.35

*Clothing allowance quarterly rate:*

0-4 \* \$236.03 \* 5 - 9 years \$267.47 \* 10 -13 years \$330.30 \* 14 + years \$396.49

## Our GRG Newsletters:

It never ceases to amaze us that our membership is so huge and the amount of returned mail is so small. It appears you love getting these newsletters as when you move houses or indeed to different towns you let us know! Fantastic!

**Rates Rebates:** The Rates Rebate Scheme provides a rebate of up to \$570.00 for low income earners who were paying rates for the home in which they were living in on July 2010. For more information and an application form either phone you local Councils rates office or go to [www.ratesrebates.govt.nz](http://www.ratesrebates.govt.nz)

## Children in Care report September 2010

The Families Commissioner's report is now available in this link (below) sorry we could not reproduce it here as it is 270 pages long. If you would like to read it is well worth it.

[http://www.occ.org.nz/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0008/7694/CC\\_ChildreninCareReport\\_09.09.2010.pdf](http://www.occ.org.nz/_data/assets/pdf_file/0008/7694/CC_ChildreninCareReport_09.09.2010.pdf)



### Your Voices:

Thank you for your newsletters. When I initially read some of the stories back in April I was a bit shocked at how sour the relationships were for many grandparents with the parents of their grandchildren. I thought to myself that won't be like that for me, I can still maintain a relationship with my daughter. Unfortunately though in the past three weeks, I feel like I have been turned inside out, as my daughter has lied and become abusive. It's really hard, but now I have a little more understanding of the grandparent's stories. Thank you for being available. M

**Thanks for your GRG info.** I finally have Guardianship of my 8 year old grandson. He is doing extremely well and loves School, gym and Judo. I am teaching him piano and guitar. Last month he gave a speech at a Peace Conference in front of 800 people. All his own, what he feels about the environment, etc...direct and from the heart. It was even reported in the Japanese papers! MD

### The Kingfisher:

Poor thing hit the window with a thud and lay dazed on the path, young grandson 5 and little miss aged 7 looked on in horror. We popped it into a cage with hay in a warm spot to recover and yes it did! A most beautiful specimen! Grandson pondered if it was a boy or girl. Little miss stated, "It is a boy as it is called a kingfisher, if it was a girl it would be called a queenfisher!" Don't ya love 'em.

### My Nana.

My Nana is so special.  
Her love knows no bounds.  
A room takes on a special warmth  
whenever she's around.

By Sarah-Rose.



She thinks I'm cute and talented  
and maybe, even wise.  
But I know that's  
because Nana  
sees me through loving  
eyes.

Every day with her is precious.  
She loves me all the time.  
Of all the Nana's in the world  
I'm so happy she's all mine.

## **Best thing I ever did:**

Was to join Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, have one grandie and now getting a wee baby, I am so grateful for all the assistance. Gran V

## **Kia ora to you all**

What a wonderful group you are! My name is Edna and I love the news letter that is sent out to me the humour is wonderful the stories good, sad and bad. I have 9 children when I look back a wonderful time we had bringing them up good and bad they were all different (were they ever),but they are all good kids, although some are now grand parents. We have bought up 7 of our mokopuna and now I have another aged 7. She wasn't going to school Mum and Dad caught up in the "I don't know what to do", but this is number 8 of my many mokopuna that I and my late husband have intervened with and bought up. I look at them that we cared for who have grown up and have their own children, they are ok I can only hope that they will be, and are good parents, and pray that we have done a good job I must emphasize, we never ever stopped the parents from seeing their children this was a family effort all round. My late husband taught me how to laugh at the worst scenarios but he made it be known to our whole family that all wanted from them was, don't tell me lies: Don't steal from me: Please and thank you be said. We are a kissy, kissy whanau with lots of hugs. Today I have my 2 daughters living with me so here's hoping.

God Bless You all. What you are doing as Grand Parents is what Whanau Ora is all about, the Health and the Well Being of the whole family. Edna

**A Big Hello:** to all the Grannies and Gramps, looking after their off springs, offspring.

Reading last months Newsletter which has just arrived in my email box I noticed that there were quite a few sad stories about looking after our grandchildren, I well know that we all have our ups and downs but having an up is like having a sunny day it makes you forget about all the wet days.

