



September-October 2019 Newsletter

5047 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

Kate's Take:	2
From the CEO's desk this month	
Respite for Grandparents	
Petal Foundation	3
Understanding the Family	4
Court Process: Hannah Morris	
Kidzacool Camp Dates for 2020	5
Support Group News with Merle Lambert	6
Open Days for Grandparents in Dunedin and Queenstown	7
Extraordinary Care Fund	7
Advocating for You: Tricia Corin on Supported Living Payments	8
Grand's Reflections	9
GRG Contact Information	10
Support Group Contacts	11



KEY DATES COMING UP

18 November 2019
Closing date for January Kidzacool Camps. See page 7 for more information.



Find us on Facebook at [Facebook.com/grg.org.nz](https://www.facebook.com/grg.org.nz)



**0800
GRANDS**

0800 472 637

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

I
N
F
SUPPORT
R
M
ADVICE
T
I
ADVOCACY
N

H
L
P



Kate's Take!

On the CEO's Desk this Month

It is hard to believe that we are nearing the end of October and in less than two months it will be Christmas and another year will be behind us. I'm not sure whether time is actually speeding up or if our lives just keep getting busier and busier and it just feels that way?

There is one thing that is certain though, and that is the importance of taking some time out from day to day stresses to take care of yourself and take a breath. And that - I know is easier said than done!

Respite! Respite! Respite!

If I had a dollar for every time I have heard that word and more importantly - the need for it, for grandparents and caregivers over the last 20 years I would be a

wealthy woman for sure! And no one can deny that grandparents raising their grandchildren and whanau or foster carers raising someone else's child need a break from their important parenting roles. Just how to enable a caregiver's access to meaningful respite when they need it and in a form that will also ensure the safety, wellbeing and care of the child or children is an issue that has confounded many organisations, policy advisers and politicians over the years. At GRG we also struggle to advise our member clients on this issue or to link members in with organisations that can provide respite.

The answers are not simple because there is no cookie-cutter approach that will work for all. In reality, respite or "time out" for a break, will also mean different things for different people and at different times.

School holiday camps for children, after school care, respite carers for weekends, nights off, being able to weekly engage in a hobby and enjoy a head space break, or for longer periods for a much needed holiday are all options that may or may not be available.

Finding the right respite caregiver and being able to afford the cost of their care are also critical factors, especially for caregivers who are not entitled to paid-for respite as is the case for Oranga Tamariki approved caregivers or foster caregivers receiving the Foster Care Allowance.

The good news is that ensuring a caregiver can access respite is an issue that is being included in the Government's "first principles" review of all caregiver support payments announced by the Minister for Children, the Honourable Tracey Martin earlier this year. This review impacts caregivers receiving the Unsupported Child/Orphan's Benefits and the Foster Care and Higher Foster Care Allowances. As a member of the expert panel appointed to review these payments in consultation with Oranga Tamariki's policy team I am heartened that there is a real recognition of this important and often overlooked aspect to the caregiver role. In this forum I have also raised the problem that grandparents on National Super (or if they are not

working and not caring for a seriously ill or disabled child) they can't access the OSCAR subsidy for after school care or school holiday programmes under the current law. This means that there is virtually no respite for these caregivers which can result in even greater unrelenting stress and risk of burn out for these caregivers who are in their 60s, 70s and even 80s! That isn't fair or just!

The extent to which our current system can be improved is dependent upon the Government's response to recommendations put before it and the devil - as always will be in the detail and the costs involved. However to better advocate for you on respite issues, I invite you to email me at kate@grg.org.nz with your views as to what sorts of respite options or ideas you have that do work in your area or that you would like to see in future.

I recently had the privilege of meeting Jo Stevenson, one of the Founders of the **Petal Foundation**. "Petal" stands for '**Paediatric Education Transitioning and Love**'. Petal's purpose is to meet a gap in our society by providing a much-needed facility that is dedicated to babies born with dependency needs.

The sad reality as we know at GRG is that too many children are being born with high and complex needs as a result of their mothers' substance abuse and addictions. Petal's vision is to keep tamariki safe, to strengthen babies attachments to their mothers and whanau during their vital first 1000 days of life, and to improve their emotional and physical wellbeing to ensure a better start to life.

Sometimes this involves providing vulnerable babies with a short-term home during the most crucial time of their lives, while giving their mothers time to get clean, sober and safe. They are also offering respite support to grandparents who might be raising high needs babies.

