



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

FROM: NZ National Office Convenor: Di Vivian.

SUBJECT: National Office NZ Report January 2011

Carer Data base: 4580 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:

New GRG Field Officer:

Tricia Corin: Became involved with Grandparents Raising Grandchildren nearly 10 years ago when she lived in Wanganui and joined the group there. After moving back to Thames she found that there was no group in her area so started the group as the Thames Support Group Co-ordinator in the Thames/Coromandel area.

Tricia has raised a grandchild and has had permanent full time care since he was a toddler and is now nearly 15.

She works for the Beneficiary Advocacy Service Thames and is now job sharing with GRG Trust and has expertise in issues involving Work & Income. So if you have worries or are unsure about Benefits this is the person you need to talk to Ph 07 8685490 email tricia.corin@gmail.com

Phone Call:

This was a first: Corrections Department phoned and switched me over to a Dad in prison. Dad wanted to know how we could assist his elderly Mum who is caring for his daughter whilst he is in prison. We will assist with the added information from PILLARS (see below in this newsletter) Amazing how things line up is it not! Good on the Dad.

How did Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Trust NZ Start?

We appreciate that we have many new members who may not have access to our web site or know how this organisation began, so we thought we would let you know:

Our History:

When in 1997, Diane Vivian (Di) took over the care of her small, traumatised grandchildren, she could not believe the stress she encountered.

Setting about to discover what help or support was available in 1999, she found there was none! She decided there must be many others in her position and put an ad in the paper. The phone did not stop ringing. This was the founding of a vision. A need had been identified. In consultation with Jill Nerheny, the Birkenhead/Northcote Community Co-ordinator in Auckland, a support group was set up under the umbrella of the Community Facilities Trust. A public meeting was held and we knew we had a tiger by the tail. As the group grew they spent many months venting, weeping, sharing and building trust. The group set the objectives and a vision statement which now form the founding document and guiding principles of all the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Groups or Grandparents and Kin care Groups.

The Trust was registered in November 2001.

Today there are many support groups throughout the country, reaching from Dargaville in the north to Invercargill in the South. Membership grows daily. Groups actively lobby parliament, network with other communities and speak to many community organizations.

They strive to make a difference for all grand/kin children and grandparents/kin who care about them.

The organisation salutes all Grandparents/kin who have taken in Grand/kin children and put the needs of those precious ones before their own. You are indeed doing angels' work here on earth. Together we have made a difference in a child's life.

With the exception of an independent secretarial service and 4 part time field officers we are still a voluntary organisation from your National Convenor Di: Board members: Debbie, Kate, Kirstin, Mere, Trevor and Nicolette. We also take this time to acknowledge our wonderful Support group Co-ordinators who volunteer their services in so many areas around NZ. What a fabulous job they do.

We are not forgetting our lovely Birgitt Rehbein who posts out all our resources to our new members.

We also give thanks to each and every one of you who raise kin/grandchildren, for you may have directly stopped potential child abuse and indeed potential deaths of our precious Tamariki.

In March 2011 we turn 12 years old!

Our Achievements:

Our Credibility:

Coming soon: Grandparents raising Grandchildren Conference November 2011.

Catholic Caring Foundation NZ (CCF) made us the face of their Christmas appeal 2010

Meeting Their Excellencies The Governor-General of NZ The Right Honourable Sir Anand Satyanand and Lady Susan Satyanand at Government House December 5th 2010

Latitude Lifestyle Magazine September 2010 "Grandparents Raising Grandchildren" A worthwhile sacrifice.

Raising Kids NZ magazine: "A special Bond" page 57 September/October issue 2010

Catholic Women's League Home Appeal Charity 2010

Sovereign Sunshine Voted Charity of the Month April 2010

NZ Woman's Weekly May 3rd 2010 "Grandparents as Caregivers"

Unsung Hero New Zealand Herald Award 2009

[Inaugural Grandparents raising Grandchildren Conference 2009](#)

Research: Grandparents & other Relatives Raising Kin Children in Aotearoa/NZ 2009 - caring for 4 years plus

Lost Children Charity Recipient New Zealand Herald 2008

[Invited Key Note speaker at International GRG Conference in New York 2007](#)

Community Award 2007

Presbyterian/Methodist Home Appeal 2005

Research: Grandparents & other Relatives Raising Kin Children in Aotearoa/NZ 2005.- Snapshot.

