



NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2017

DATABASE: 6967WHANAU CARERS

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

Grandparents Awareness Week – 20 to 28 March 2017

This year we are holding our Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Awareness Week from Monday 20th to Sunday 26th March 2017. Coinciding with this Awareness Week we are delighted that The Warehouse Group are holding their annual Bob Tindall Classic Golf Charity Tournament and Auction at Muriwai Golf Course on Thursday 23 March 2017 to support GRG!

If you have any ideas for this week to support and raise the profile of GRG in your area, please email us at office2@grg.org.nz or call Kelly at the office.

School Year Start Up Fund

It has come to our attention that there have been some issues with Work & Income's online links for applications. It appears the 2nd and 3rd plus children links in some cases haven't worked. If you applied early in the piece for the SYSU payment and have received payments for some but not all children; we suggest you go back and re-enter the details for the children for whom you haven't received a payment. You must be getting the Unsupported Child Benefit for each child to receive a payment. Please note the closing date for applications is 28th February 2017.

Potential Breast Cancer In Young Ones

Grand-daughter now 24 found a small pea sized lump in her breast near the outer edge. Duly got it checked by the Doctor who sent her off for a scan and biopsy. A nervous wait and results came back that it had to be removed. This was done via the scoop procedure,

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where they took a good lot of surrounding tissue; as if this had not been removed it would have progressed rapidly into breast cancer. So please folks get your younger woman to do breast checks too.

Congratulations Sharon and Gary Richardson

We heartily congratulate Sharon (GRG Trustee) and her husband Gary on the Foster Care 'Excellence Award' by Foster Care Federation and nominated by Barnados. They not only raised their grandchild but for over 35 years have also cared for over 130 foster children, which they still do to this day. The Award will be presented in Wellington at Government House in March by the Governor General.

Super heroes are they. Our hearts swell with pride for you both.



Help Us To Help You

The Warehouse Bags For Good Neighbourhood Programme

We are thrilled to have been chosen by the following Warehouse stores in their 'Bags for Good Neighbourhood' charity programme: Dunedin, Gore, Christchurch, Taupo, Wellington, Nelson, Porirua, Gisborne, Papamoa, Te Kuiti, Auckland Central, Birkenhead, Dargaville, Kiakohe, Kaitaia, Matakana and Whangarei.

When you shop at these local Warehouse stores you can grab a token at checkouts that you can place in the voting unit displaying our poster to support us.

Please encourage your family and friends to support GRG in this wonderful programme to support GRG caregivers in these neighbourhoods. Thank you.

Starts: 1 February until July inclusive. Fill up our box with those tokens please. Special thanks to the Warehouse for choosing us.

Look for our flyer:

A flyer for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Trust NZ. It features a photograph of a young child with dark hair, wearing a pink shirt, pointing towards the camera. The flyer includes the following text:

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren™ Trust NZ
Supporting 6000+ Caregivers
and 12000+ children
nationwide since 2001

**Help GRG and support
your local community
of grandparents, whanau
caregivers and vulnerable
children in their care**

Caregivers call
0800 472 637 to join
or sign up online at
www.grg.org.nz

Membership is free
for all full-time
Grandparent | Whanau | Kin
caregivers

Support services include 0800 helpline,
community outreach and specialist advocates,
"trauma informed" caregiver education,
information resources, support, guidance,
advice and advocacy.

Please help us support the grandparent, whanau and kin caregivers to
better protect and care for the thousands of vulnerable New Zealand
children and youth who want a brighter future without the drugs and
substance abuse and violence that wrecked the lives of their parents

www.grg.org.nz | 0800 GRANDS

A registered charity with the New Zealand Charities Commission. No. CC20205

A red circular graphic containing the Warehouse logo and the text "Partnering with you for a better community". At the bottom of the circle is a row of small, stylized cartoon figures of people holding hands.

the warehouse //

**Partnering with
you for a better
community**

Variety Club NZ

GRG first introduced us to Variety, and we have been with them for many years now.

Awesome support here for all grandparents, for clothes, camps, uniforms, pretty much anything.

They have some awesome people out there who know there is a need, and financially, they are comfortable.

Shaniqua also was chosen to light up the sky tower Christmas lights with them too...

Feeling Blessed.



[Variety Kiwi Kid Sponsorship - Apply online](#)

Kiwi Kid Sponsorship can help to provide a child aged 5-15 years with the basic essentials that their family/caregiver is unable to afford. Items include bedding, clothing, school and healthcare costs. [Apply online.](#)

Not able to apply online? [Download a form here.](#) Ph 09 520 4111.