Based in Glen Innes in Auckland I am excited by the opportunities that may exist for some of our grandparent caregivers raising babies to take advantage of this respite and support option and on page 2 we include more information on the Petal Foundation.

Petal Foundation

Paediatric Education Transitioning and Love

A safe start for our vulnerable babies.

Just as a petal is precious and fragile, so are our babies.

Aotearoa is facing an epidemic of drug and alcohol affected babies. We know the destructive impact on the individual child, their whanau and community.

At Petal Foundation, we aim to give our vulnerable babies a safe, short-term home during the most crucial time of their lives, giving time for mums to get clean, sober and safe. Or at times, for a well planned and supported foster home placement. And often, to give carers or grandparents desperately needed respite care.

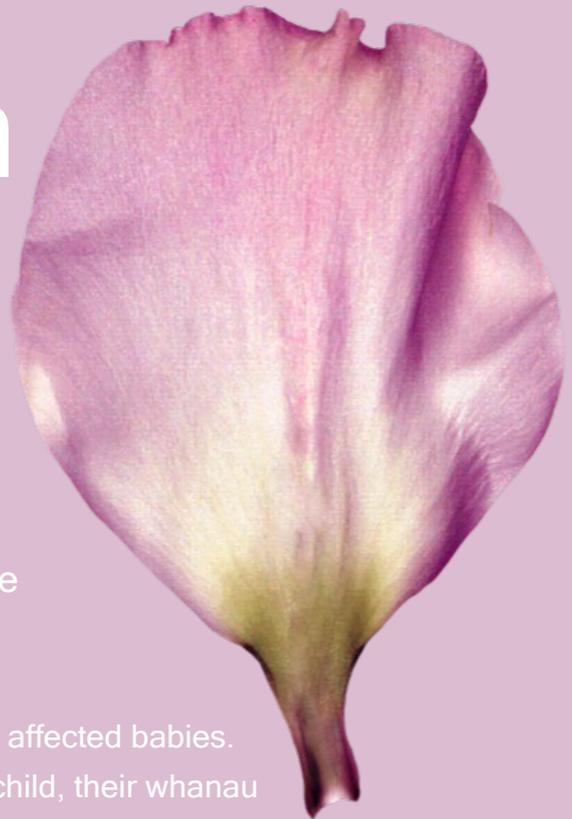
Petal stands for Paediatric Education Transitioning and Love. Our trained nurses, midwives, nurse aides and doctors provide compassionate specialist, 24 -hour care for vulnerable infants in the Petal Home; a newly created, specially adapted, safe house in Auckland. We'll look after each baby, then provide an individualised care pathway to a safe environment.

Petal House is based on an international model, the Pediatric Interim Care Centre (PICC) in Seattle USA, founded to support drug-affected babies.

A global leader in the rehabilitation and care of medically fragile infants, PICC has supported and transitioned more than 3,200 babies with a model that makes a proven difference.

At the Petal home we are offering grandparents with newborn to 6 month old babies daytime respite.

If you're struggling with a high needs baby, or overwhelmed with looking after a number of grandchildren and a baby, please contact care@petal.foundation or 027 4742 486 so that we can help assess your needs and support a small part of your challenging and fulfilling caregiving journey.





Getting to Grips with the Family Court

Hannah Morris - GRG Community Outreach Advocate

At GRG we receive frequent enquiries about the Family Court process and as most of you know this can unfortunately be messy, long and expensive! At our staff and Support Coordinators training this month we had a workshop on this exact area with Community Law in Auckland and Wellington. We thought this newsletter would be a fantastic opportunity to pass on to you what we learned as we understand how incredibly daunting this whole process can be.

When proceeding through the Family Court process it is important to keep in mind that this process is required to be child centred, which means that essentially the judge does not care what you want but rather must decide what is in the “best interests of the child”. They may not always get this right but that is the focus of the court.

Our first piece of advice is to utilise the free Community Law Manual which can be found online (<https://communitylaw.org.nz/legal-information/>). Here there is a thorough chapter on Family law and also a question generator where you can type in any legal question and (hopefully) get the answer you are after.

