



July-August 2019 Newsletter

4,847 NZ GRG Member Families

Tena Koutou, Talofa Lava, Kia Orana, Fakaalofa Lahi Atu, Malo e Lelei, Bula, Taloha Ni, Kam Na Mauri, Namaste, Hallo, Bonjour, Hola and Greetings to all!

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

<b>Kate's Take:</b>	2
<b>From the CEO's desk this month</b>	
• When it all gets too much!	
• National Support Office News	
• Our performance in 2018/2019	
• Introducing Hannah Morris	
<b>Support Group News with Merle Lambert</b>	3
<b>Our Statement of Service Performance 2018/2019</b>	5
<b>Advocating for You: Tricia Corin</b>	7
• Extraordinary Care Fund dates	
• Kidzacool Camp 2020 Dates	
<b>Grand's Reflections</b>	8
<b>GRG Contact Information</b>	9
<b>Support Group Contacts</b>	10



### KEY DATES COMING UP

#### 18 October 2019

Last date to apply for Extraordinary Care Fund for next funding round. See page 7 for more information.

#### 18 November 2019

Closing date for January Kidzacool Camps. See page 7 for more information.



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You can now call our free Helpline service: **0800 GRANDS** toll-free from your mobile phone for support, information, advice and referrals to our Outreach and Advocacy team.

Monday - Friday 9am to 2pm or email us at [office@grg.org.nz](mailto:office@grg.org.nz)



## Kate's Take! On the CEO's Desk this Month

Over the past six weeks we have had 116 new member families join the GRG whanau for support. On behalf of GRG welcome to you all!

In our last newsletter I raised a number of questions regarding the anomalies that continue to exist within our social welfare system, particularly as it relates to the financial support of children who can't be raised by their parents. This sparked some good feedback from some of our members and readers and I am pleased to report that we have had further constructive discussions with Oranga Tamariki in relation to the Ministry's first principles Review of Financial Assistance for Caregivers over the last month. We understand that there has

been a good level of response from the survey sent to recipients of the Unsupported Child Benefit/Orphans Benefit and Foster Care Allowances. Those responses are now being collated and we understand that the Minister for Children is expecting to report back to Cabinet on the review later this year.

### When it all gets too much!

Recently, the media reported on the case involving Lorraine Smith, a grandmother from Whanganui who killed her 13 year old granddaughter, Kalis.

This case sparked a lot of feedback from [within our membership and the community](#)<sup>1</sup> and left us all reeling with the tragedy of what Lorraine, Kalis and their whanau have, and are going through, with the recognition that without good support, sometimes the stress and pressure of raising a grandchild on top of personal mental and physical health and wellbeing issues can all be just too much.

She pleaded guilty to murder, but as "[a caregiver under pressure, overwhelmed and burnt out](#),"<sup>2</sup> she was mercifully spared the minimum mandatory non-parole life period of 10 years and sentenced to 12-years' imprisonment with a minimum term of six years at the Wellington High Court on 7 August 2019.

Lorraine's case is a reminder to us all that extreme stress and pressure can lead to horrific and tragic outcomes. If you feel like you can't cope any longer, or you need help, please, please ask for help. You are not alone in any of this and there is always someone who can help. Call our helpline **0800 GRANDS** or one of the **helpline numbers on page 9**.

### Our Work in 2018/2019

On page 5 and 6 this month we have included a summary of our Statement of Service Performance

<sup>1</sup> Growing dismay over Lorraine Smith's guilty plea for murder of granddaughter Kalis  
Bevan Hurley 05:00, Aug 04 2019

<sup>2</sup> Lorraine Smith had 'carer burnout'. She murdered her granddaughter and accepted a jail sentence of 12 years.  
Stuff Reporters 17:56, Aug 07 2019

which is part of our Annual Report and a requirement for us to file with the Charities Commission each year, providing a non-financial report on our work supporting grandparent and whanau care families. I am pleased to share this report with our readers and to express much gratitude to our hard working National Support Office staff on behalf of you all, the Board and me. The numbers involved tell quite a story about the need for our support services in the community.