I'd like to tell you folks about the "up" I had from my Granddaughter.

I'm 78 and grew up with music on 78 records, remember the little handle you had to turn and the steel needle you had to change for a new one every 3 records or so.

Well I have lot of music and most of it is from the forties to the sixties and I love listening to it in the car much to the dismay of the younger generation I may add.

My music is mostly on tapes and CD's as I only have a Tape deck in the car I went on TradeMe looking for a dual radio that would play both CD's and Tape's

What are you up to Opa a young voice asks me, so I told her, "don't look any further she says when we go into Dunedin on Monday I'll help you get something."

Monday comes we go into Dick Smiths she has a talk to the sales girl we went over to a cabinet where the young lady got out a shiny object that looked like a small pocket knife, Bonnie says to me 'Opa this is a MP3 player you load it up with music from the computer plug it into a special tape which fits into your car radio and you have all the music you want", and you know what this tiny thing which is about 6 cm long 2 cm wide and 1 cm thick holds over 1100 songs.

If it hadn't been for my Granddaughter I would never ever have known that such a thing existed.

The reason why I am relating this story is that us Grandparents have been blessed with lots of positives as well, in our case we've been able to keep track of a lot of new developments, we also got to know their friends and even more important their friends parents, who in turn have benefited from our experience as we been there and done that.

So in conclusion I'd just like to emphasize that the positives do seem to cancel out the negatives, and remember that a glass is half full for the optimist. Kind Regards from Aad Vogel.

## **Kia ora koutou:**

My name is Joanne Henare and I am employed as the Family/Whanau Advisor Mental Health & Addiction Services MidCentral Health in Palmerston North. The role provides confidential advice,

support, advocacy and information for service users, family/whanau and friends concerned by mental health and addiction issues. Need information about mental health and addiction problems? Want to know how to navigate these services?

Do you require coping strategies for you and your family/whanau?  
Just need someone to talk too?

I have been a regular recipient of the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren newsletter for several years now. I find the content informative, enlightening, emotionally moving, empowering, relevant and real to say the least. I commend all families/whanau, grandparents, koroua, kuia and caregivers out there offering our tamariki/children and rangatahi/young people a safe and nurturing environment to thrive.

I am a member of the National DHBs Family/Whanau Advisors Mental Health and Addictions Network. **This network consists of Family/Whanau Advisors from across the country.** I would like to offer my contact details to anyone who may require confidential advice, support or information regarding the mental health and addictions sector. I am happy to be contacted via email and/or phone.

**Joanne Henare Family/Whanau Advisor Mental Health & Addiction Services**  
MidCentral Health [joanneh@midcentraldhb.govt.nz](mailto:joanneh@midcentraldhb.govt.nz) (06) 350 8160 027 333 5405

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### Purely Social Coffee group:

We are looking to start coffee/tea groups in all areas of NZ. These are **social only** and not a support groups per sae, no rules, nor fundraising, no names of groups, no minute taking, no co-ordinator, secretary etc .....just time for a chin wag, laughs and companionship.



The very first one is being organised for Pukekohe if you would like to know where to meet, times etc please phone Raewyn on 09 238 1703. If you would like to be the contact person for your area, please let Di know at National Office. ☺ These **MUST** be informal.

*“Grandchildren are the dots that connect the lines from generation to generation.”-Lois Wyse*



### Passive-Aggressive Child Behavior: Hidden Anger in Kids:

Does your child take forever to get up, eat breakfast and do his homework and chores? You nag, threaten and repeat yourself, but he still doesn't seem to pay attention to anything you say. Here, James Lehman explains the passive-aggressive ways kids control you—and how they use it to avoid responsibility.

Is your child shirking his responsibilities?

It's important to understand that while some kids with behaviour disorders get angry and act out, these kids get angry and act in.

