



## Newsletter June 2012

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



**Data base: 5158 Whanau Carers.**

**From the National Office:**

### **Your Voices**

On a very rare beautiful sunny Saturday in Masterton: Lily says she is BORED! Can she watch a DVD? "No" I replied, "it's a gorgeous day - you need to go out and play in the sun" "But I've got no-one to play with" was the reply. "Shall we ring up some of your friends and invite them round to play?" I asked. "YES!" she said. After ringing around five friends to no avail, I suggested I take her to the park, the pool, go for a ride on her bike, her scooter, etc. etc. But, no, she didn't want to. She bursts into tears and says, "The only time I am REALLY, REALLY happy is when I am watching a DVD" Oh! try it on Lily!!! *Gt Gran Wendy*



### **Who's Birthday?**

The call came from the younger 5 (6-9yrs) grandchildren that do not live with us, 'we're bored can we come to your place tomorrow'. 3 girls and 2 boys so I decided to do the unexpected, throw a birthday party for no-one, with all the balloons, party eats, party poppers, hats, etc. You should have seen the looks on their faces when they came in, "whose birthday is it" they asked, "Nobodies" I replied. The look of puzzlement crossed the face of the male aged 9 years old. 'Why' he asked, "well why not" I replied. We even sang happy birthday to nobody. We all had a wonderful day (Nan included) playing 'what's the time Mr. Wolf', balloon fights, some sort of fantasy game where the boys vs the girls with magic powers, a cross between Star Wars and some evil Ninja game and I might add the girl's won. That is because Nan

surrounded the girls in a magic light that the boys could not penetrate, and all 4 of us sang to them in our sweetest voices, well that sent them packing, yay girl power. Even the teens we do raise joined in, with the food eating that is, fairy bread being their favourite! Who would have thought?

Do the unexpected and have fun! Goodness only knows what they told their parents when they got home! I am looking out for those men in their white coats, one is never too old to have some fun, although had to have a sound Nana nap after they left, and this being a kid is tough work!

*Exhausted nanny*

### **The phone call we were dreading:**

She now 19 is in rehab, and has been since February although with a few problems internally at the rehab home, but has been doing very well overall. She had graduated to the next level which bought certain 'privileges' one being we were allowed to take her out supervised for a 4 hour trip. It was planned for this week-end. Phone call came, "I have bad news, I ran away and got wasted last night" Oh yes the tears were coming thick and fast. I put into practise the 'loving detachment' and firmly stated that she would have to now face the consequences of that action. No commiserations or anything, just a firm statement that this was her responsibility. I would suggest she has gone back down a level as the staff made the call to us asking who we were before they put her on the phone, which was how it used to be in the early days. Let's just hope this lesson will make her stop and think next time.

Mmmmm, we shall see!

*JJay*

### **Our Web site: [www.grg.org.nz](http://www.grg.org.nz)**

We have our latest radio interview up now under "Radio Interviews" it was on Newstalk ZB on Mother's day and is in 4 segments:

We also have an audio called "Grand's Humour" where you are able to listen to some of our funniest anecdotes from our newsletters over the years. Great if you are having a hard day..... This will cheer you up no end! These 16 stories show the lighter side of raising our grandchildren. Thanks to Tracey McGuire who volunteered her time to read these at no cost and also to Red Bull Studio and their sound technician Ben Lawson who did the same.

## **SALT (Sharing and Learning Together)**

Specially designed for all grandparent/kin/whanau carers

**Rotorua** Workshop Friday 27<sup>th</sup> July 2012, 9.30am – 2pm FREE TO PARTICIPANTS  
(morning tea provided; **BYO lunch**)

Workshop Aims & Objectives:

Growing Stronger Grandparents, Growing Stronger Grandchildren

- To identify key strengths within you: Using strengths-based materials to identify some of the strengths you use in your care-giving role
- To acknowledge the strength of your resilience: An opportunity to positively identify and employ the elements of your resilience.

Age Concern Building 1333 Eruera Street, Rotorua: Registration is essential:  
Please contact Win Macredie on 07 345 5003 or Diana East on 0800 472 637  
(ext.4) or email [d.east13@yahoo.co.nz](mailto:d.east13@yahoo.co.nz)

A minimum of 8 and a maximum of 16 participants is required for this workshop to be held: Register now for this fantastic experience!

