

MONTHLY NEWS

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Editorial

Hi Everyone,

I have finally returned. I had such a wonderful holiday. I was treated like an absolute queen for the first part including the conference and really got to know the local people on the second part. I can't tell you how much I have learnt and also how much fun I had.

Still it's back to business. There is the **most enormous amount of business** to get back to! Please forgive me if I have not returned emails as I have been absolutely snowed under with them all as well as so much other important stuff to handle.

I believe that Tracey, God bless her for handling all the problems while I was away having fun, has introduced you all to our new worker.

We are truly privileged to have Lisa with us even though it is just for a short time. She has already proven to be a very caring and passionate person. I was told, by someone who is very wise, that I would never find the sort of person I was insisting on. Tracey did, however, and once again we are indebted to her.

I send a very special welcome to **Lisa Vantanen** our **grandfamily support worker** who has hit the ground running and is still smiling!. I can't begin to express how grateful I am to both Tracey and Lisa.

Lisa has a specific phone line and email for carers.

Ph 5608 3079; email grandfamily@internode.on.au

You will find the details I currently have of some very important conferences following. I urge you to attend if at all possible as these are the ways we can make "the powers that be" understand what we are all about. I truly believe that we are finally making real progress.

(There are child minding and some travel allowances available for some of the time so if you need help please contact me.)

I also want to sincerely thank the Amcal chain of chemists helping us broadcast meeting times. Assistance like this is very valuable to us and speaks loudly of their caring for the community . Please respond by using them wherever you can.

My love,
Maree



The Talera Centre, for the Child and Family Network, and in partnership with Kin Kare, Yeronga Child and Youth Mental Health Service, and the Council of Grandparents, are pleased to announce the topic of the 21st August Child and Family Network is 'The Changing Role of Grandparents.'

This CFN intends to provide a day's workshop exploring issues for grandparents who find themselves as carers for their grandchildren due to child protection concerns. The programme will be opened by the Honourable Margaret Keech, M.P., Member for Albert and Minister for Child Safety and Women, and will feature Dr. Sally Frye, lecturer in the School of Psychology at Griffith University, director of the Griffith University Psychology Clinic, and co-author of the book *Grandma, You Make Me Want to Touch the Sky: Help for grandparents raising grandchildren*.

The programme is as follows:

11:00 – 11: 30 a.m. Welcome by the Hon Margaret Keech, M.P., Minister for Child Safety.

11:30 – 12:30 p.m. Keynote address by Dr. Sally Frye, Griffith University.

12:30 - 1:00 p.m. Break (light lunch provided).

1:00 – 2:30 p.m. Grandparent's panel of counsellors and advocates.

2:30 - 2:45 p.m. Break

2:45 – 4 p.m. Collection of issues to be presented to the Minister.

Greenslopes Baptist Church

39 Dunellan St. Greenslopes

Cost: We would appreciate a donation of \$5.00 to help us cover catering expenses.

Please RSVP to Anita or Bronwyn at Talera on 3397-7287, or email talera@qb.com.au



MEETING DATES

Please call first as many groups do not meet in school holidays

KinKare EAGLEBY

Meets the second Friday of each month @10:30am,
Eagleby Community Centre
Ph Maree 3287 1664

KinKare NERANG

Meets the fourth Wednesday of the month @12:30pm
Nerang Neighbourhood Ctr
Ph Maree 3287 1664

SUNSHINE COAST KinKare

This group has now decided to hold joint meetings with
Community Solutions.
Please see below

KinKare INALA

Meets 2nd Tuesday of the month @ 10:30am
We are trying to get this meeting happening again so
please let us know if you are planning to attend. It is
quite expensive for me to go only to find no-one there.
Ph Maree 3287 1664.