Passive resistance is when kids learn to develop power over you by resisting you. In fact, it's the opposite of aggression: instead of threatening or yelling at you, a passive-aggressive child simply doesn't answer you. He just walks into the house, goes upstairs and doesn't say anything.

When you call up to his room, he pretends not to hear you; instead, he makes **you** come upstairs. Understand that this is one way for a child to have power, and many become experts at this kind of passive-aggressive behaviour.

These are kids who generally don't know how to communicate well or solve the problems associated with anger or anxiety. It's important to understand that while some kids with behaviour disorders get angry and act out, these kids get angry and act **in**.

Understand that I'm not talking about passive personalities—I'm talking about passive resistant behaviour. These are kids who use resistance as a way to get back at you, and to gain control or power. They're the kids who say, "I don't want to do what Mom wants me to do, but I won't confront her. I'll just drag my feet until she leaves me alone." Or he'll blow you off until he frustrates you—and in his mind, if he annoys you and you start yelling, he wins.

After all, you lost control, and he didn't. Now he feels like he's in control: you're frustrated and you're yelling, "Why aren't you doing your homework? I told you three times!" And he's sitting there on the sofa, satisfied with the knowledge that he got to you. Sometimes he tells you to stop yelling and leaves you feeling frustrated and foolish.

### **How Does Passive-Aggressive Behaviour Develop in Kids?**

Passive-aggressive behaviour in kids is a big problem in a lot of parents' lives. For one reason or another, their child develops a way of avoiding feelings or confronting anger. They don't learn how to talk about conflicts, frustrations, hostility and the things they think are unfair. Sadly, this pattern will often continue to develop in a person's life through adulthood — and make no mistake, it causes serious problems for them.

Think of how destructive passive-aggressive behaviour is in adult relationships. When adults can't be assertive and communicate their needs, they often rely on passive resistance — little ways of getting back at their spouse which eventually cause a lot of resentment and anger to build. Instead of building bridges, passive-aggressive behaviour tears down communication quietly, closing window after window.

When people are passive-aggressive, realize that they often don't really know it until it's identified. They'll tell you that things don't bother them and they don't care, but then you'll see them fighting their partner or resisting things for no apparent reason. And kids will be the same way.

They'll tell you they don't care and that it doesn't matter, but then you'll see them resisting you over something that's meaningless. They do it by being real slow to get their homework started, not answering when you talk to them, and ignoring your requests to do their chores.

### **How Do Kids Control you with Passive Resistance?**

By resisting you, your child is often training you to give up and leave him alone. He's training you to believe he can't do it. He's making you lower your expectations so you'll expect less from him. And the truth is, passive resistance often works for kids.

I think parents really need to be on top of this kind of behaviour. There's a concept in the mental health field called "learned helplessness" which is very important for parents to understand. This is where kids learn that if they act helpless, eventually someone else will do the job for them.

They learn that if they resist long enough, you'll do the dishes yourself. If they don't answer you when you call them, you'll eventually walk upstairs or take the garbage out. Or if they shut down when you ask them to mow the lawn, you'll still give them \$15 when they need it. Bit by bit, your expectations are lowered until you don't have expectations anymore.

But realize that once you do this, you're only setting your child up for failure. Really, childhood and adolescence is the time in your child's life when he needs to grow and learn. If you let them off the hook with few responsibilities, they simply won't gain the skills they need to move on to adulthood. Even though they may feel like they're getting away with something, they're actually falling into a trap that will be very hard for them to climb out of later.

### **Why It's Healthy to Get Angry in Front of Your Kids**

I think from the time your kids are young, you need to encourage them to voice anger or hostility appropriately. You can say, "Just like parents get angry sometimes, it's okay for kids to get angry, too." In fact, I think it's healthy to let your child see you angry — and then see you get over it and resolve the conflict. It's better for kids to learn by what they see and hear, rather than to simply listen to speeches about how they should behave.

Remember, the idea is *not* to never get angry as a parent—the idea is to be a good role model for your child by handling your anger appropriately. So when you get angry, handle it like an adult. In my opinion, if you can't handle your anger and simply hold it in all the time—or on the other hand, if you're explosive—your child may not learn how to handle anger effectively, either.