### **Free morning tea with: The Parenting Place:**

Happening in **Rotorua** on 20<sup>th</sup> June, you will love this and meet like-minded people. A fun time with Griff & Joy. Please register with Di on 0800 473 637 ext. 1 (if answer phone on just say Morning tea, name and phone number) for catering purposes. Venue: St John's Church, Cnr Ranolf and Victoria Streets, Rotorua. 10.30 = 11.30



### **Some of our Heroes:**

**Margaret Pearson**, husband and two granddaughters 'manning' a table at the 'Aging Disgracefully' Expo recently held in Lower Hutt. Yes, it was a family affair! The eldest girl even got up on the stage to take part in an 'aerobics' demonstration from Les Mills gym. The Expo was promoted as "Health and Wellbeing for the over 50's" but all ages were catered for. The day's events also included a fashion parade with Ballentynes and music from the local Brass Band. There were 62 tables there with a variety of Healthcare Providers and Community groups. Margaret not only raises their 2 grandchildren but also runs the Upper Hutt support group.

*Well done Margaret and family!*



### **Footsteps - Offering Grandparents Raising Grandchildren free support, advice and ideas**

We all need a little bit of extra help from time to time...that's where footsteps comes in. We are a nationwide service providing Early Childhood Education (ECE) teachers/kaiaako to regularly visit children/tamariki and support caregivers at home,

to enrich learning and development through the footsteps 'learn' programme. In many cases we can support grandparents and their grandchildren through this quality learning programme.

If you are caring for your grandchild at home, **and do not have full custody**, our ECE teachers/kaiako could provide you with regular free 1:1 advice, support and ideas to stimulate your grandchild's/mokopuna development. There are however a few Ministry of Education criteria that need to be fulfilled, so why don't you give us a call on our free phone 0800 366 878, so we can discuss your current situation with you. Even if you have full custody of your grandchild, please still drop us a line as we would love to try and find a way to support you, whether that be through footsteps or one of our partners.

The footsteps 'learn' programme includes:

- **Fully funded learning** – Free on behalf of the Ministry of Education
- **Fun 1:1 support** – Tailored to the needs and interests of your grandchild/mokopuna
- **Regular visits to your chosen home** – From our qualified and passionate ECE teachers/kaiako
- **Free learning resources** – Selected for your grandchild's/mokopuna needs and abilities
- **Learning journal and photo stories** – A folder to capture all of your grandchild's/mokopuna achievements and memories

Having helped over 5000 children/tamariki since 2001, footsteps has the experience and knowledge to give you peace of mind you grandchild/mokopuna is learning in the best way.

So call us now on 0800 366 878 or visit our website at [www footsteps.co.nz](http://www footsteps.co.nz)

## Picky Eaters or Autism/ASD – Four Step Behavioural Approach



Excerpt from: Newsletter by Craig Kendall, the author of The Asperger's Syndrome Survival Guide

**Step 1. Understand the Anxiety Your Child with Autism May Feel** Try to understand where your child's reluctance and anxiety comes from. Does your child with autism hate the taste? The texture? The smell? The colour? Imagine what you would feel like if someone told you that you had to eat, e.g. a snail. Forgetting even the taste, what is that going to **feel like** going down? Probably about the same way a lot of common foods feel like for kids with autism! So you need to start them off small.

**Step 2. Have a Favourite Food Ready as a Reward** You will need a —food reward

here, a food that the child really likes. Maybe it's M&Ms or French fries or whatever it is. Make sure it can be divided into small portions. You will see why you need this in Step 3.

**Step 3. Go Slowly, and Reward Your Child for Each Success** You take whatever the food you want the child to eat is, maybe some meat or a vegetable, and break it up into very small steps.

\* The first goal, assuming the child is particularly squeamish, is to get the food near the child's mouth without actually making them eat it. Next have it touch their mouth without eating it.

\* Now give one of the favoured foods, such as a French fry, to try to encourage and reward them for having the preferred food touch their lips.

\* To get the next reward, your child must put the preferred food in his or her mouth, and then to actually take a bite. Reward them at each step.

Have them take progressively larger bites – not too many per session so that you don't overwhelm them – and soon enough they should be used to the taste and texture enough that they won't be so afraid. They still might not like the food, but at least they will probably eat it.