The most powerful tool you can arm yourself with during this process is knowledge; so familiarising yourself with everything involved is a fantastic first step. Sometimes it is recommended if possible to make applications on your own without legal representation as this can save a considerable amount of money. If the case is generally straight forward and both parties agree then these applications can be downloaded and submitted on your own to save on costs. You can also visit your local District Court and ask to speak to the Family Court registrar who will give you all the application forms you need to complete.

There are a number of different orders and Acts that can be quite confusing and overwhelming. Here is a brief run down on what some of them mean if you are in the situation where you are seeking orders for the care of a child and Oranga Tamariki is not involved.

Parenting orders come under the Care of Children Act 2004. An application for a parenting order is a document which is submitted to the court which spells out the arrangements for the care of the child – for example who sees the child when, where etc. A parenting order is specifically helpful when a relationship is volatile between the two (or three or more) parties as it can go into the specifics around the contact (access) between the child and other parties. It is important to keep in mind that if the

relationship between parents and grandparents is fine and a private agreement has been made and is working then not having an order is fine for as long as that agreement is working. An interim parenting order means that it is considered “temporary” until a final order is made. Sometimes interim orders can last many months or even a year or two if need be until the question about who will have the primary care of a child is worked out either by agreement or a judge makes an order after a hearing.

Guardianship is a right given to parents at birth. This gives them the rights to make decisions around significant events such as medical treatment, schooling, religion, travel, but also things such as haircuts. Grandparents at times have issues in this area as they don't automatically have guardianship and the rights, for example, to take grandchildren to be immunised, enrol them with a GP close to the family home, or take the child overseas on a family holiday etc.

As a general rule of thumb, this means that **when a grandparent applies for a parenting order they should always apply for additional guardianship at the same time and this will give the grandparent raising their grandchild the right to make these more significant decisions.** It is still an obligation (and also let's be honest, good practice) however when doing so to continue to consult with parents during these decisions; whether this be done by phone, text, email – however you see appropriate.

If your grandchildren are not currently in your care and you have real concerns for their well-being then you have two options under the Care of Children Act 2004 (CoCA) and this is to apply on notice or without notice. Without notice is an urgent application and you will get an answer from the Court within 24 hours. The threshold for a without notice application is high and the child must be at imminent risk of harm. If you are wanting to apply for a without notice application it is vital to list the likely consequences for the child that a delay in the making of the order would have. An on notice application involves a longer process before an

order is likely to be made and can take three months or more before a judge is likely to consider the matter and potentially make an order.

When an on notice order is submitted the other party has 21 days to respond and a series of procedures then take place at this stage. Both parties will be expected to complete a Parenting Through Separation course and attend a Family Dispute Resolution/mediation service. Ideally by participating in this process you will be able to come to an agreement outside of court, however if this is not the case then things will progress through a number of conferences. These stages also gives both parties the opportunity to settle things outside of court. If no agreement is made and the matter goes before a judge remember that **you can have a support person in a closed court and this is at the discretion of the judge**. The judge may decline this request if they believe there is a good reason why they should not be in the court, however **this request cannot be declined by the other parties or lawyers involved**.

It is also important to understand that you are expected to cover the cost of a number of different things in relation to court (on top of your own legal fees) such as Lawyer for Child and psychological reports costs. These cost contribution orders are at the discretion of the judge, but as many of our members know this can be a very costly event and wind up costing grandparents thousands and thousands of dollars. You may be entitled to legal aid to help with your legal fees and in this case, you will be exempt from cost contributions (however it is important to understand that you will still have to pay back your own lawyer's costs as legal aid is considered a loan and must be paid back, unless an exemption is granted by the Legal Aid Services).

Another legal option to utilise is FLAS (Family Legal Advice Service) – this is available for people that are eligible for legal aid. This is a 1-2-hour session with a lawyer where they will run you through what

you need to do and they can assist you with filling in any necessary paperwork. After this you will be expected to complete a Parenting Through Separation course and mediation. If parties still cannot come to an agreement, then you will receive another 1-2-hour session with a lawyer and you then may make an application on notice.

Due to the considerable cost that accompanies this process more and more grandparents are choosing to represent themselves. Some practical and helpful tips given by the Community Law representatives were to stay in touch with the court registrar – email them regularly and ask as many questions as possible. Be reasonable about a child's contact with another party/parent. **Remember, the court is looking at what will be in the child's best interest, so it is important that they see you doing so also in regard to supporting the child's relationship with their parents when it is safe to do so.** Utilise community support – community law centres have free phone numbers and they are available to offer general advice over the phone. Your local CAB can offer 20 minutes of free legal advice over the phone and of course the GRG National Support office and 0800 GRANDS free phone is available to offer further general advice or to connect you to a local service that may assist you further.