I know it's popular these days for people to say that you should never get angry in front of your child. In my opinion, children who grow up in homes where parents handle anger effectively will learn to handle it, too. Think of it this way: if you hide your anger as an adult, how is your child going to learn to handle *his* anger and frustration?

### **Should I Talk to My Child When He Drags His Feet?**

I believe it's a good idea to sit down and talk with your child when there's a behaviour issue you want to address with him. It's important to find out if his anger or anxiety is getting in the way, if he understands the assignment he's procrastinating on, or if he's having problems at school.

Certainly we want to rule out things like depression, thyroid problems, or other factors that might be contributing to this behaviour. *If you think there are physiological causes for your child's behaviour, have him assessed by a trained medical professional as soon as possible.*

Understand that most kids will drag their feet if they don't understand their homework or if it looks too big for them. That may be passive resistance, but it's passive resistance because they're afraid of something or they're frustrated. I believe that the parenting roles of "Teacher" and "Coach" are vital in this situation, because you want to help your child learn why this is happening, and then coach him to be more organized.

### **Tips for Helping Your Child When He's Avoiding Something:**

**Compartmentalize the Assignment:** When your child thinks an assignment or task is too big, you can help him as a parent by teaching him how to compartmentalize tasks. You can say, "Let's get this much done tonight." Or "Let's get this much of the project done this week." A good way to handle this is to ask your child, "How much do you think you can get done tonight? How much do you think you can get done this week?" That way, you're teaching him how to plan.

If he comes back with something that's too little, you need to say, "No, I don't think that's enough. I think you're selling yourself short. Why don't you try to do this much instead?" If he gives you an amount that sounds too big, just say, "That sounds like an awful lot to me. It may not be realistic, Thomas. Let's see how much you get done in an hour and then re-evaluate it." So you help him learn how to moderate himself and get organized.

### **Use Hurdle Help:**

In the Total Transformation, there's something I call "Hurdle Help." This is where you get your child started on something that he's having a hard time with on his own. So for example, if it's an English assignment, ask him some questions about what he's writing about. You might give him a sentence to begin the project. I'm not suggesting you do the assignment for him—rather, you get him over the first hurdle and let him take it from there. All kids need a little boost to get started.

### **Keep Distractions to a Minimum:**

Keep the bedroom door open and the music off when your child is doing schoolwork. Check in on him intermittently to make sure he's actually doing the work. Reduce distractions. If you can't check in on him enough, have him do his work downstairs. The idea is that your child should understand that he has to perform whether he's angry or not. I don't care if his anger is carried out in a resistant way or in an aggressive way—he's still responsible for it.

### **When Kids Use Passive Resistance to be Non-compliant**

When kids use passive-aggressive behaviour in order to get away with not following through on their responsibilities, I believe you need to be very firm with them. There are definitely things you can do to improve this kind of behaviour, but whatever you do, keep your "good enough" parenting skills in place. You want to have an open mind and be objective. When you're angry and frustrated by your child's behaviour, remind yourself that he's only your child being annoying—even if he seems like a monster at that moment.

Remember, passive-aggressive behaviour is an ineffective coping skill. In order for a child to stop using it, they have to learn an effective coping skill with which to replace it. Coping skills will not be abandoned because they're ineffective unless a more healthy coping skill is learned to replace it.

### **Tell Your Child the Consequences of Inaction — and Set Time Limits**

Sit down and talk with your child when things are going well. Tell him straight out what you see happening: that he's not producing enough, striving enough or pushing himself enough. Then tell him what the consequences will be from now on. Inform him that you're going to set time limits on what has to be done, and if he doesn't meet that time limit, then he's going to lose his phone or computer until it's done.

Certainly it's up to parents to be reasonable about the timeframe. You can even say, "I want the basement cleaned by Monday. And if not, you're losing your phone till it's done." So you don't have to give your child tight time frames. I think it's better to give him choices. But regardless, he needs to be held accountable if he doesn't get it done within a certain time.