**Step 4. Clear Out Your Cabinets...Leaving Only Preferred Foods** This may take a while, so you have to be prepared to do a lot of work. Some people advocate hiding all other foods until the child eats the desired food, but others think there is little to be gained from letting a child go hungry for longer than a few hours or a day – it would be a judgment call for you. *You don't want to starve your child with autism*, you just want to encourage them to eat some foods that might be healthier for them. Let's say your child only will eat pizza. Make sure food that you do not want your child to eat is at least hidden from view. It will be very tough getting your child to eat vegetables if cold pizza is visible in the refrigerator. Taking away foods may be easier than adding new foods. If that happens, don't despair. Talk to your doctor about adding vitamins into your child's diet to make up for any missing nutrients. It may be hard work, but if you follow these tips you will be well on your way to solving your child's poor eating habits.

#### **OTHER TIPS to solve picky eating in ASD...**

Make eating as fun as possible. For example, I talked to an adult with autism who liked to draw smiley faces on her food with ketchup when she was a kid. She might not have necessarily liked the taste of the food, but she looked forward to making the smiley faces every time. Cut things into fun shapes. Save some lolly wraps and wrap new food in them. Make a game out of it if you can.

\* If you offer different and healthy foods at every meal with little pressure to try them, eventually your child may get curious and decide on their own to try them.



- \* Try to choose new foods that have similar textures or flavours to what the child already eats. For example, switching potato chips with corn chips or trying strawberries if your child likes strawberry ice cream.
- \* If you have to, try to sneak the veggies in! There are various ways you can do this, be inventive.



## **Making a will can help avoid a messy end**

### **Without a will the law can hand part of an estate to children or other relatives.**

In theory, if a spouse died and his children who are next in line were no longer alive, the blood-grandchildren could miss out with the money going to the surviving spouse and his or her children from a former marriage. Dying without a will is a messy and costly business for those left behind.

One of the big surprises surviving relatives and beneficiaries often get, says Henry Stokes, managing solicitor at the Public Trust, is that the money doesn't all just go to the spouse, de facto or civil union partner.

There is a statutory formula in the Administration Act 1969 for distributing the estate of anyone who dies "intestate", or without a will. The act defines very clearly who gets the money.

"The surviving spouse gets a shock to find out they are not getting everything," says Stokes. "That catches so many people out. "If you have a spouse or a partner and children - irrespective of whose children they are - the spouse gets the first \$155,000 of the estate and chattels, personal possessions and furniture, and a third of everything else," says Stokes. The other two-thirds pass to the children. If they are aged under 20, it has to be held in trust.

On one hand, sharing the estate with the children is not necessarily a bad thing. There are cases where the surviving spouse can't afford to raise a bigger mortgage to release capital, says Stokes, and they end up renting.

There are adult children who are happy for their parent or step-parent to remain in the house until they die. Others may not be so willing and may push for the sale of the house.

Where there are no children involved, surviving spouses can still be blindsided by the law. The act says in this instance that the spouse gets the first \$155,000, the chattels and two-thirds of everything else. The remaining third goes to the surviving parents of the deceased person.

"You have just lost your partner and it's a very difficult time moving forward," says Stokes. "You can imagine the parents [or children] saying, 'I want my inheritance and I want it now'." Stokes says it is a very New Zealand attitude to say "no worries, I will be fine without a will". In reality that isn't the case.

The law often puts square pegs into round holes because not all families are the same.

In theory, if a spouse died and his children who are next in line were no longer alive, the blood-grandchildren could miss out with the money going to the surviving spouse and his or her children from a former marriage. If there is no spouse or child, the assets will be distributed to siblings, uncles and aunts, or grandparents according to the act's formula.

In theory, it might be possible for a widow, widower or beneficiaries of a person's estate to carry on their financial lives as if that person was alive and take no steps to distribute the estate.

But there are ways that people who do this could be foiled. The first is that the deceased's bank is notified of the death, says Stokes. In that case joint bank accounts will be frozen once the death certificate is signed (usually arranged by a funeral director) and even personal bank accounts in the surviving spouse's name where the deceased has signing authority will suffer the same fate.

