



Newsletter August 2013



Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Trust NZ Mitre 10 Community of the year.

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

Data base: 5399 Whanau Carers.

From the National Office:

Your voices:



Child verses teenager:

Our granddaughter had just turned 11 – an age where child verses teenager in my book and where she is either acting very dignified and ladylike or she is building forts with all the bed

linen draped over the furniture and at war with her little brother... she goes through mood changes faster then she changes her socks, up one moment, down the next. We must not walk through the room if she is in there on the phone with her friends otherwise we are accused of invading her privacy never mind that it was the kitchen or family room that she was in, it was her space!!! Her long list of unreasonable complaints was endless. Her world was fast becoming her own little bubble...

This reminds me.....



Take the night she had another two 11 year old girls staying here for a sleep-over! What a chaotic commotion that was! You see, they decided, as budding young ladies, to have a bubble bath in my lovely bathroom. They took from the vanity all my lotions and potions, bath salts, bath pearls, hair restorer, scented lavender water, foot cream, shaving foam, bubble bath, you name it, if it was in the cupboard they tipped it into the steaming water. And then ... My word,

and then they all stripped off together and put swimming togs on so that they wouldn't be actually naked in front of each other in the tub?
And then they turned the jets on!
Bubble Blowout! Bubbles on the walls, on the ceiling, all over the floor, smothering the vanity – It was bubble bedlam! I hobbled in to try and do some damage control and you're not going to believe this but all three of those young ladies were wearing snorkels and swimming goggles!
Child verses teenager ... Does life get any better than this?

Well, it can get funnier, let me tell you...
Granddad had decided to have a relaxing bath rather than a shower on this particular winter's night and rather than just pull the plug out and waste the hot water, sang out to our (as above) granddaughter would she like to have a soak using his hot water. Indeed she wanted to but before she got in she wanted to know if he had any infectious diseases, did he have toe-jam, did he have any sores or pimples, did he shave his legs and leave any little gross hairs floating in the water. She was actually quite rude in her interrogation.
"No," he told her, "he had none of those things and if she wanted the water then fine, if she didn't he'd pull the plug!" "Okay," she told him grudgingly as she locked him out of the bathroom and began to undress. He made himself a cuppa and then when he knew she was happily soaking away, he grinned at me and then called out "but I did pee in the water..."
Pauline Sloan

Anon writes about GRG:

Wonderful work you guys do! In a world which is full of so much hate and destruction of lives, you are a true shining light. This is one foundation which is for the good of the society. Where, the young have become lost, susceptible to today's ever increasing pressures, exposing our young ones to the horrors of life at an ever younger age. It's a true world saviour to have these wonderful people who have love, integrity, very high traditional family values caring for the grandkids. These are the wonderful people who are our connection to the wonderful way of the past, reaching out over the generation gap and to make a huge difference to the ones that matter the most. A standing ovation for you:

What you are doing is totally against the movement. The movement of disheartened people ever saddened, by what happens to our wonderful people of the world, while governments stand idly by for some reason. Go you good things. You make change happen.

It has turned out this was written by a 40 year old man who is NOT a grandfather, but a solo dad.

Paying it forward:

This is another part of the amazing family of GRG's nationwide: Our grand-daughter had a course to attend in Wellington, we are in Auckland. A fellow GRG stepped up and offered to board her for one week. Now my turn to pay it forward, a grand's grandchild due to unfortunate circumstances from Nelson got stranded in Auckland, so we took her in for a few days and arranged flight back to her home!



Salute to Our Youngest kinship Carer:

Kimberley (23) took over the role as kinship caregiver after her dearly loved mum



(GRG member) passed away: She took over the care of her own sister (now 15) and a nephew whom is autistic aged 4 1/2. Since that time she has also taken on another niece aged 10 months, and is looking to take care of another new born baby in October: We salute you Kimberley, well done you ☺

<- Skye aged 10 months.