### **Build in Rewards:**

You also want to build in rewards for your child for getting things done early. Train your child that there's a reward for putting in effort and getting the task done early and pushing himself. So just like there's a reward for kids when they don't act out, there's a reward for your child when he doesn't act *in*.

Meeting his timelines would be one of the goals. For example, if he has all his homework done the night before, finishes breakfast without dawdling, gets ready for school and gets to the bus on time in the morning, he gets a reward. You might let him stay up a half an hour later. In this way, you're training and motivating him to do things on time.

### **Invite Your Passive-Aggressive Child to Talk about His Anger:**

If you think your child is being passive-aggressive because he gets angry and can't voice his feelings, invite him to talk about those things. Just say, "If you're angry about something, it's safe to talk to me." And I think "safe" is an important word here.

Say, "It's okay if you feel angry or afraid, but continuing this behaviour won't solve the problem. Talk to me. I'll try to hear you. But I expect you to do the work whether you're angry or not. Being angry is no excuse."

Parents can also train kids by directly stating what you see happening: "I think you're not loading the dishwasher because you're angry that I wouldn't let you stay out last night late. And I want you to know that I understand that—but it's not a justification. You still have to do the dishes. And if they're not done by eight o'clock, I'm taking the keyboard out of your room."

Remember, expectations have to remain clear. Whatever happens, your child has to learn how to perform, how to produce, and how to survive in life—that's all there is to it. Too much excuse-making has come into our culture, and too many people have been allowed to get away with not keeping up with their responsibilities.

You see people at 35 who have had mediocre jobs that they don't like all their life and they can't get ahead. They have no skills because no one ever made them follow through and do the work. I think that very clearly, the message has to be, "You have to learn to take care of yourself and meet your responsibilities. You're accountable."

Do we want to be understanding? Yes. Do parents need extra training for kids like this? Often they do. But nonetheless, the responsibility is ultimately on the child to grow up and learn how to live in our society—and on the parents to teach him how to do it.

*Passive-Aggressive Child Behavior: Hidden Anger in Kids* **reprinted with permission from Empowering Parents. For more information, visit [www.empoweringparents.com](http://www.empoweringparents.com)**



*James Lehman is a behavioral therapist and the creator of The Total Transformation Program for parents. He has worked with troubled teens and children for three decades. James holds a Masters Degree in Social Work from Boston University. For more information, visit [www.thetotaltransformation.com](http://www.thetotaltransformation.com).*

## **Helping Kids Get Rid of Anxiety:**

**By Michael Grose**

Anyone who has experienced anxiety will know how. For those with no personal experience of anxiety it can be hard to understand how debilitating it can be.

“Come on, get on with it” seems so obvious. Of course, this response is nowhere near adequate.

Around one in ten children struggle with anxiety. Nearly 50% of adult sufferers of anxiety say it began in childhood.

Presumably, they weren’t taught the skills to cope as kids so anxiety took hold.



Most kids like adults, experience some anxious moments or have fearful thoughts and feelings from time to time about certain events. These thoughts and feelings prompt them to proceed with caution rather than rush in where angels fear to tread.

But anxiety and fear can be paralyzing. Some kids simply can’t stop their ‘bad thoughts and feelings’. They can’t silence the voice of fear that whispers to them continually.

Parents are an obvious choice to help children overcome anxious moments. Remember, anxiety is a normal part of life and can be managed, but it takes time and it can’t be solved in one conversation.

Anxiety is contagious. Parents and children can feed each other’s anxieties. So it’s the job of parents to stay calm, think clearly and role model confidence when kids get anxious. Here are some ideas:

### **1. Calm is created through your words, voice and facial expression.**

When children become anxious, help them recognise what’s happening. Some kids get angry, some become upset and others withdraw. Work out the pattern for your child and help them recognise when they are anxious.

### **2. Accept your child’s anxious feelings.**

Your child needs to trust that you are with them, and then they will be more willing to let you help them cope. It’s hard sometimes to differentiate between what may be a bad case of negative thinking and true anxiety, which needs your assistance. Is a child being negative when she doesn’t want to join a new club because she thinks no one will like her, or is there something more going on? Try your best to confirm whether there is any validity in her fears. If not, diplomatically point out she maybe catastrophising. If you feel she has foundation for concern, she will need support to overcome her anxiety.