Financial necessity then results in the surviving spouse going through the legal processes. "Letters of administration", similar to probate, are often required from the High Court before accounts are unfrozen.

Trust companies such as the Public Trust and Guardian Trust go through newspaper death notices daily to check if the trust holds wills for any of the people listed. "We would then write to the family to express our sympathy and to request them to contact us as soon as they feel it is appropriate to do so," says Stokes.

In other cases a family member will contact the person's lawyers looking for a will. Or a trust company or lawyer will get involved because one beneficiary wants the estate finalised because nothing has happened. When there is no will, matters get more difficult. First of all an "administrator", who fulfils the role of executor, needs to be appointed by the High Court. The administrator distributes the estate according to the rules in the act. The administrator's job, however, is longer and more costly than that of an executor where a will exists.

He or she must, for example, write to any lawyers the person has used in the past asking if there is a will and advertise in the New Zealand Law Journal to determine if a law firm or trustee company holds a copy of a will that wasn't known about by the family. The administrator must wait a set period after publication for possible replies.

If the will has been lost, the rules of intestacy apply, which is a good reason to leave the original with a lawyer or trust company and keep a copy of it at home. The intestacy process costs both time and money, which isn't good for a spouse who doesn't have access to joint bank accounts in the meantime.

Death isn't all about money. There are things that may be important to the deceased, but which the law disposes of clinically. They include:

- Jewellery, art works or family heirlooms.
- Wishes for your funeral, burial or cremation.
- Bequests to individuals or charitable organisations.
- Appointment of guardians for children aged under 18.
- The fate of pets.

The situation becomes even more complex when someone who has a family trust dies. It's rare that anyone has every last asset in the trust, says lawyer Ross Holmes, of Ross Holmes Trusts.

It's administratively easier to have just the family home in a trust and keep your income-bearing assets in your personal name, says Holmes. The reason for this is to avoid filling in unnecessary tax returns and paying additional accountancy fees.

What's more, many people's trusts owe them a debt at the time of their death, which becomes part of their personal estate. Despite the change in gifting laws last year, there are reasons not to gift an entire house or assets in one go to a trust because it affects people's ability to claim rest-home subsidies. As a result, when a person dies intestate there are assets that have to go through the administration process, attracting another set of fees.

There are situations where people can challenge the distribution of an intestate estate. A surviving spouse can claim their share of relationship property under the Property (Relationships) Act and family members can claim under the Family Protection Act if they can show that the deceased person had a moral duty to provide for them.

The Law Reform (Testamentary Promises) Act 1949 can also be used to challenge the distribution of an intestate estate if it can be proved that the deceased breached a promise to provide for a person who had performed work or services.

There are also formulas for Maori land interests, which can't be left to non-Maori, although Pakeha spouses can get a life interest. In the case of intestacy the Maori Land Court will determine succession of that land.

One common misconception about intestacy is that the government gets someone's money if they die without a will. That is only the case if none of the relatives mentioned in the act is alive. "Even then the Crown can make payments to dependants or other persons the intestate might reasonably have been expected to



make provision for, such as godchildren," says Tina McLennan, principal at Kaimai Law Bethlehem. "Blended families can be quite a complex scenario."

Stokes says the cost of administering the estate of an intestate person is sometimes double that of a person who has a will.

Another misconception, says Stokes, is that the Public Trust takes a share of the estate, which would be the same whether or not there was a will. "Public Trust's estate administration charges are based on the work we do, not on the value of the estate, and hence charges will be higher to reflect the extra work involved [in intestacy]."

Very small estates, however, with money, shares, life insurance policies or Government stock up to \$11,000, do not require an administrator or executor.



Diana Clement is a personal finance writer

### **More on practicing the art of loving detachment**

For many years, before I was aware of my empathic nature, I found myself on a bit of a roller coaster. My body and emotions would run the gamut—fluctuating at times when I wasn't sure of the cause. What I discovered later was that I was unconsciously "tuning in" to the various emotions or feelings of the people or situations around me. At times this was an uplifting experience, but just as often, it was an overall drain on my own body and emotional health. Once I discovered what was happening, I felt relieved to know that there was nothing really "wrong" with me. I just needed to learn how to "stay in my own skin" (as my teacher, Sonia often advises). It takes practice, but is a skill that can be easily incorporated into one's daily routine with a little bit of effort. As I have spoken of this dynamic with both my friends and clients, I have discovered just how common this energy exchange can occur in our daily interactions. Here are a few tips to keep you in your own energy and avoid picking up everyone else's "stuff"