Permanent Caregiver Fund

Are the children in your care under CYF care and protection? i.e. Do you get board payments from them and NOT Work & Income? If you answered yes to those questions, you cannot access the School Year Start Up and Extraordinary Care Funds. But did you know about the PCSS (Permanent Caregiver Support Service) fund? You can apply to them for extra funding. Email: enquiries@pcss.org.nz or free phone 0800 367 7277.

This fund is open all the time.

You may also be eligible for support from PCSS if the children came into your care as a result of CYF (Custody/Guardianship) orders or certain CYF whanau agreements were replaced by parenting/guardianship orders under the Care of Children Act 2004. If you are now receiving UCB but previously received CYF board payments for the child you are likely to be eligible for support from PCSS. You must fit the criteria as a "permanent caregiver" for this kind of support. The good news is that in these cases, if the type of costs you are seeking assistance with for the child in your care is not covered by the Extraordinary Care Fund, you can apply to PCSS. See their website at www.pcss.org.nz for more information.

Happy Birthday GRG Trust NZ – We are now 18 years old!

Are You On Email?

If you are getting our newsletter via snail mail but have an email address, you could help escalating costs by emailing us with your name and address and we can then swap you over to get this via email. Thank you for your assistance in this.



Support Group Information

Christchurch 'Super Heroes' Informal Coffee Group

Hello! My name is Elaine Goodare. My husband, Wayne, and I have been raising our 2 grandchildren (6 and 7 yo) for nearly 5 years and have recently become GRG members.

We live on the North Eastern side of Christchurch and I am very keen to organise an informal Coffee Group to support other local grandparents/ caregivers raising grandchildren, providing an opportunity to meet others in similar circumstances, be encouraged and uplifted, learn from one another and make friends for life!

Having been a caregiver to many boys over many years, I am aware of the many challenges and diverse dynamics in today's society and have seen first-hand the vital role the extended family can play in building support for the child. That is why I have named the Coffee Group "Super Heroes Coffee Group" as I believe the grandparents/kin carers who step up when there has been a break down in family relationships are the real 'Super Heroes'.

Our First Coffee Morning is already planned.
When? Tuesday 21/2/17
Where? Eastgate McDonalds (Upstairs), cnr Buckleys Road & Linwood Avenue
Time? 10am
Cost? Free, just the purchase of your morning tea

You can contact me to confirm by text or email or we will just see you there. Really looking forward to meeting you all! My contact details are: cell 021 02508834, email wgoodare@xtra.co.nz

Seeking New Volunteer Support Group Coordinators (SGCs) for Whangarei and Taupo!!

Janet Puriri (who has been our Whangarei SGC for the past 16 years) and Viv Needham (who has been Taupo Coordinator for 5 years) both now find that they need to resign from their volunteer positions in order to focus on family and work commit-

ments. We just cannot thank these two amazing women enough for all that they have done for many members in their local areas for so many years. As volunteers, they have provided a very special kind of service and they are both very much appreciated.

We are now looking for new members to step up to these roles. So if you are interested in - or just want more information about - taking on one of these voluntary positions with GRG, helping to provide support for our local members in Whangarei or Taupo by facilitating regular group meetings and being responsible for other related tasks, please contact Diana East, Field Officer, on 0800 472637 x 6 or email d.east13@yahoo.co.nz

Diana will talk with you about the Coordinator's tasks and responsibilities and explain the appointment process.

Nits

Oh my goodness, last year within weeks of starting school and there I was at 60 years of age and I had caught NITS from our youngest grandchild we raise. Whoever, in their wildest dreams thought this would be happening at our age? When I was 5 years old I got them from school and in those days, they treated us with a liberal dose of kerosene upon our unsuspecting scalps and boy did it pack a stinging punch of not only scalp but also eyes.

Natural treatments today have not taken me back 55 years to my day. I am preparing this year. Have a spray bottle of Tea Tree oil which I will give a quick squirt over her hair before school, hair tied up every morning and once a week I will do the cheap conditioner trick. Lather thickly in sections of hair and run fine toothed comb through, wiping excess on paper towel.Such is life!

I have Sensory Processing Disorder

Sensory Processing Disorder Parent Support



https://www.facebook.com/sensoryprocessingdisorderparentsupport/?hc_ref=PAGES_TIMELINE&fref=nf

Thank You Card Design Competition

Win a \$100 Visa Prezzy Card!