Community Spirit Award in Excellence 2004

North & South magazine: The Grandparents Trap 2003

Civic Award 2003

Not to mention the many other hundreds of articles in print, Radio and TV media. And here we are with **4580** whanau caregivers on our data base. WOW!

For your information the National Convenor Di fields over 3000 phone calls per year not to mention what Field officers and local Co-ordinators receive. Collectively we are huge! We all work from our own homes as we do not have an 'office' this includes Di who still works from her home as she has for the last 12 years.

Our Co-ordinators and Field Officers attend a 2 day training each year. Board meetings are held every 6 weeks.

Conference for us in November 2011: For GRG Members.

Advanced warning that this is happening in Auckland 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.

Grand's /Kin and Children's Voices:

You Emailed:

To Di and her band of elves

What would we do without you! You are the true spirit of Christmas throughout the year.

You bring hope and blessings to us all. You give cheer and laughter and joy to hundreds and awaken in each of us the spirit of the pioneers to keep going even when the going gets tough. We keep going



because we know that even though you can't be with the individual you are with us in thought, word and deed! And that is so cool to know that someone, somewhere cares, really cares!

To you all, the warmest Christmas wish ever comes from all the grandparents especially those who care for their little ones... ..have a cool Christmas, let joy be your guide and peace be with you all.

We love you without reserve and really appreciate your goodness. Have a happy, contented life.

Arohanui, Materoa, Nepia and Tairone.

USA wants us:

What a cord you have struck so thank you for your Internet presence.

Do you need to start a group in central California? Then I am your grandmother.

My granddaughter will be 15 in March and she has worn me down. I have raised her since she was 9 months.

Namaste,

We have put her in touch with several USA sites. ☺

She is 18!

Today my granddaughter turns 18. I am amazed at the journey I have taken and how you can "get through" all the pathways, trials and tribulations, joys and heartache that make up that journey.



It started in 1993, when at 51 and 58 respectively; my husband and I were given the task of raising our grandchild who was then aged 22 months. We had no extended family and my daughter was unable to raise her child due to substance abuse. I contacted CYFS to report this situation and was told they were "too busy, was it an emergency"! I then rang a person I knew who had worked for CYFS and she advised we seek a Lawyer. I might add I was amazed to find out that Grandparents (even maternal ones) do NOT have any legal rights and if I removed my granddaughter from this dangerous situation I would be kidnapping her.

I was fortunate in one respect that my daughter had no wish to contest this application to the courts and did not oppose it in any way. However we had to deal with the stress of this and the costs as we were told we were not eligible for legal aid.

Now my journey was really beginning. I had to give up my part-time work to look after this young child and go through all the usual things, health, schooling etc. I found that when she went to kindergarten I offered along with young mothers to be mother help and involve myself with all the activities. When she progressed to school, I volunteered my time again to work in the library. This way I got to know young mothers and their children and they interacted with me with no problems except being not quite sure how to address me. I soon put them at ease. Now because of this interaction, I have a good group of younger friends and my advice to grandparents in this situation is to put yourself forward then the mothers will usually respond.

We now move on to what I call the dreaded teen years and puberty. I had no idea how to approach this matter, but luckily nowadays the schools and health places give plenty of advice. But as my granddaughter approached these years, problems began to arise. She started wagging school, smoking both cigarettes and experimenting in "pot". I was at my wits end as she mixed with all the wrong people. However, I got in touch with Welltrust in Lower Hutt who run a drug and alcohol programme in the schools and we were lucky to get an excellent counsellor who guided us through this situation and was always there to support us even outside college hours. Also Youth Aid section in the Police did a fantastic job even though my granddaughter had not got a criminal conviction.