### Welcoming Hannah Morris to the GRG Team



It gives me great pleasure to welcome **Hannah Morris** to our National Support Office team and to introduce you all to Hannah.

Hannah has recently joined our Outreach and Advocacy team as our new Community Outreach Advocate. Hannah is

available for referrals from member clients needing advice and advocacy help on a range of issues that might involve dealing with Oranga Tamariki, Family Court, mental health, school and special needs queries. Based in our Auckland National Support Office, Hannah can also assist members with queries across the country and where GRG is unable to provide the support required, will advocate for clients with local agencies to link in the support needed at a local level.

Hannah has a real passion for providing support to clients facing social, mental health, physical and disability challenges. She holds a Bachelor of Social Work (Hons) from Massey University and her practical experience before GRG includes working for the Anglican Trust for Women and Children, delivering the family start programme to a number of families in the Auckland

region, working for the Auckland City Mission to provide outreach and support services to the homeless and various roles providing support to children who are in care for an array of reasons such as neglect, substance addictions, and

physical or sexual abuse. Hannah, welcome to the GRG Team!



## Support Group News and Update

- with Merle Lambert, National Support Coordinator

It has been delightful getting to know all our wonderful volunteer Support Group Coordinators around the country since I started this role with GRG in May 2019 and to learn more about the amazing support they are giving to our members and family/whanau across the country.

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Trust NZ (GRG) supports grandparent and whanau care families raising their grandchild or another member of their whanau's child.

To assist in this objective GRG run support groups around the country that provide for support through information sharing, shared learning and empowerment, in a comfortable and safe environment.

Key to the success of these groups is the role of Support Group Coordinator who takes the lead to organize and facilitate the group, in a volunteer capacity, with support of group members.

GRG recognizes this as an important role and provides one on one support to the coordinator through the National Support Coordinator.

Potential Support Group Coordinators will have a wealth of life experience with accumulated knowledge and skills and often feel they want to share their experience to enrich and empower others who may feel overwhelmed and unsupported in their role of parenting.

If you feel that you would like to volunteer your time and expertise in this way, I would love to hear from you. GRG currently has Support Group Coordinator vacancies in the following areas:

- Kerikeri
- Papatoetoe
- Tauranga
- Gisborne
- Taranaki

In addition, I would welcome hearing from anyone that would like to share their experience or provide feedback as a member of a support group in your area. This helps us to provide a better service Nationwide and enhances the support to our Support Group Coordinators and GRG members.

Please feel free to contact me at  
[Merle@grg.org.nz](mailto:Merle@grg.org.nz)  
+64 21 246 0553

## Thank you Virginia!



This month we say a big thank you to Virginia Peebles for all her hard work over the last 8+ years! Virginia has been our Coordinator in South Auckland since 2011 and although she is stepping down from the Support Coordinator role, we are fortunate that she will continue to run a Coffee Group in the South Auckland area. Please contact Virginia on 09 277 7514 if this is something that interests you.

For Support Group enquiries in the South Auckland area, please contact Anne Doddrell on 09 2378161 or [Pukekohe@grg.org.nz](mailto:Pukekohe@grg.org.nz)





## Taumarunui Support Group News

- from Jo Wickham, GRG Taumarunui Support Group Coordinator

Here in Taumarunui we had a busy school holidays.

We took a bus load of GRG members up the mountain for a day and were lucky enough that it snowed while we were there.

It was a really neat fun day and we really appreciate how our bus driver (also a member of GRG) arranged for the 4 x 4 bus to collect us from the Chateau and take us to the Top of the Bruce, where all the snow was.

In the second week of the holidays we took a group of GRG grandparents and grandchildren to the movies to see Lion King.

We are waiting for the weather to improve when we will have a BBQ (provided by our local Oranga Tamariki office) at our newly revamped playground. We are also planning on taking vans over to Taupo to the AC pools.

All up things have been going really well down here. The weather maybe chilly but we can still have fun!