Some helpful links are:

<https://communitylaw.org.nz/legal-information/> - community law manual (answers to legal questions)

<https://communitylaw.org.nz/community-law-manual/chapter-12-dealing-with-oranga-tamariki-ministry-for-children/if-oranga-tamariki-takes-you-to-court/care-or-protection-orders-and-plans/>

<https://www.justice.govt.nz/family/>

<https://communitylaw.org.nz/community-law-manual/chapter-13-parents-guardians-and->



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 for more information or a referral.



Support Group News and Update

- Merle Lambert, National Support Coordinator

I have just returned from having the privilege of meeting with our Support Group Coordinators at our National Training held in Wellington and Auckland. What an amazing bunch of people!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Support Group Coordinators and their assistants for all the extraordinary work they do in supporting grandparents raising grandchildren. As caregivers themselves they are well equipped to understand and empathize with families experiencing the challenges and the rewards that comes with this important role. Some families get support by coming

together to share their experiences and seek guidance from others that have walked similar pathways. Support Group Coordinators arrange and facilitate these meetings to give grandparents the opportunity to learn and appreciate that they are not alone in their journey.

Sometimes grandparents are not able to come to meetings because of work or child-minding responsibilities and so coordinators are able to provide one on one support either by telephone or face to face contact. Often grandparents are worn down by their experiences with systems and their caring responsibilities and having someone to advocate for them and navigate systems can be invaluable.

Coordinators and support groups often look to arranging events for grandparents and grandchildren that they can look forward to and share in fun and festivities to enhance their relationships and sense of wellbeing. These events are often funded through generous donations from local businesses and the community from fundraising activities, orchestrated by support groups and their coordinators.

Support Group Coordinators play a significant role in promoting and enhancing the profile of the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Trust through networking with local services, agencies and community groups. In fact, Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Trust would not be able to provide the services they do without the extraordinary generosity of Support Group Coordinators who volunteer their time, knowledge and expertise to support other grandparents who are experiencing the same challenges and lack of support that they themselves lived through in their own journeys.

We cannot thank them enough for their incredible contribution.

We acknowledge with heartfelt thanks the following Support Group Coordinators that have fulfilled this role and for now have chosen to step aside and focus on their own families and aspirations:

Veronica Brunt (Canterbury)
Connie Peters (Dannevirke/Tararua) -
Rozane Duncan (Napier)
Tauser Kingi (Ruakaka)
Lianne Nicholas (Whangarei)
Jenny Morton (Whanganui)
Martha Taonui-Andrews (Kaitaia)



Virginia Peebles – In the last newsletter we advised that Virginia has decided to scale down her involvement as Support Group Coordinator (Papatoetoe) and to instead run a local coffee group. We would like to

thank Virginia for her support in the role for almost 15 years – a wonderful achievement and contribution to GRG members. Thank you, Virginia for your tireless, continued support.

New SGC:

We are pleased to welcome on board four new Support Group Coordinators for:

Katikati : Cathie Kenyon- contact on 0210 8878686 or Katikati@grg.org.nz for meetings and support

New Plymouth: Diane Richardson - contact on 021 1851097 or

NewPlymouth@grg.org.nz for meetings and support

Queenstown: Angelia Harrison – contact on 021 2338141

Or Queenstown@grg.org.nz for meetings & support

Ngaruawahia: Trevor Don – contact on 0272 292041

Or Ngaruawahia@grg.org.nz for meetings & support

And Tom Kupa, Support Group Coordinator for Hastings is also going to be the contact for Napier. Thank you, Tom. Contact Tom on 022 1505196 or Hastings@grg.org.nz

New Coffee Group Coordinators

We would like to announce the starting up of two new coffee groups for GRG members:

We welcome Gillian Willis who has volunteered to be the contact for Whitianga and Marilyn Jones, the contact for New Plymouth.

Please contact Gillian on 0274 540314 and Marilyn on 0274 316365.

SGC Vacancies:

We are looking for Support Group Coordinators for the following areas.