Now for the end of my journey, I am proud to say my granddaughter has grown up. Vibe, a local youth support group for teenagers aged 16-24 have come on board, and one of their young people mentored my granddaughter and she was selected to attend an empowering women course from which she graduated and now is part of their peer support group mentoring other teenagers. This was as a direct result of my attending our youth support group at our local council and speaking out on behalf of all grandparents of the need for mentoring of our grandchildren. Also my granddaughter attended the local polytechnic where she graduated with a Community Care certificate level three. She now works at a local rest home, where she had to do her voluntary training (200 hrs) and was lucky to be taken on as a paid caregiver.

I am really proud as I lost my husband just after Christmas last year and my granddaughter has really stepped up to the mark to help me and care for me.

So though the road is very rocky and hard, I personally would encourage all grandparents to hang in there and hope for the "end of the rainbow".

Barbara

I miss my Nan:

I had to go to Whangarei to celebrate a friend's mother's eightieth birthday and Regan (my grandson) had to stay with his aunty and uncle just down the road from our house. While I was away he was heard to say "Damn that party being in Whangarei, It's so hard without her!" nice to know I was missed.

Nanny

Unexpected Christmas Blessing:

Two of our members, and their twins of ten years of age, were shopping at Pak"NSave today, (Dec 21st) when an elderly lady came up to them and said, " How long have you got the children for?" Grandpa told her they had them permanently. "OH," she said, "are you one of those Grandparents Raising Grandchildren?" "Yes" replied Grandpa. "Oh, we had a lovely lady come to our Probus group to tell us about how hard it is for your members!" She then reached into her purse and produced a \$50.00 note and said, "I want you to have this to help you over Christmas. I am an old lady and have plenty of money to see me through, and it would give me great delight for you to use it!" *Wendy GRG Co*

Things your grandmother would have told you:

Never wear a floaty short skirt in blustery weather. Waiting for a bus I was amazed at the amount of young girl's bottoms I saw. The day was windy and so many of them were wearing short full skirts, what they were unaware of was that when the wind blew, up floated the back of their skirts. G strings, old holey knickers, big knickers and bottoms, skinny, fat and in between for all to see! Oh my.....

Falling Through the Cracks: December newsletter:

Please grandma see a Family Court Lawyer about the lapsed orders for your grandson ASAP. *Nan2*

Being a Nana:

As I never had grandparents when I was growing up I vowed that when I became a grandmother that I would try to spend as much time as possible with them while they were little. Little did I know that I would become a full time grandmother at 46. Nine years later the same son produced another granddaughter with a different partner. Strangely our youngest son produced first and the eldest last but he and his wife had to use the IVF programme which was successful the first time. We have just been told that they have been successful again (2years later) and we expect our new arrival in August. Amazing how the life cycle goes.

For most of us who are raising one, two, three and sometimes more grandchildren it all seems so easy for these so called parents to pass the buck when there are people out there who so desperately want a child like my niece and her husband who have been successful with IVF after the fourth attempt. We also have two other granddaughters living with their parents but who we see nearly every day so my time is well spent between them all and no way would I change it.

Nan Deb

Informal Coffee Group: For times and venues

Coromandel/Tairua/Whitianga: Brenda 07 866 4476

Howick/Manukau: Lorraine 09 271 2900

New Plymouth: Sue 06 756 7542

Palmerston North: Triphena 06 355 8316

Tauranga: Colleen 07 578 5341

Wairarapa: Sheryl 06 304 9957



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

Do the tamariki living with you have a father or mother in prison?

Do you think they would enjoy having their own mentor?

A mentor is an adult who provides children and young people with support, friendship and positive opportunities, picking them up from their own homes on a regular basis.

PILLARS can match your child with a safe, trained, caring volunteer.

Our services are available in **South Auckland and Christchurch.**

If this is something that interests you and your child, please contact us:

Phone: 0508 7455277 or Auckland (09) 262 2639 or Christchurch (03) 377 3990

E-mail: enquiries@pillars.org.nz

A mentor does not replace you as the parent/caregiver. They support you in your role.

E raka te mauī, e raka te katau

A community can use all the skills of its people

www.pillars.org.nz

Old is when your friends compliment you on your new alligator shoes.....and you are barefoot.

Parasites in our grandchildren.