Arohanui, Jo



## The Adolescent Brain Presentation

### Waikato Members

Pat Davis and Ruth Gilling (our Hamilton and Te Awamutu SGCs have organised for a presentation on the Adolescent Brain by [Andre Ngapo](#), from the **Brainwave Trust**.

This will be held on **Thursday 19th September at 10am in Hamilton**.

Please contact Ruth or Pat to book your seat at this informative presentation that will reveal essential insights on how and why teenagers think and behave the way they do and how this knowledge will help you parent them more effectively!

Contact: Pat at [Hamilton@grg.org.nz](mailto:Hamilton@grg.org.nz) or 07 855 0530 or

Ruth at [TeAwamutu@grg.org.nz](mailto:TeAwamutu@grg.org.nz) or 022 045 4475

# 2019

## Our work with families

Ko ta tatou mahi me o whānau



Our focus is **providing services and programmes that support and empower grandparent and whānau caregivers** to promote stability and security for the family and positive life outcomes for the children.

Ko ta tatou arotahi ko te whakatutukitanga i nga putanga oranga pai mo nga tamariki me nga taiohi, ma te tuku ratonga me nga kaupapa e tautoko ana, e whakamana ana i nga tupuna, mokopuna, me te whānau.

### 4,672

Grandparent and whānau care families raising 14,000+ children and young people were supported through our programmes and services in 2019.

### 602

New member families joined GRG for support

**96%** said the New Caregiver Resources packs we sent them were helpful or very helpful to them as caregivers

**90%** of our clients reported that, overall our support services **met their needs**

**94%** said they would recommend our services to another grandparent



## How we helped our families

He aha ta matou i mea ai hei awhina i o matou whānau

### 117

**Emergency care packs** with donated new and pre-loved clothing, backpacks, toys, bedding, school bags, toiletries, books and other essentials were distributed to families in immediate need

### 9,349

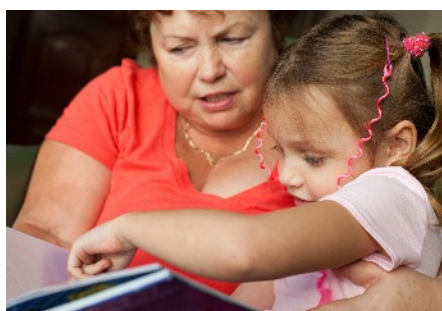
**Member contacts** with our National Support Service Delivery team, responding to client needs and objectives

### 39,989

**Newsletters** with current issues, articles, events, and key updates to law, policy, financial support and other issues were distributed via email or post to 4930 grandparent or whānau care families, stakeholders and professionals in the child welfare sector.

### 7,232

Calls were handled by our National Support Office and 0800 Grands helpline service assisting clients with their queries and concerns.



Since receiving GRG's support, **89%** of caregivers surveyed told us that they now have a better understanding of their rights and responsibilities as a caregiver.

**87%** also told us that they now **feel more confident** in their roles parenting their grandchildren or whānau child.



## What we achieved He aha ta tatou i tutuki

## How we made a difference Nga putanga mai i a maatau mahi

**419**

**Accessed our Community Outreach Advocacy service including 196 new clients,** needing help with parenting, guardianship, Family Court, Oranga Tamariki, special needs, schooling, education, mental health, youth justice or housing concerns.

**390**

**New Clients** received information, advice and, or advocacy assistance from our **Specialist (Income Support) Advocacy Service**

**50**

Clients were granted the Unsupported Child Benefit as a result of our advocate's intervention and advocacy, after the applications had initially been declined or clients were incorrectly told they didn't qualify for this support.

**\$565,787**

In arrears payments were paid to: **22** clients as a result of our advocacy to establish their entitlement to income support.

88% of our clients said our advocacy team connected them to practical support to help with their needs.

90% said our advocacy team was successful in achieving positive outcomes for them when advocating for them with other agencies.

81% said GRG's advocacy had led to an improvement in their financial circumstances.