Our Lily:



Lily on her Kaimanawa horse, Tara, aged 17 years:

Lily is with the Wairarapa Riding for the Disabled (RDA), Lily is now 7 1/2, eight in November. She came to live with us when she was 4 months old. We had just "retired" but couldn't afford to, so we were booked up to do Motel Minding for nine months. However, we had only done 4 motels, when Lily came

along. She lived with us in a caravan at first, then we built a little Cabin, but when she began walking, we decided to come to Masterton and rent a house with all the facilities!

All was going well with her until about a year ago when she found out I was ill. She became worried about what was going to happen to her. Her bones were also outgrowing her body, so for 7, she is very tall, but only weighs 20 kgs. It was found that all her joints were incredibly loose too, so she had to give up gymnastics ballet and all contact sports in case of injury.

Her pediatrician recommended RDA to try and strengthen up her hip joints, and this has worked very well, so now she is back to doing ballet which she adores! She attends Montessori School at the moment, but that may have to change soon as she does not appear to be doing very well. She did remedial reading last year which helped a bit, but there is no ENTHUSIASM for learning. Could be that she is slightly dyslexic too. Apart from all that, she is a happy, delightful wee girl who is known at school as "The Mother Hen".
Great Grandma & grandpa.

A 20 year old emails: Thank you Nan, for sending me to a great school, where I was able to get the best education ever! And for you putting in the time to help me with my education , it truly has paid off , Yay TECH in July and have had two jobs since being out of rehab , its truly a blessing what you have done since i came into your life , so to all you grandparents out there , I'm telling you , it may be hard and you may think there could be no hope , but keep hanging in there and don't give up , do tough love and you will see , it's worth it cause my nan has truly transformed my life , and she went through severe battles with me like you would not believe and After some patience and time it all worked out in the end , and she should be proud of herself , YEAHYAR GO NAN , LOVE YOU!!!! XOXOX

**Great Learning Opportunity for our Hamilton, Te Kuiti and
East-South Auckland Members!!**

Your invitation to participate in a free SALT Workshop in August

'It's really important for us grandparents to nourish ourselves and this workshop is excellent for that.'

"Until today I felt I was in a hole. Now I am reminded that I will bounce back and life will be bright again'

'I enjoyed the learning process. My mind has been opened and I have achieved quite a degree of clarity'

Enthusiastic comments like these clearly show that our SALT (Sharing and Learning Together) workshops successfully help members to gather strength, realise that they have resilience and courage and to discover ways of addressing the problems that confront them. AND people have fun, too!!

Now, especially for our Hamilton, Te Kuiti and East/South Auckland members, workshops (9.30am – 2pm) are to be held as follows:

- Hamilton: Tuesday 6th August at Fairfield Baptist Church, Heaphy Terrace, Fairfield

- Te Kuiti: Wednesday 7th August at Te Kuiti St John Hall, 2a Jennings Street, Te Kuiti
- East-South Auckland: Friday 9th August at Dunkirk Road Activity Centre, 50 Dunkirk Road, Panmure

The workshops are very interactive with participants being encouraged to value the experiences of each other as a source of learning for themselves and others. Facilitators are Jill Worrall and Diana East, both well-known to many of the Trust's members and both having many years experience as adult learning facilitators and trainers.

We strongly encourage you to grab the opportunity to attend one of these great workshops! Register TODAY with either your local Support Group Coordinator (*contact details below) or with Diana East on 0800 472 637 (ext.4) or email d.east13@yahoo.co.nz.

A minimum of 8 and a maximum of 16 participants is required for each workshop to be held.

And, for other members still awaiting a workshop in your area, the good news is that three more workshops will hopefully be held before March of next year. So watch for more details about these in coming newsletters!

Local Support Group Coordinators are:

Hamilton: Kerry Batten, ph. 07 560 0291, email kebatten@gmail.com

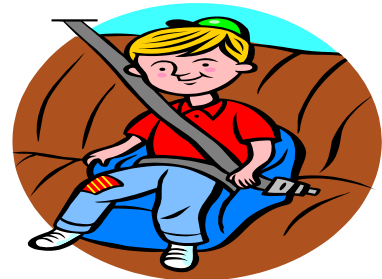
Te Kuiti: Patsy Roach, ph 07 878 6704, email roachp@waikatodhb.health.nz

East Auckland: Tess Gould-Thorp, ph 09 535 6903, email pan@xnet.co.nz

New road safety law changed.