### **3. Challenge the validity of your child’s fears and anxiety, using logic and rational thinking.**

Don’t allow kids to wallow in self-pity. Move their thoughts towards the future rather than allow them to mope around.

### **4. Encourage your child to overcome their anxiety through action.**

One mother came up with a creative solution to help Ruth, her seven-year-old daughter, overcome her reluctance to attend her schoolmates’ birthday parties without her mother.

Being a good mum, she attended parties with her daughter so she wouldn’t miss out on these social opportunities. But her daughter was becoming too reliant on her so it was time to make a change.

The next time Ruth was invited to a party her mum put a plan into action. First, she set up a little birthday party scenario at home using dolls and teddies as friends, so her daughter would know what to expect when she went to the party. Ruth’s mum explained that she would leave her at the party for a short-time on her own, while she did some shopping. She let her daughter know that she had no doubt that she’d cope.

The little plan worked a treat. Vanessa arrived at the party an hour after the start to find Ruth busily involved in a game. She acknowledged her mum but she didn't leave the game. Later at home, Vanessa made a fuss over her daughter for being brave and overcoming her fears. Ruth agreed that next time she was invited to a party she would go for the whole time without her mum.

It's important to remember that anxiety is normal and part of everyday life. However it can be debilitating unless it's managed. Anxiety management takes time for kids to learn, but it's one of those valuable life skills that parents can teach their kids.

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© Copyright Michael Grose. Michael Grose is the current Body & Soul parenting columnist reaching 6 million Australians every Sunday. Michael is the author of 7 parenting books, including the best-selling *Why First Borns Rule the World* and *Last Borns Want to Change it*. Michael is married with three adult children who have all successfully flown the parent nest. For more information visit his website <http://www.parentingideas.com.au/Home>

## Free KidzaCool Holiday Camps January 2011



Close off date for the applications to ensure we can finalise selection and let people know before the year end for our next KidzaCool programme in January 2011 – our website has been updated with the following information:

Applications can be submitted at any time prior to the close off dates for the programme. Our next programme is scheduled for 24-29 January 2011 and **applications close on 30 October 2010**. Confirmation of a placement will be advised by late November. Applicants, who can not be placed due to the programme being oversubscribed, will be held on a waiting list for the next available programme.

### Families need to apply direct to camps for application forms: numbers are listed below:

- Maunu Children's Health Camp, Whangarei, Phone: 09 437 9050
- Pakuranga Children's Health Camp, Auckland, Phone: 09 534 4017
- Princess of Wales Children's Health Camp, Rotorua, Phone: 07 345 9097
- Te Kainga Whaiora Children's Village, Gisborne, Phone: 06 867 5614
- Otaki Children's Health Camp, Otaki, Phone: 06 364 8069
- Glenelg Children's Health Camp, Christchurch, Phone: 03 332 2541
- Roxburgh Children's Health Camp, Roxburgh, Phone: 03 446 8119

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My wife was hinting about what she wanted for our upcoming anniversary. She said, "I want something shiny that goes from 0 to 150 in about 3 seconds." I bought her a bathroom scale. And that's when the fight started.....



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**

**Field Officers:**

**Alison Cuthbert:**

Alison was a Social worker for over 40yrs, 26 of those as a senior social worker for the Royal N.Z Navy. She is able and confident to attend CYF Family Group Conferences (where practicable) to act as a support person for GRG's. I am an Independent Adoption Counsellor. 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. Ph 09 445 9671 Toll call, use 0800 345 671(landline use only)

**Nola Adams:**

Telephone advice can be given on the following topics Justice and Prison system, including Youth Court

Family Court applications: for persons wishing to self-represent: Child Youth and Family representation where practicable/advice. Disability advice and the Schooling system. Nola can be contacted on ph 06 845 3141 Toll call, use 0508 367474 (landline use only)

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.

**We are a Charitable Trust**



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