## Caregiver Education



**17**

Caregiver education (SALT) workshops were facilitated in Kaitia, Kaikohe, Whangarei, Kaiwaka, New Lynn, Papakura, Pukekohe, Waiuku, Gisborne, New Plymouth, Te Awamutu, Papamoa, Palmerston North, Motueka, Waimate, Dunedin and Invercargill

**103**

Caregivers attended our SALT (**Simply Acquired & Learned Techniques™**) **4 Grandparent and Whanau Care** Workshops, learning best practice strategies for parenting children affected by trauma.

100% of attendees at SALT caregiver training workshops last year reported that the information they learned at the programmes was useful or very useful for them.

*"This training was awesome. I wish we had the information when we were first bringing up our grandchildren."*

*"I can now see where I go wrong and steps to take to stop my grandchildren exploding."*

**Grandparent care is a complex dynamic;** emotionally and socially for the caregivers and the children within the whānau - especially when the children are also affected by past trauma. Grandparents and whānau caregivers need simple and effective strategies for dealing with challenging behaviour and stressful situations.

But most importantly they need to understand why children behave the way they do in a way that is relevant and relatable to them.

**It is the 'lightbulb' or 'aha' moment that participants experience that really opens up their eyes, enabling them to apply the appropriate strategy in response to challenging behaviour and/or conflict.**

Minimising stress and maximising the security of the relationship is at the heart of GRG's vision for achieving positive life outcomes for their grandchildren and our SALT workshop is a key part of our education programme to achieve this.

**SALT 4 Grandparents™** is short for **Simply Acquired and Learned Techniques™** and draws on the fundamentals of strengths-based training and trauma-informed care.

The SALT programme is tailored to the particular issues that we know from experience that many grandparents and whānau caregivers face.

The training occurs in a small group setting held during school hours, with their local GRG Support Group. The concept behind the SALT training format is to empower grandparents with increased confidence in their abilities as caregivers and to receive ongoing encouragement from their support group when they need additional assistance during a tough time.





## Advocating for You!

Tricia Corin

GRG Specialist Advocate on Benefits and Income Support

### Are you raising someone else's child?

If you are **because there has been a breakdown in the child's family and you are likely to be their principal caregiver for at least 1 year from the date you apply to Work and Income for this support then you are entitled to this support to help with the costs of raising the child.**

Note from the Editor: Our wonderful Tricia Corin is on leave for a very well deserved break and is back on deck from the 27<sup>th</sup> of August. If you need any assistance on income support matters, please call us on 0800 472 637.

The UCB is not taxable and is **not affected by your income or assets** as a caregiver. It is affected by any income the child might be receiving (e.g. ACC) and the child must be resident and present in NZ. To qualify for it you must also be over 18 years of age, resident and present in NZ for a continuous period of 12 months or more and you must not be a natural parent, an adoptive parent, or a step-parent of the child.

If these circumstances apply to you and you think you have been incorrectly advised or you realise now that you should be receiving this support, please contact me on [Tricia@grg.org.nz](mailto:Tricia@grg.org.nz) or our helpline on **0800 472 637** or call our National Support Office on 09 418 3753 for a referral to me.

## what a grand idea!

### Extraordinary Care Fund Dates for Funding Rounds in 2019

The next round **closes on 18 October 2019**. If you are unsuccessful in one round, you can reapply. You can submit your application at any time before the next funding round closing date to be considered.

#### If you apply before: You will hear back by:

15 February 2019	29 March 2019
1 June 2019	2 August 2019
18 October 2019	3 December 2019

See our website at [www.grg.org.nz](http://www.grg.org.nz) for more information and guidelines for making an application. If you have further questions, or you need help with your application, please don't hesitate to contact us at 0800 472 637 or 09 418 3753 or email us at [office@grg.org.nz](mailto:office@grg.org.nz)



### KidzaCool Holiday Adventures Camps 2020 Dates

Camp Dates 2020	Closing Date for Applications
Monday 20 January 12.30 to Friday 24 January 2pm	Monday 18 November 2019
Tuesday 14 April 1.30pm to Saturday 18 April 2pm	Friday 20 March 2020
Monday 6 July 12.30pm to Friday 10 July 2pm	Friday 5 June 2020

These camps are a FREE programme available to grandparents who have had the day to day care of grandchildren for a year or more. Please contact us at 0800 472 637 or [office@grg.org.nz](mailto:office@grg.org.nz) for more information or a referral.