ALL children must be in a safety approved car seat until age 7. This law comes in on 1 November this year.

So do not throw away those booster seats just yet! And I would start looking for them now!



Requesting a Border Alert (CAPPS) Listing

Border alert (CAPPS) listing overview:



What is a Border Alert (CAPPS) listing?

When a Court makes an order which prevents a child being taken out of New Zealand, the child's details need to be recorded on the New Zealand Customs Service computer system. This is done by contacting Interpol through Police National Headquarters. This is called a Border Alert (CAPPS) listing. It means that when your child is checked in at an international port or airport, a Customs officer will be alerted that there is a Court order which says the child is not allowed to leave New Zealand.

What do Customs do when the Border Alert is triggered?

Customs will contact New Zealand Police so that they can check the Court order they hold. If the passenger accompanying the child is not permitted to take the child out of New Zealand, the child will not be allowed to board the ship or plane.

How do I request a Border Alert (CAPPS) listing?

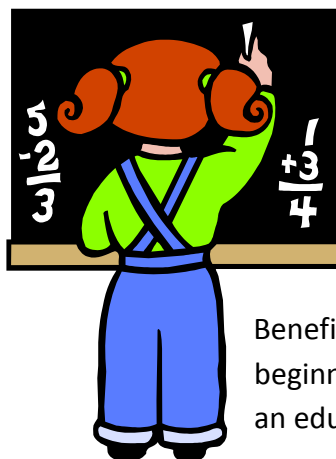
Complete the [Border Alert \(CAPPS\) listing request form](#), attach a copy of the Court order preventing removal of the child, and post or fax the request to: Interpol Office Police National Headquarters PO Box 3017 WELLINGTON Fax: (04) 499 1224

What if I want to take my child out of New Zealand?

If the Court order prevents anyone from taking the child out of New Zealand, you will not be able to take your child overseas. However, you can apply to the Court to suspend the order for a specific period of time to allow you to take your child overseas. Court staff will send the order to Interpol so that the Border Alert (CAPPS) listing can be suspended for the relevant period. The passenger accompanying the child should also take a copy of the Court order with them to show Customs officers.

The above also relates to Grandparents/kin who hold Parenting orders.

Child leaves School: UCB Where a dependent child is 18 years of age and is attending school or a tertiary establishment (including by correspondence), the child can continue to be regarded as a dependent child up until the end of the school year in which the child turns 18 years old.



Where a child under the age of 18 years leaves school or an educational facility, you can continue to get Orphans Benefit or Unsupported Childs Benefit provided the child remains a dependent child.

Where a child aged 18 years or older leaves school or an educational facility during the academic year the Orphans Benefit or Unsupported Childs Benefit should stop from the beginning of the next pay period in which the child leaves school or an educational facility.

There is discretion to continue payment for up to 28 days following

the date the child left school or an educational facility.

This discretion is generally used to avoid financial hardship for the family when the change has been unexpected or when processing deadlines have passed.

If the child returns to school or a tertiary establishment the following year, the child can apply for a Student Allowance or Student Loan.

Where a child receives **Student Allowance or an Independent Circumstances Allowance** under the Student Allowances Regulations 1998 they are no longer a Dependent Child and Orphans Benefit or Unsupported Childs Benefit must stop from:

- the beginning of the next pay period in which the event took place **or**
- the date the child's Student Allowance is granted

whichever is the earlier

Wherever possible (and in appropriate circumstances) the date the Orphans Benefit or Unsupported Childs Benefit stops and the commencement date of the Student Allowance should coincide.

There is discretion to continue payment for up to 28 days following the event.

The receipt of a **Student Loan** (including the living cost component) does **not** mean the child is financially independent.