At GRG, there are times when we like to say 'thank you' with a card, to our wonderful supporters, donors and special people who go out of their way to help.

So, for the next month we are running a design competition for an image to be used.

How about encouraging your moko to liberate their creative spirits for a good cause by putting pen, paintbrush or other artistic skills to work. Using any medium, the competition is open to all GRG members and their moko to create an original

image that best reflects GRG.

The image must fit on an A4 sheet of paper (landscape/horizontal orientation), which can either be scanned as a PDF or JPEG and emailed to kate@grg.org.nz or posted to GRG Trust NZ Office, PO Box 34892, Birkenhead, Auckland 0746

Entries close 10 March and will be announced in the March 2017 newsletter.

Note: By entering this competition all entries are made on the basis that GRG reserves all rights in the images submitted including the right to publish them in any other GRG publication or website with the artist's name credited.

Grand's reflections...

10 Years On

You came to me as a small unwell little girl. Insecure, frightened, clingy and weepy. Today you are 16 and now taller than me. Your smile will light a room. You have a gentle soul, at times too vulnerable, no tolerance of pain but such a caring young lady. I am so very proud as to what you have overcome which gives you the back bone to become whatever you should desire.

When your time comes to fly free, remember my love of thee.
Nan

150 per person; into the low tide we waded. The very first wave knocked poor Pop right off his feet into the water, which the children found hilarious.

Nan proceeded to wriggle her toes to find them under the sand and promptly sprained her big toe. "PAIN" Well no option but to place bum in air and dig with fingers. Grand-daughter number one laughed at the sight and said, "Nan why not just stand there and let the sand rush out with the surf and then you can feel them under your feet?" Umm yep Nan knew that! NOT.

That Long Tunnel

I am happy to tell you I am in full sunlight at the end of that long tunnel! My grandson has turned 19 and has moved to independence now. I am so proud of him. I would not be telling the truth if I said it was not hard, yes it has been very hard, but rewarding at the same time. I have laughed at your newsletters, cried along with some newsletters and found new ways in dealing with him over the years. He loves me so much as I do him. Stay strong people, you are just wonderful for being there for your Moko. Now I pray to live long enough to attend his wedding, when the time is right, perhaps at 35 or older!!!!



They were plentiful and in a scoop of one's hand would reveal 5 in one hit. The girls shrieked and laughed as they spat at them. An exhausting happy time was had by all. Another area we visited only 5 minutes away from the Tua Tua beach is known to the locals as Coca Cola lakes.

Well this blew us all away. They are truly the colour of Coke caused by brackish water. The mineral content makes your skin and hair feel like silk after swimming in them and the local Maori believe they have healing properties. The simple things in life are just the best.

Yippee

Well the results finally came in the mail; she passed her NZQA 1 with merits, excellences and achieved: excited is an UNDERSTATEMENT! Nan and Pop are just so proud of her!

Tua-Tua Picking

Early January we went on holiday in the Northland region. Staying with some long-time friends and had the opportunity to gather Tua Tua's. We drove along this long surf beach, much to the grandchildren's delight. With our buckets and knowledge that we were only allowed to take



Anti-bullying



0800 456 450



www.powertoprotect.net.nz



Give a Little to GRG

<https://www.givealittle.co.nz/org/grg>

Can we help you?

Members ONLY services are available nationwide
Caregivers Toll free helpline
0800 GRANDS (0800 472 637)
For landline caregivers only please.
New members and general information please dial ext. 1

Members' Support Manager:
Di Vivian
Auckland/free callers:
(09) 480 6530
Email Di at: office@grg.org.nz

GRG Trust NZ
PO Box 34892
Birkenhead
Auckland 0746

Suite 4 (Ground floor)
Rawene Chambers
17 Rawene Rd
Birkenhead Auckland 0626

Office Manager:
Kelly Vivian 09 418 3753
Email office2@grg.org.nz or
kelly@grg.org.nz
Chief Executive:
Kate Bundle 027 2446763
Email: kate@grg.org.nz

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter or you have changed address please update your details by contacting Kelly at 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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Member Support Manager: Di & Team (as a caregiver you are part of our team)

Heoi ano, na. *E te Atua, aroha mai..... O God shower us with love.*

Ka kite Ka Whangaia ka tupu, ka puawai - That which is nurtured, blossoms and grows

We are respectful, we listen, we learn

He rōpū manaaki, he rōpū whakarongo, he rōpū ako mātou

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

GRG Trust Head Office hours are 9am – 2pm daily. (We raise grandchildren too)

We are a Charitable Trust

Advertise Your Business With GRG

Put your business in front of our 6000+ readers every month by advertising your business and services in our monthly newsletter.