## Grand's reflections...

A man and a woman were sat next to each other on a flight. The man was returning from a parent-education seminar where he gave a speech as an educational psychologist.

The woman began speaking to the man about how she was returning from two weeks visiting her six children, 18 grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren.

Eventually she asked the man what he did for a living.

Fully expecting to provide the woman with free professional advice on parenting, the man proudly said: "I'm an educational psychologist. I study parenting basically."

Silently, the woman sat back in her seat and said: "Well, if there's anything you want to know, just ask me."





## Other Helpline Numbers to Keep Handy!

**111** for emergency services, fire, ambulance or police

**0800 933 922** PlunketLine for advice on child health or parenting from a registered Plunket Nurse

**0800 611 116** Healthline for health triage and advice from a registered nurse.

**Text 1737 'Need to Talk?'** Get help from a counsellor

**0800 543 354 or Text 4357 for Lifeline** - 24/7 confidential support from qualified counsellors and trained volunteers

**0800 376 633 Youthline**, helping families and youth

**0508 Carers (0508 227 377)** a 24/7 Caregivers Guidance and Advice Line.

**0800 WHATS UP (Barnardos)** - a free counselling helpline for teenagers and children.

**Depression.org.nz** – Free text number **4202**

### Can we help you?

Members ONLY services are available free of charge nationwide

New members and existing members please call our Helpline 0800 GRANDS (0800 472 637) or 09 418 3753

Or Join GRG via our website at [www.grg.org.nz](http://www.grg.org.nz)  
Or click the Join GRG button below

**JOIN GRG**

**Office Administrator:**  
09 418 3753  
Email: [office@grg.org.nz](mailto:office@grg.org.nz)

**Chief Executive:**  
Kate Bundle 027 2446763  
Email: [kate@grg.org.nz](mailto:kate@grg.org.nz)  
**GRG Trust NZ**  
PO Box 34892  
Birkenhead  
Auckland 0746

**National Support Office**  
Unit C  
Chelsea Business Park  
162 Mokoia Road  
Birkenhead Auckland  
0626

Our Office Hours are 9am to 2pm Monday to Friday

Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Trust NZ is a registered charity (CC20205) providing nationwide and local support focused on supporting and empowering grandparent

and whanau caregiver families to achieve positive life outcomes for the children and young people in their care

If you no longer wish to receive this newsletter or you have changed address please update your details by contacting the GRG Trust Office as this is where the total mail out membership is kept.  
Moved home or planning to? Be sure to let us know.

**Disclaimer:** Opinions or views expressed in this newsletter shall be understood as reflecting those of the author as quoted and are not to be taken as given or endorsed by GRG.

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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. *He rōpū manaaki, he rōpū whakarongo, he rōpū ako mātou*  
We are respectful, we listen, we learn.

Please pass this newsletter on to other grandparents/kin caregivers you know who need support

**Donate to GRG**

Give a little to GRG via our secure DPS payment system on our website at [www.GRG.org.nz](http://www.GRG.org.nz) at or at [Givealittle.co.nz/org/grg](http://Givealittle.co.nz/org/grg)

**givealittle**  
from the Spark Foundation

Thank you to Suncorp our **Community Partner** and to our generous Sponsors, Funders and private donors supporting GRG's Support Services, Information Resources and Carer Education programmes throughout New Zealand, including this newsletter.



Brighter Futures Community Partner



## GRG Support & Coffee Groups Nationwide

**Note: Meetings are held during school terms - with public and school holidays excluded unless otherwise specified.**

### Kaitaia & Kerikeri

**Contact:** Martha Taonui 022 050 7056 / [kaitaia@grg.org.nz](mailto:kaitaia@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** First Friday of each month, 10:30am-12:00pm.