Set the intention to stay grounded in your own energy. This is as simple as waking up in the morning acknowledging the gift of another day and \*breathing\*...Take a deep breath and say (either inwardly or outwardly) as a prayer, "Thank you God, for the gift of this day and the gift of myself. Help me to honour myself with love." This sets the tone for you to give yourself what you need without guilt during the course of your day ahead. [www.Soulfinding.com](http://www.Soulfinding.com)

Shield yourself in white light. Visualize white light surrounding your body and aura as a protective and gentle barrier. Envision this light as the loving energy of God keeping out lower vibrations and only allowing in loving and supportive energies.

Shield yourself as often as you need during the day—before difficult meetings or at any time you may feel “vulnerable”.

**Exercise.** Any physical activity that really gets your body moving is super effective in getting you grounded into your body. Strength training is great, as is walking, jogging or anything that gets you to break a sweat. When you work out hard, you aren’t managing anyone else but yourself. You’re brought back into your own space.

**Meditate.** If at any point, you start to feel tapped out and suspect it may be due to factors other than poor diet, lack of sleep or illness, take a breath, centre yourself and ask “Is this mine, or someone else’s problem?” Get quiet, breathe, and pay attention to what ideas come through. Breathe mindfully until you feel your body revive.

**Take a shower or bath.** Water is a purifier and can be a quick way to restore your energy. Adding Epsom or Sea salt to a bath is both a physical and spiritual detoxification trick. Soak until you feel better.

**Eat healthy foods and drink plenty of water.** Making healthy food choices is essential in keeping yourself in a grounded, well balanced state. It’s important to have enough protein and unprocessed foods in your overall diet in order to function in a way that won’t leave you vulnerable to energy leaks. Drink lots of water in order to purify the body adequately as well.

**Play!** Do something that you love. Be creative; let your artist out. By moving into a place of fun and creative expression, you instantly shift out of lower energy emotions such as guilt, obligation, or duty. Often these are the emotions that keep us unnecessarily tied into people in an unhealthy way. Lessen the load by having fun.

Our lives are shared journeys...This is a gift! Yet, part of our soul’s growth is to learn to connect to each other through our hearts and not be drawn into the drama of suffering, obligation and guilt. By staying firmly in the integrity of our own personal space, we are able to love from an unrestricted place of respect and peace. Honouring yourself and your place in the world is necessary, holy and desired by God! I believe this is what Jesus himself taught when he said “Love your neighbour as you love yourself. We are all part of the same Divine Spirit that is God; we are all in constant connection. By seeing your own magnificence, you are able to see it more readily in everyone around you.

**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

<b>Can we help you? Members Services Nationwide</b>
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**Toll free line 0800 472 637**

**Members support Manager: Di Vivian New members and general information ext. 1**

**Field Officers:**

**Sharon ext. 2**

Sharon is a counselor with 25 years' experience. She has specific experience in working with families and the challenges of parenting, including children who have experienced trauma and issues of grief/loss for grandparent/kin carers and their families who are also parents, siblings of the original parents of the children in their care. She can assist with Family Group Conference's or Strengthening families as a support person when practical or give advice via telephone. Auckland callers use 09 419 0045 Tuesdays & Fridays only.

**Nola Adams: ext. 3**

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 06 845 3141 (Hawkes Bay callers)

**Diana East: ext. 4**

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 and issues effecting grandparents raising. Hours 9am – 5pm 04 970 8177 (Wellington callers)

**Tricia Corin: ext. 5**

Is a Beneficiaries 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 07 8685490 (Waikato callers)

*Please note that our Field Officers are Part Time*

## **Formal GRG Support Groups: All welcome.**

### **Locality, Name, Phone, E-mail Address.**

Ashburton\*\* Jude Suddens 03 307 2147 [jude.brian@clear.net.nz](mailto:jude.brian@clear.net.nz)

Auckland East \*\* Tess Gould-Thorpe 09 535 6903 [pan@xnet.co.nz](mailto:pan@xnet.co.nz)