And not just children either teens and adults too. Talk to your chemist or Doctor if you suspect worms and have seen symptoms or the blighters.

A stool sample will reveal them. Disgusting I know but we must be aware.

Parasites and worms can invade your bodies through food and water intake, through transmitting agents (like mosquito), sexual conduct or through the nose and skin. Once established, they will eat the same foods you eat or they will eat you.

People with intestinal parasite infections are usually under-nourished and weak, (not always the case) infected with viral, fungal, or bacteria, and have various types of chemical and metal poisoning. Human intestinal parasites can be present in any disease, in any person, at any age.

They are responsible for many health problems because they secrete toxins and steal the vital nutrients from our bodies. They can irritate or exaggerate other health problems you may be experiencing. Everyone is at risk and under their mercy during parasitic infections.

We create the perfect living environment for parasites when the bowel becomes ineffective in the elimination of our waste products. The build-up of fecal material on the walls of the colon is attributed to constipation and the amounts of junk food, chemicals, bad fats and sweets we consume.

We poison ourselves from our own toxic waste and the waste from these creatures (auto intoxication) when this ideal habitat for is created. Testing for parasites are only available for about five percent of the known varieties with twenty-percent accuracy.

Cancer cases are afflicted with worms that often lump together and look like tumours. Female worms can release 3,000 to 200,000 eggs per day depending on their type. This is one topic that most people do not want to discuss, let alone think about, but now reality must be faced.

These topics are very important for detoxification and your well-being. Most doctors are not trained to recognize the symptoms of parasitic infections. The only way to avoid the problems associated with parasite infections is by educating yourself.

Parasites, Some Different Varieties

There are 3200 varieties of parasites in the four major categories, Protozoa, Trematoda, Cestoda and Nematoda.

Nematodes; common roundworms (*Ascaris lumbricoides*), hookworms, whipworms, pinworms, heart worms, *Strongyloides*, *Stercoralis*, *Ancylostoma*, *caninum*, *toxocara* worm and trichinosis. Size can vary from .2 to 35 centimeters.

Roundworms look similar to an earthworm and can produce 200,000 eggs daily. Approximately 1,008 million people are infected, making it the most common worldwide. The most frequent symptom from roundworms is upper abdominal discomfort. Other symptoms are asthma, eye pain, insomnia, and rashes due to the secretions or waste products from the worms.

Large numbers can cause blockages in the intestinal tract, hemorrhage when penetrating the intestinal wall, appendicitis, peritonitis, abscesses in the liver, hemorrhagic pancreatitis, loss of appetite, and insufficient absorption of digested foods. Adults grow to 15 inches long.

Hookworm larvae penetrate the skin. When hookworms reach adulthood, they can sap the victim's strength, vitality and overall well-being. Young worms use their teeth to burrow through the intestinal wall and feed on your blood. Symptoms from hookworm are iron deficiency, abdominal pain, loss of appetite, craving to eat soil, protein deficiency, dry skin and hair, skin irritations, edema, distended abdomen, stunted growth, delayed puberty, mental dullness, cardiac failure and death. (1/2 inch long)

Pinworms can infect one in five children. Symptoms are itching and irritation of the anus or vagina, digestive disorders, insomnia, irritability or nervousness. Female worms crawl out of the anus and lay about 15,000 eggs per day. Once airborne, the eggs can survive about two days anywhere in your living environment.

Worldwide, about 500 million are infected with pinworms. The worm is white and can grow to about half inch in length.

Infections from whipworms are estimated at several hundred million worldwide. Symptoms of whipworms are bloody stools, pain in the lower abdomen, weight loss, rectal prolapse, nausea and anemia. Hemorrhage can occur when worms penetrate the intestinal wall and bacterial infections usually follow. 1 to 2 inches length.

Break-Away rolls out for 2011

Each year many Kiwi kids end up feeling bored and aimless during the school holidays, but this summer tens of thousands will get outdoors, make new friends and learn new skills – all in a structured, supervised environment provided free of charge.

Starting in December 2010, the government's Break-Away Holiday Programme will be rolled out to cover much of the country following a highly successful first year of the programme in Auckland, Northland and the East Coast during the 2009 and 2010 holiday break.