**Location:** Varies – please get in touch with Martha for confirmation of the next meeting.

### Whangarei

**Contact:** Lianne Nicholas 09 459 5910 / [whangarei@grg.org.nz](mailto:whangarei@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** First Friday of each month, 10:00am-12:00pm.

**Location:** Anglican Care Centre, corner of Mill Road & Deveron Street, Whangarei.

### Waitakere

**Contact:** Esther Price 021 251 0690 / [waitakere@grg.org.nz](mailto:waitakere@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** Third Thursday of each month, from 10:00am.

**Location:** Terence Kennedy House Hall, 267 Glengarry Road, Glen Eden, Auckland.

### Pukekohe & Waiuku

**Contact:** Anne Doddrell 09 237 8161 / [pukekohe@grg.org.nz](mailto:pukekohe@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** Last Tuesday of each month, 10:00am-12:00pm.

**Location:** St. Andrews Church, 43 Queen Street, Pukekohe, Auckland.

### Te Puke & Papamoa

**Contact:** Rawinia McCredie 07 562 2850 / [tepuke@grg.org.nz](mailto:tepuke@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** First Monday of each month from March to December from 10:30am.

**Location:** Empowerment NZ, 32 Jocelyn Street, Te Puke.

### Kaikohe

**Contact:** Moengaroa Floyed 09 401 3057 / [kaikohe@grg.org.nz](mailto:kaikohe@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** Varies – please get in touch with Moe for confirmation of the next meeting.

**Location:** Varies – please get in touch with Moe for confirmation of the next meeting.

### Ruakaka

**Contact:** Tauser Kingi 09 432 8611 / [ruakaka@grg.org.nz](mailto:ruakaka@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** Varies – please get in touch with Tauser for confirmation of the next meeting.

**Location:** Varies – please get in touch with Tauser for confirmation of the next meeting.

### New Lynn

**Contact:** Robyn Robertson 021 309 365 / [newlynn@grg.org.nz](mailto:newlynn@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** Third Tuesday of each month, from 10:00am.

**Location:** House of Prayer, 9B Bin-sted Road, New Lynn, Auckland.

### Hamilton & Huntly

**Contact:** Pat Davis 07 855 0530 / [hamilton@grg.org.nz](mailto:hamilton@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** Last Monday of each month, 10:00am-12:00pm.

**Location:** St. David's Hall, 160 Rifle Range Rd, Frankton, Hamilton.

### Opotiki

**Contact:** Sophie Wilson-Kahika 07 262 5136 / [opotiki@grg.org.nz](mailto:opotiki@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** Varies – please get in touch with Sophie for confirmation of the next meeting.

**Location:** Varies – please get in touch with Sophie for confirmation of the next meeting.

### Dargaville

**Contact:** Sandy Zimmer 09 439 4420 / [dargaville@grg.org.nz](mailto:dargaville@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** Varies – please get in touch with Sandy for confirmation of the next meeting.

**Location:** Northern Wairoa Boating Club, Totara Street, Dargaville.

### East Auckland

**Contact:** Tess Gould-Thorpe 09 535 6903 / [tamaki@grg.org.nz](mailto:tamaki@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** Varies – please get in touch with Tess for confirmation of the next meeting.

**Location:** Dunkirk Road Activity Centre, 50 Dunkirk Road, Panmure, Auckland.

### Papakura

**Contact:** Shirley Afoa 021 129 4151 / [papakura@grg.org.nz](mailto:papakura@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** Varies – please get in touch with Shirley for confirmation of the next meeting.

**Location:** Varies – please get in touch with Shirley for confirmation of the next meeting.

### Tauranga

Currently vacant. If you or someone you know would like to consider becoming the local Support Group Coordinator for Tauranga, please contact Merle Lambert at [merle@grg.org.nz](mailto:merle@grg.org.nz)

### Rotorua

**Contact:** Anne Donnell 022 402 22910 / [rotorua@grg.org.nz](mailto:rotorua@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** Third Monday of each month, 9:30am-12:00pm.