Your support for GRG not only gets your business message out there but also shows that you support your local community of grandparents, whanau caregivers and the children and young people they are raising.

For more information and advertising options please contact: Kate Bundle on 027 2446763 or kate@grg.org.nz



TE MANATŪ WHAKAHIATO ORA



Thank you to our Sponsors and Funders supporting GRG's Support Services throughout New Zealand including this newsletter



SUPPORT GROUP CONTACT NUMBERS

For the most up to date contact details please go to our website www.grg.org.nz

If you are a grandparent or whanau caregiver and need a referral to one of our Field Officers please call 0800 GRANDS (0800 472 637) or if you are in Auckland please call 09 480 6530

* Telephone Support ** Telephone Support and Meetings

Auckland: North Shore **	Diane Vivian (temp)	09 480 6530	office@grg.org.nz
Papakura/Pukekohe **	Sharon Warne	027 419 4777	warneysvision@hotmail.com
Waitakere**	Debbie Hall	09 818 7828	debron@xtra.co.nz
Waiuku	Luana Misa	021 070 8465	luanapayne@hotmail.co.nz
South Auckland**	Virginia Peebles	09 277 7514	
East Auckland/ Tamaki**	Tess Gould-Thorpe	09 535 6903	theresagouldthorpe@gmail.com
Canterbury **	Veronica Brunt	03 942 5935	r.v.brunt@paradise.net.nz
Dannevirke	Malcolm Johnson	06 374 0407	
Dargaville*	Sandy Zimmer	09 439 4420	
Hamilton / Huntly**	Pat Davis	07 855 0530	hamilton111.grg@gmail.com
Hastings	Tom Kupa	06 879 4302	kupakarate@outlook.com
Invercargill / Gore **	Lynette Nielsen	03 216 0411	invercargillgrg@gmail.com
Kaikohe *	Moengaroa Floyed	09 401 3057	floyedz@xtra.co.nz
Kaitia *	Martha Taonui-Andrews	027 266 2653	marthataonuis@xtra.co.nz
Kaiwaka	Dianah Roberts	022 381 9539	mydogmollymycowmoo-moo@gmail.com
Kerikeri	Martha Taonui-Andrews	027 266 2653	marthataonuis@xtra.co.nz
Levin*	Ann Waddell	06 362 7269	ann.hen@xtra.co.nz
Napier**	Rozane Duncan	06 843 0054	charleez06@xtra.co.nz
Nelson**	Paula Eggers	035445714 021 062 6583	paulaegggers2000@yahoo.com.au
Otago/Dunedin *	Aad & Leonie	03 465 1764	omaandopa@xtra.co.nz
Palmerston North **	Ann Waddell	06 362 7269	ann.hen@xtra.co.nz
Porirua Wellington **	Lise Maru	0211 219453	lise.maru@clear.net.nz
Rotorua**	Anne Donnell	020 402 22910	rotoruagrg@gmail.com
Ruakaka **	Tauser Kingi	09 432 8611	tauser.kingi@vodafone.co.nz
Taumarunui **	Aroha Rudkin	027 873 0061	aroharudkin@xtra.co.nz
Taupo	Currently Vacant		
Tauranga	Karen Ormsby	07 579 3571	jewelzs@hotmail.com
Tauranga Papamoa/Mt Maunganui	Rawinia Macredie	07 562 2850	jnmacredie@kinect.co.nz
Te Kuiti **	Kay Higgins	027 430 2939	palmdrive@xtra.co.nz
Upper Hutt**	Margaret Pearson	04 976 9475	maggiemagpie@paradise.net.nz
Whanganui**	Jenny Morton	06 344 3656 027 443 7780	jaydeez@clear.net.nz
Wairarapa**	Tere Lenihan	06 379 5407	terel@swscc.org.nz
Wellington**	Cecilee Donovan	04 477 0632	cecileed@gmail.com
Whakatane**	Shirley Faulkner	07 308 8524	shirleyfaulkner@xtra.co.nz
Whangarei**	Currently Vacant		