Canterbury, Kaitaia, Kaikoura, Kerikeri, Dannevirke/Tararua, Dunedin, Papatoetoe, Ruakaka/Waipu, Whanganui, Whangarei



**All Grandparents Raising Grandchildren
are invited to an Open Day
at 11.00am
Friday 22nd November 2019
at Happiness House, 4 Park St, Queenstown
(Refreshments provided)**

And

**at 11.00am
Monday 25 November 2019
at Brian Arnold Room, Dunedin Community House
301 Moray Place, Dunedin
(Refreshments provided)**

**An opportunity not to be missed for grandparents to
receive training on trauma informed care
RSVP by contacting 0800 472 637 (9am-2pm)
Or office@grg.org.nz**

what a grand idea!

Extraordinary Care Fund

If you are receiving the Unsupported Child Benefit or the Orphan's Benefit for the care of a child, you are entitled to apply for up to \$2,000 per year (1 July to 30 June) to help cover extra costs associated with the care of the child. Extra costs must be because the child you support is either showing promise through high achievement for a particular skill or talent or they are experiencing difficulties that are impacting on their development. For example, a child with learning or behavioural difficulties who would benefit from participation in a particular course or activity. Covering the cost of a BYOD laptop or tablet for school, or musical instruments, music lessons, clothing and equipment for sports and arts, psychological fees/services and counselling fees, orthodontic treatment, speech development are all examples of costs that have been met by this fund.

The closing date for the funding rounds for 2019 have now closed, but the next round for 2020 is expected to open in mid February and close at the end of March 2020. We will post dates on our website and in this newsletter when they are announced.

But in the meantime we recommend you think about and start gathering the information and supporting documentation you need for an application now before the next round opens.

For the application form and information from Work and Income's site about this fund [click here](#).

If you have further questions, or you need help with your application, please contact us at 0800 472 637 or 09 418 3753 or email us at office@grg.org.nz



Advocating for You!

Tricia Corin

GRG Specialist Advocate on Benefits and Income Support

This month I want to talk about the Supported Living Payment – Carer Benefit as the circumstances in which this income support is payable affects some of our members or may be relevant at some stage in their lives.

Supported Living Payment – Carer Benefit is for people who are not able to work because they are:

- [permanently and severely](#) restricted in their capacity for work because of a health condition, injury, or disability or totally blind **or they are**
- caring for a person who requires full-time care and attention at home

A person can apply for the Supported Living Payment - Carer Benefit on grounds of caring for a person who needs Full time Care and attention (Other than a Spouse) in their home, who would otherwise need :

- [hospital care](#)
- [rest home care](#)
- [residential disability care](#)
- care of the kind referred to in section 141 of the [Oranga Tamariki Act 1989](#), which is [extended care services](#) provided for severely disabled children and young persons
- care of an equivalent kind

The Supported Living Payment can be paid to a parent who is required to provide full-time care and attention at home to their dependent child who has a significant disability and as a result has high care needs of a type listed above. This is not meant to be paid to parents for children who need only the levels of care required for children typical of their age.

It can also include a caregiver raising a Child/Grandchild who is receiving the Unsupported Child's Benefit (UCB) or Orphan's Benefit.

Including a partner

A partner can only be included in Supported Living Payment if it is granted on the ground that the client is permanently and severely restricted in their capacity for work or totally blind. Partners cannot be included in Supported Living Payment if it is granted on the ground that the client is caring for a person who requires full-time care and attention.

Where the primary client is receiving Supported Living Payment on the ground that they are caring for a person who requires full-time care and attention, their partner (if any) may be able to receive a benefit in their own right.

Proof of care

A medical certificate is needed in every case and must state that the person needs the client's full time care and attention **and** without that care the person would be admitted to:

- hospital care
- rest home care
- residential disability care
- care of the kind referred to in section 141 of the Oranga Tamariki Act 1989 which is extended care services provided for severely disabled children and young persons **or**
- care of an equivalent kind

The medical certificate must be completed by a registered medical practitioner.

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.**

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 any of 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 or our helpline on **0800 472 637** or call our National Support Office on 09 418 3753 for a referral to me.

Grand's reflections...

Te taonga o taku ngakau

Te taonga o taku ngakau

(The dearest thing in my heart)

Ko taku mokopuna e

(Is my little mokopuna)

He mokopuna korikori

(He's a naughty little mokopuna)

Hei aha hei aha ra

(Hei aha hei aha ra)

Ko te mea nui, ko te aroha

(The greatest thing is your aroha)

Kaua e patu taku mokopuna

(So don't you smack my mokopuna)

He awhi awhi mai taku mokopuna korikori e

(He's a lovely, lovely, lovely, lovely,
naughty little mokopuna e)



A little boy looked up to his grandmother and asked;

“How old are you?