**Location:** Linton Park Community Centre, 16 Kamahi Place, Pukehangī, Rotorua.

## Te Awamutu

**Contact:** Ruth Gilling 022 045 4475 / [teawamutu@grg.org.nz](mailto:teawamutu@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** Second Monday of each month, 9:30am-11:30am.

**Location:** Varies – please get in touch with Ruth for confirmation of the next meeting.

## Turangi

**Contact:** Charmaine Timihou 027 645 2002 / [turangi@grg.org.nz](mailto:turangi@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** Varies – please get in touch with Charmaine for confirmation of the next meeting.

**Location:** Varies – please get in touch with Charmaine for confirmation of the next meeting.

## Taranaki

Currently vacant. If you or someone you know would like to consider becoming the local Support Group Coordinator for Taranaki, please contact Merle Lambert at [merle@grg.org.nz](mailto:merle@grg.org.nz)

## Whanganui

**Contact:** Jenny Morton 027 443 7780 / [whanganui@grg.org.nz](mailto:whanganui@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** Varies – please get in touch with Jenny for confirmation of the next meeting.

**Location:** Varies – please get in touch with Jenny for confirmation of the next meeting.

## Levin

**Contact:** Ann Waddell 06 362 7269 / [levin@grg.org.nz](mailto:levin@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** Varies – please get in touch with Ann for confirmation of the next meeting.

**Location:** Varies – please get in touch with Ann for confirmation of the next meeting.

## Te Kuiti

**Contact:** Kay Higgins 027 430 2939 / [tekuiti@grg.org.nz](mailto:tekuiti@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** Third Wednesday of each month from 10:00am.

**Location:** Tiffany's Café, 241 Rora Street, Te Kuiti.

## Gisborne

Currently vacant. If you or someone you know would like to consider becoming the local Support Group Coordinator for Gisborne, please contact Merle Lambert at [merle@grg.org.nz](mailto:merle@grg.org.nz)

## Napier

**Contact:** Rozane Duncan 027 901 2021 / [napier@grg.org.nz](mailto:napier@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** First Friday of each month from 10:30am.

**Location:** Napier RSA, 34 Vautier Street, Napier.

## Dannevirke

**Contact:** Connie Peters 027 488 3415 / [tararua@grg.org.nz](mailto:tararua@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** Varies – please get in touch with Connie for confirmation of the next meeting.

**Location:** Varies – please get in touch with Connie for confirmation of the next meeting.

## Wairarapa

**Contact:** Tere Lenihan 021 509 493 / [wairarapa@grg.org.nz](mailto:wairarapa@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** Varies – please get in touch with Tere for confirmation of the next meeting.

**Location:** Varies – please get in touch with Tere for confirmation of the next meeting.

## Taupo

**Contact:** Lesley-Anne Wells 07 377 3539 / [taupo@grg.org.nz](mailto:taupo@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** Varies – please get in touch with Lesley-Anne for confirmation of the next meeting.

**Location:** Varies – please get in touch with Lesley-Anne for confirmation of the next meeting.

## Taumarunui

**Contact:** Jo Wickham 07 896 7515 / [taumarunui@grg.org.nz](mailto:taumarunui@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** First Monday of each month, 10:00am-12:00pm.

**Location:** Taumarunui RSA, 10 Marae Street, Taumarunui.

## Hastings

**Contact:** Tom Kupa 06 879 4302 / [hastings@grg.org.nz](mailto:hastings@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** Varies – please get in touch with Tom for confirmation of the next meeting.

**Location:** Varies – please get in touch with Tom for confirmation of the next meeting.

## Palmerston North

**Contact:** Jacqui Phillips 021 229 0455 / [palmerstonnorth@grg.org.nz](mailto:palmerstonnorth@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** Alternates between the first Thursday from 5:30pm and the first Tuesday from 9:30am each month.

**Location:** The Evelyn Rawlins Room, Square Edge Creative Centre, 47 The Square, Palmerston North.

## Porirua

**Contact:** Roma Paull 022 050 4761 / [porirua@grg.org.nz](mailto:porirua@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** Second Wednesday of each month, 10:00am-12:00pm.