Provided the child continues to be the client's primary responsibility and maintained as a member of their family and financially dependent (that is, the client is meeting some of the costs for the child) the Orphans or Unsupported Childs Benefit can continue to be paid:

- up until they turn 18 years **or**
- where the child is continuing school or is attending a tertiary education establishment, up to the end of the school year in which they turn 18

Advice from our beneficiaries Advocate Tricia:

The only members that should be on a DPB Solo Benefit are the ones with only one Child.

You are better off on a Single Rate if you have more than 1 child. There is another way they can get around this, is be on the DPB with one child, getting Family Tax Credits for this child. Better to be the youngest, then the others they can get UCB.

Traveling Overseas whilst on a Benefit:

<http://www.workandincome.govt.nz/>



Before travelling overseas, no matter which benefit you receive, you must let Work and Income know your travel plans and your reasons for travel.

You can tell us now about your overseas travel by calling 0800 559 009 or at a Work and Income office and online from 15 July 2013 using 'My Account – Going overseas'. It is important that both you and your partner tell us if you're travelling overseas.

Payments from Work and Income may be affected

From 15 July 2013, Work and Income will automatically stop payments for the following benefits from the day after you leave New Zealand unless you've told us before you go and we've agreed there are approved reasons that mean your payments can continue.

- Jobseeker Support (including Jobseeker Support - Student Hardship)
- Sole Parent Support with work obligations or a specific work preparation activity
- Supported Living Payment with a specific work preparation activity
- Emergency Benefit and Emergency Maintenance Allowance
- Youth Payment
- Young Parent Payment
- partners with work obligations or work preparation obligations with activities assigned.

What overseas travel is acceptable?

Some beneficiaries can travel overseas for a limited time before payment is affected, however, you must still advise Work and Income before you leave New Zealand or your benefit will stop. This includes those on:

- Sole Parent Support who have no work obligations or outstanding work preparation requirements – up to 28 days in a 12 month period
- Supported Living Payment who have no outstanding work preparation requirements - up to 28 days in a 12 month period
- Supported Living Payment who compete in the Special Olympics and Paralympics (up to six weeks), or for specific vocational and disability assistance dog training (up to two years).

All beneficiaries can travel overseas and continue to receive a benefit for certain medical treatments that are supported by the Ministry of Health.

People receiving New Zealand Superannuation and Veteran's Pension should also talk to us before you leave New Zealand about how this could affect your ongoing payments.

If you're living in another country and getting payments under an international Social Security Agreement or are receiving non-beneficiary assistance these changes don't affect you.

NOTE WELL: If you are getting Unsupported Child Benefit or Orphans Benefits you MUST also notify W & I if going overseas.

Pretty Neat Pineapple:

Pour out liquid from a can of sliced pineapple and use as a fruit drink.



Dissolve a box of sugar free/normal lime Jelly in **1 cup** boiling water (you could also use the pineapple juice and water to equal 1 cup liquid)

Pour hot Jelly water over pineapple rings in the can.

Chill until set. Run hot water on the sides and bottom of can to loosen. Then cut the bottom of the can and push the mold out. Cut between pineapple slices and serve.

*Optional: top with cottage cheese or a dollop of whipped cream.

*You could also do this with other canned fruit and favours of Jelly, but you would lose the nifty pineapple ring effect.... *Be warned I tried this and do NOT follow normal Jelly instructions use only 1 cup of hot water, needs stronger jelly because of moisture in pineapple. I also found you must open bottom of can to make it easier to remove (I slid a knife round sides) and do not buy damaged cans, plus the hot water does melt jelly somewhat. But kids loved it!*



[Give A Little](#) For GRG.



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

Can we help you? Members ONLY Services Nationwide

Toll free line 0800 472 637 X 1 (Caregivers only please) Members support Manager:

Di Vivian New members and general information and referral ext 1

www.grg.org.nz or www.kin.org.nz or www.raisinggrandchildren.org.nz Email office@grg.org.nz

Auckland callers (09) 480 6530 Postal Add: PO Box 34 892 Birkenhead. Auckland 0742

Support Group Contacts

Locality	Name	Phone	E-mail Address
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Auckland South **	Virginia Peebles	09 256 1620	
Auckland West **	Debbie Hall	09 818 7828	debron@xtra.co.nz
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