“I am eighty!” his grandmother replied.

He looked dumfounded, then asked;

“But did you start from one?”

Our thanks to Lupe Turner for sharing the waiata *Te taonga o taku ngakau* above with us at our training recently (and for sourcing an audio version which we will be posting to our website shortly), and to our GRG trustee, Sharon Richardson for sharing the funny anecdote above.

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**

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.



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
Or click the Join GRG button below

JOIN GRG

Office Administrator:
09 418 3753
Email: office@grg.org.nz

Chief Executive:
Kate Bundle 027 2446763
Email: 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.

This newsletter is subject to copyright.©

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 at or at Givealittle.co.nz/org/grg





GRG Support & Coffee Groups Nationwide

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

Kaikohe

Contact: Moengaroa Floyed 09 401 3057 / 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

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

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

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

Ngaruawahia

Contact: Trevor Don 027 229 2041 / ngaruawahia@grg.org.nz

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

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

Te Puke & Papamoa

Contact: Rawinia McCredie 07 562 2850 / 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.

Te Awamutu

Contact: Ruth Gilling 022 045 4475 / 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.

Dargaville

Contact: Sandy Zimmer 09 439 4420 / 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

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

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.

Hamilton & Huntly

Contact: Pat Davis 07 855 0530 / 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

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.

Te Kuiti

Contact: Kay Higgins 027 430 2939 / tekuiti@grg.org.nz

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

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

Whangarei

Contact: Janet Puriri 09 435 0044 / 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

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

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

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

Katikati

Contact: Cathie Kenyon 021 088 78686 / katikati@grg.org.nz

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

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

Rotorua

Contact: Anne Donnell 022 402 22910 / rotorua@grg.org.nz

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

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

Taupo

Contact: Lesley-Anne Wells 07 377 3539 / 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.

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

Turangi

Contact: Charmaine Timihou 027 645 2002 / 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.

Levin

Contact: Ann Waddell 06 362 7269 / 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.

Hutt Valley

Contact: Serenah Nicholson 021 743 414 / 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.

Wellington

Contact: Cecilee Donovan 04 477 0632 / 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.

East Christchurch

Contact: Anna Clare 021 085 77404 /

eastchristchurch@grg.org.nz

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

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

Taumarunui

Contact: Jo Wickham 07 896 7515 / taumarunui@grg.org.nz

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

Location: Taumarunui RSA, 10 Ma-rae Street, Taumarunui.

Palmerston North

Contact: Jacqui Phillips 021 229 0455 /

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

Wairarapa

Contact: Tere Lenihan 021 509 493 / 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.

Nelson

Contact: Paula Eggert 021 062 6583 / nelson@grg.org.nz

Meets: Fortnightly on a Tuesday.

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

North Otago

Contact: Margaret Pink 03 434 7233 / 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.

New Plymouth

Contact: Diane Richardson 021 185 1097 / newplymouth@grg.org.nz

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

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

Hastings

Contact: Tom Kupa 06 879 4302 / 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.

Porirua

Contact: Roma Paull 022 050 4761 / 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.

Motueka

Contact: Rankeilor Arnott 03 528 5089 / motueka@grg.org.nz

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

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

Southland

Contact: Lynette Nielsen 027 489 2581 / southland@grg.org.nz

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

Location: Family Works, 183 Spey Street, Invercargill.

Coffee Groups

Matakana/Warkworth
North Shore
Auckland Central
South Auckland
Hamilton
Cambridge
Raetihi
Kapiti
Upper Hutt
Blenheim
Christchurch
Ashburton

Shirley	09 423 7052
Val	022 080 2368
Jane	021 424 801
Virginia	09 277 7514
Carol	027 361 1929
Brenda	027 438 5401
Angel	06 385 3404
Margaret	04 293 4728
Margaret	04 976 9475
Juliet	03 571 6222
Elaine	021 025 08834
Deborah	027 626 4866

Current Vacancies and Other areas

Iwe currently have vacancies for a new Support Coordinator in Kaitaia, Gisborne, Dannevirke, Whanganui, Napier, Canterbury, Coastal Otago and Dunedin. If your area is not included above 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