**Location:** First floor, Connect Global Office, 1 Walton Leigh Avenue, Porirua.



**Note: Meetings are held during school terms - with public and school holidays excluded unless otherwise specified.**

## Hutt Valley

**Contact:** Serenah Nicholson 021 743 414/ [huttvalley@grg.org.nz](mailto:huttvalley@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** First Friday of each month, from 9:30am-11:30am.

**Location:** Pomare Community House, 55 Farmer Crescent, Taita, Lower Hutt.

## Motueka

**Contact:** Rankeilor Arnott 03 528 5089 / [motueka@grg.org.nz](mailto:motueka@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** Second and fourth Tuesday of each month, 1:00pm-3:00pm.

**Location:** St Andrews Church, 64 High Street, Motueka.

## North Otago

**Contact:** Margaret Pink 03 434 7233 / [northotago@grg.org.nz](mailto:northotago@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** Varies – please get in touch with Margaret for confirmation of the next meeting.

**Location:** Varies – please get in touch with Margaret for confirmation of the next meeting.

## Southland

**Contact:** Lynette Nielsen 027 489 2581 / [southland@grg.org.nz](mailto:southland@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** Fortnightly on a Wednesday at 10:00am.

**Location:** Family Works, 183 Spey Street, Invercargill.

## Wellington

**Contact:** Cecilee Donovan 04 477 0632 / [wellington@grg.org.nz](mailto:wellington@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** Varies – please get in touch with Cecilee for confirmation of the next meeting.

**Location:** Varies – please get in touch with Cecilee for confirmation of the next meeting.

## Canterbury

**Contact:** Veronica Brunt / 03 942 5935 / [canterbury@grg.org.nz](mailto:canterbury@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** Varies – please get in touch with Veronica for confirmation of the next meeting.

**Location:** Varies – please get in touch with Veronica for confirmation of the next meeting.

## Otago Coastal

Currently vacant. If you or someone you know would like to consider becoming the local Support Group Coordinator for the Otago Coastal area, please contact Merle Lambert at [merle@grg.org.nz](mailto:merle@grg.org.nz)

## Other areas

If your area is not included and you or someone you know would like to consider becoming the local Support Group Coordinator for your area, please contact Merle Lambert at [merle@grg.org.nz](mailto:merle@grg.org.nz)

## Nelson

**Contact:** Paula Eggers 021 062 6583 / [nelson@grg.org.nz](mailto:nelson@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** Fortnightly on a Tuesday.

**Location:** Varies – please get in touch with Paula for confirmation of the next meeting.

## East Christchurch

**Contact:** Anna Clare 021 085 77404 / [eastchristchurch@grg.org.nz](mailto:eastchristchurch@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** First and third Friday of each month, from 10:00am.

**Location:** Holy Trinity Avonside, 168 Stanmore Road, Richmond, Christchurch.

## Dunedin

**Contact:** Mike Stanley 027 205 5767 / [dunedin@grg.org.nz](mailto:dunedin@grg.org.nz)

**Meets:** Varies – please get in touch with Mike for confirmation of the next meeting.

**Location:** Varies – please get in touch with Mike for confirmation of the next meeting.

## Coffee Groups

Matakana/Warkworth  
North Shore  
Auckland Central  
South Auckland  
Huntly/Ngaruawahia  
Cambridge  
New Plymouth  
Raetihi  
Kapiti  
Upper Hutt  
Blenheim  
Christchurch  
Ashburton

Shirley  
Val  
Jane  
Virginia  
Carol  
Brenda  
Marilyn  
Angel  
Margaret  
Margaret  
Juliet  
Elaine  
Deborah

09 423 7052  
022 080 2368  
021 424 801  
09 277 7514  
027 361 1929  
027 438 5401  
06 753 7178 / 027 4316365  
06 385 3404  
04 293 4728  
04 976 9475  
03 571 6222  
021 025 08834  
027 626 4866