Just as with Round One, the second round of Break-Away Holiday Programmes will be delivered by community groups with a track record of running activities in their region - groups familiar with the issues facing local youngsters, whether in the city or the country.

The Break-Away School Holiday Programme was first announced by the Prime Minister in August 2009. It aims to help 11 to 17-year-old New Zealanders reach their full potential by providing fun activities that many parents cannot afford themselves, or cannot take time from work to provide.

Over 60 community organisations will run Break-Away programmes in 2010/11, providing a total of 30,000 one-week placements for 11-17 year-olds from December through January, and then during the April school holidays. Activities on offer will include sports, hip-hop dancing, kapa haka, horse riding, kayaking, video making, arts and crafts, circus skills, drama and games, and much, much more. The focus is on getting kids active and into sports, so all programmes must supply at least 60 minutes of physical activity per day, with half of the places intended to be activity focused programmes.

Auckland Rugby was just one very popular and successful programme run last year. It provided several hundred children over the summer with lunch each day and Super 14 Blues rugby stars to work with youngsters. One parent said his son came home each day raving about what he did and learned, and about how many new friends he'd made.

Another 12-year-old said: "When I arrived at the Blues Holiday Programme I saw lots of new faces and many of my school friends.

"My highlight was getting to meet all of the Blues rugby players. That was an awesome experience. I hadn't played rugby before the programme, but I want to see if I can be a rugby player. When I got back to school, I joined our school team.

"I want to thank the coaches for showing us how to be better rugby players and teaching us that if you work hard enough, you can achieve your dreams."

Almost all groups involved last year will again be involved in the 2010/11 round, joined by providers in Gisborne, Hastings, Napier, Wairoa, Tauranga, Whakatane, Opotiki, South Waikato, Rotorua, Taupo, Tararua, Whanganui, New Plymouth, Porirua, Hutt Cities, Greymouth, Christchurch and Dunedin.

For more information and to find providers in your area, go to the FACS website:

[Break-Away on the FACS website](#)



Auckland Rugby Break-Away kids battle it out in a tug of war



[Youth intervention](#) » **Break-Away School Holiday Programmes December 2010 to April 2011**

Break-Away School Holiday Programmes December 2010 to April 2011

School holiday programme placements are available to youth around New Zealand these coming January and April school holidays. Please click on these pages as they offer a list of providers in each region, with links to more information. You can register for one of the holiday programmes by contacting the providers directly.

[Northern Region](#)

<http://www.familyservices.govt.nz/working-with-us/programmes-services/youth-intervention/breakaway-providers-2010-2011/northern/index.html>

[Central North Region](#)

<http://www.familyservices.govt.nz/working-with-us/programmes-services/youth-intervention/breakaway-providers-2010-2011/central-north/index.html>

[Central South Region](#)

<http://www.familyservices.govt.nz/working-with-us/programmes-services/youth-intervention/breakaway-providers-2010-2011/central-south/index.html>

[Southern Region](#)

<http://www.familyservices.govt.nz/working-with-us/programmes-services/youth-intervention/breakaway-providers-2010-2011/southern/index.html>

Free Caregiver Courses from February – April 2011

There is no cost associated with attendance. **Registrations for NCTP Courses:**

- Please apply for our courses online at www.caregivertraining.org.nz
- Or you can complete an application form and send to PO Box 2620, WELLINGTON
- Or you can fax application forms to +04 918 9294

(We appreciate receiving *all* contact details, including cell phone numbers and email addresses. This information enables us to confirm enrolments, communicate any last minute changes and distribute course certificates.)

What we offer – Reimbursements: All details of these reimbursements are provided at the training courses. Course Participant Invoice forms need to be completed at the course. These will be signed off by the CGSW or the trainer and forwarded to the administrator, National Caregiver Training Programme. Please make sure your caregiver knows to fill out two forms and bring along a bank deposit slip to attach to the application.

Travel Reimbursement

We provide a subsidy for participants travelling more than 40km. Please keep a record of the distance you travel and fill out a Course Participant Invoice form at the end of the course.