Auckland North \*\* Bonnie Williams 09 473 9055 [willingclan@xtra.co.nz](mailto:willingclan@xtra.co.nz)

Auckland South \*\* Virginia Peebles 09 256 1620

Auckland West \*\* Debbie Hall 09 818 7828 [debron@xtra.co.nz](mailto:debron@xtra.co.nz)

Mangere East \* Teresa Van Kuylenburg 09 974 2388 [teresa.mangere@grg.gmail.com](mailto:teresa.mangere@grg.gmail.com)

Canterbury North\*\* Jan Farquhar 03 313 6487 [Bunnies2xtra.co.nz](mailto:Bunnies2xtra.co.nz)

Coromandel\* Keitha Jenkins 07 866 8273 [northbrook@slingshot.co.nz](mailto:northbrook@slingshot.co.nz)

Dargaville \* Barbara Sterling 09 439 4555 [ladybee@vodafone.co.nz](mailto:ladybee@vodafone.co.nz)

Dunedin \*\* Catherin Butson 03 489 4942 [cmbutson@ihug.co.nz](mailto:cmbutson@ihug.co.nz)

Hamilton\*\* Kerry Batten 07 560 0291 kbatten@gmail.com  
 Hokitika \* Fran Edwards 03 755 8142  
 Huntly \*\* Lodi Liebert 07 828 6123 rulo@clear.net.nz  
 Invercargill \*\* Lynette Neilson 03 216 0411 jhandi@clear.net.nz  
 Kaitaia \* Irene Turner-Crombie 09 408 3446 iturnercombie@gmail.com  
 Kaiwaka\* Sarah Rogers 09 431 2194 sarah\_jane@clear.net.nz  
 Kaikohe\* Nellie Karena 09 405 3057 karenanellie@yahoo.com  
 Kapiti\*\* Aileen Sloane 04 904 4073 megsie@paradise.net.nz  
 Levin\* Ann Waddell 06 362 7269 ann.hen@xtra.co.nz  
 Napier \*\* Phone Nola 06 845 3141 (Temp)  
 Nelson \*\* Paula Eggers 03 5456118 paulaeggers2000@yahoo.com.au  
 Otago Est/Nth \* Aad & Leonie 03 465 1764 [omaandopa@xtra.co.nz](mailto:omaandopa@xtra.co.nz)  
 Palmerston North \*\* Martha Taonui-Andrews 06 356 6929 [marthaan@inspire.net.nz](mailto:marthaan@inspire.net.nz)  
 Rotorua \*\* Win Macredie 07 345 5003 winmacredie@xtra.co.nz  
 Rotorua \*\* Cyril Anderson 07 347 8163 judycyril@xtra.co.nz  
 Te Hiku Northland\* Koha Mehana 09 408 3788  
 Te Kuiti\*\* Patsy Roach 07 878 6704 raochp@waikatodhb.health.nz  
 Thames\*\* Sonja Senior 07 868 4846 [chchapple@xtra.co.nz](mailto:chchapple@xtra.co.nz)  
 Upper Hutt \*\* Margaret Pearson 04 976 9475 maggiemagpie@paradise.net.nz  
 Wairarapa \*\* Tere Lenihan 06 304 8804 terelenihan@clear.net.nz  
 Wanganui \*\* Cherryl Smith 06 344 1278 [cherryl@clear.net.nz](mailto:cherryl@clear.net.nz)  
 Wellington \*\* Cecilee Donovan 04 477 0632 cecileed@gmail.com  
 Whakatane \*\* Shirley Faulkner 07 322 8524 shirleyfaulkner@xtra.co.nz  
 Whangarei \*\* Janet Puriri 09 435 0044 jpuriri@ihug.co.nz

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.

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

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

We are a voluntary not-for-profit organisation.

All donations to the GRG Trust are tax deductible.

#### Abbreviations:

GRG – Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Trust: BOT – Board of Trustees: CYF – Child Youth and Family Services: Co's – Co-ordinator/s  
 UCB – Unsupported Child Benefit: WINZ – Work and Income NZ now DWI – Department of Work and Income.

#### **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) and 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.

Free Phone 0800 GRANDS or 0800 472637 ext. 1 (not for use for Auckland callers) Landline users only.

Auckland callers (09) 480 6530

Postal Address: 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.