Childcare Reimbursement

Reimbursement will be provided for childcare costs incurred as a result of attendance at the Caregiver Training Programme. Reimbursement per family for attendance at the two day course is \$50.00 for one child or \$70.00 for two or more children.

Accommodation for CYF National Caregiver Training Courses.

Accommodation may be provided for Caregivers who apply to participate in courses outside their own location.

Eligibility• The person must be recommended to attend the course by CYF CGSW or NZFFCF or NGO that they are associated with IE **GRG (Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Trust NZ)**

- The location of the course applied for must be within the same CYF region and must be in excess of two hours travel from the caregiver’s home.
- The accommodation request must also have the prior approval of the manager of the National Caregiver Training Programme (NCTP)
- Accommodation costs will be redirected to the NCTP for payment. Any meals and calls need to be paid by the caregivers.

Process for application

Please email any request to Matt.dewit002@cyf.govt.nz Free phone 0800 227 305 or register online www.caregivertraining.org.nz

February

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| Newlands | Safe Caring Friday 11 and Saturday 12 February 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm | Whanganui | Understanding & Managing Behaviour Thursday 17 & Friday 18 February 9am-3pm both days |
| Papakura | Understanding & Managing Behaviour Friday 11 and Saturday 12 February 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm | Invercargill | Older Child Friday 18 & Saturday 19 February 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm |
| Dunedin | Understanding & Managing Behaviour Friday 11 and Saturday 12 February 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm | Hamilton | Non-Violent Crisis Intervention Friday 18 & Saturday 19 February 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm |
| Whakatane | Understanding & Managing Behaviour Friday 11 and Saturday 12 February 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm | Takapuna | Safe Caring Thursday 24 & Friday 25 February 9am-3pm both days |
| Christchurch | Child Health Tuesday 15 and Wednesday 16 February 9am-3pm both days | Masterton | Understanding & Managing Behaviour Friday 25 & Saturday 26 February 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm |

March

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|----------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Hastings | Understanding & Managing Behaviour Wednesday 2 & Thursday 3 March 9am-3pm both days | Wellington | Understanding & Managing Behaviour Friday 11 & Saturday 12 March 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm |
| Tokoroa | Legal Issues Friday 4 & Saturday 5 March 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm | Dunedin | Understanding Maltreatment Friday 11 & Saturday 12 March 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm |
| Nelson | Understanding & Managing Behaviour Tuesday: 8, 15 & 22 March | Paeroa | Legal Issues Friday 18 & Saturday 19 March 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm |
| Manurewa | Family Dynamics Friday 11 & Saturday 12 March 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm | New Plymouth | Legal Issues Friday 25 & Saturday 26 March 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm |

April

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|------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Ponsonby: Auck | Child Health Friday 1 & Saturday 2 April 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm | Gisborne | Understanding Maltreatment Thursday 7 & Friday 8 April 9am-3pm both days |
| Palmerston North | NON-VIOLENT CRISIS INTERVENTION Friday 1 & Saturday 2 April 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm | Westport | Legal Issues Friday 8 & Saturday 9 April 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm |
| Christchurch | Non-Violent Crisis Intervention Friday 1 & Saturday 2 April 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm | Taumaranui | Understanding & Managing Behaviour Monday 11 & Tuesday 12 April 9am-3pm both days |
| Rotorua | Understanding Maltreatment Friday 1 & Saturday 2 April 5pm-9pm & 9am-4pm | | |

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

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)

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. Diana can be contacted on 04 970 8177 Toll use 0508 32 34 35 landline only.

Tricia Corin:

If you are having problems with your Benefits from Work and Income or are unsure if you are on the right Benefit, needing advice on UCB or DPB, Disabilities Allowance or recoverable and non recoverable advances please phone Tricia on 07 8685490 0275247935 **toll free**

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 or www.kin.org.nz or www.raisinggrandchildren.org.nz or www.raisinggrandchildren.net

Email 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**

This National newsletter is proudly sponsored by a donation from Sovereign Sunshine towards newsletter costs, with sincere thanks to our members, colleagues and friends in voting for our Charity in April 2010. ©

www.sovereignsunshine.co.nz