KinKare GLADSTONE

Please contact Pauline
Ph (07) 4978 0501

KinKare WARWICK

**Currently needing a facilitator.
Any assistance would be greatly appreciated.**

ZILLMERE & SOUTHBANK

Indigenous Grandparent Support
Group

Meets twice monthly
Please ring Tess Ph 3252 4371

Grandparents As Parents

Community Solutions Inc.
Sunshine Coast and Wide Bay

Please phone Sharon 5437 9499

CAIRNS & DISTRICT

G'parents Support Group

Meets the first Wednesday of each month @9:30am,
Hambledon House Community Centre, Edmonton
Ph Janet or John (07) 40 555 161
Email johnjan@cairns.net.au

TOWNSVILLE region

Nth Q'ld G'parents in Need of Support (GINOS)

For details of this group, please contact
Ph. Nev (07) 4723 3520
Email trcota@bigpond.net.au

Please Note: Updated phone number



Group Meetings

For those who would like their meetings placed in this
column, just drop me an email or letter and I would be
only too pleased to spread the word.

There is no requirement to be a KinKare group.



Newsletter Items

Just another reminder to all groups, the **newsletter
articles are for distribution** to any relative carers.
Don't hesitate to pass on the newsletter in its entirety or
relevant articles as you see fit.

The only thing we ask is that the intent/content of the
article is not compromised.



Please Note

All contributions to the newsletter
are gratefully accepted.

Please email them to me for transfer to the newsletter.

If you need someone to chat to, we
are always happy to hear from you.

Phone Danni 3299 1764

or Maree 3287 1664, or your local
support group leader.





COGs Conference

With all the activities happening at the moment, it would be understandable that some may be getting confused. This conference is the next in a series that COGs is holding for grandparents. (Many of you enjoyed the one last year and an even bigger one is planned for next year.)

You are invited to participate in the second
CONGRESS OF GRANDPARENTS

Date: Friday 5th September 2008
Time: 9am to 3pm
Where: Uniting Church Family Centre
Merthyr Road, New Farm.

A full agenda will be available next month but we will be having at least two keynote speakers on topics of serious interest. There will be a panel this year to discuss issues that have been raised through the OPSO/COGs SpeakOuts.

There will also be a wide variety of information from services available for you to take away. An opportunity will be also made for you to participate in a workshop of your own choice on the day.

There is no cost for this event and morning and afternoon tea will be supplied with a generous lunch.

Childcare is available at no cost onsite and there is subsidies available for those who need after school care etc to attend.

Transport assistance is also available where required to enable people to attend. We will consider requests for limited overnight accommodation assistance on a case by case situation.

The Centre is accessible by bus from the City and Brunswick Street railway station. There is usually quite good car parking.

It is auspiced through Connect the Coast for the Council of Grandparents.

Please RSVP by 1st September by phone to 5596 5523 or email to tadcom@ustarnet.com.au. We need to know numbers for catering and assistance packages as soon as possible.



KinKare is an independent community group supported and auspiced by Connect the Coast Assoc. Inc.
Contact: Maree Lubach 15 Mimi Crt, Mt Warren Pk, Qld 4207
Ph. (07) 3287 1664 Email mlubach@optusnet.com.au

Seniors Week

Time to Enjoy!!

Seniors week is with us again and there are many fantastic events for you to participate in. Many of them are free and all are good fun. The details are on the website (www.communities.qld.gov) or contact the Seniors Enquiry Line 1300 135 500.

I have included a **selection** of different events **throughout Queensland** but I would never be forgiven for not mentioning the first two.

OPSO and the Ethnic Community Council of Q'ld Many Cultures Dance Extravaganza

August 20th 6pm – 10:30pm Creek Rd Mt Gravatt for details
PH 3844 9166

Seniors Enquiry Line Jazz and Swing

August 29th 6pm – 10pm Newfarm Riverside Receptions
Ph Wilma 1300 135 500

The Brisbane annual **Fun Day & EXPO** is being held on August 17th starting at 8:30am Southbank 1300 135 500.

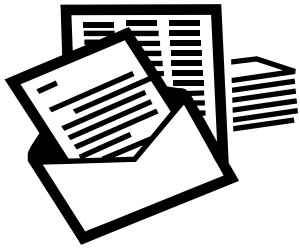


These may be closer to you. Town event and phone follows

- EXPO; Warwick 28th Janine 4660 4652
- Tai Chi; Esk 27th PH 5424 4600
- Nosh Up; Charleville 28th 4654 7950
- Sausage Sizzle; Pialba 26th 4152 6329
- Art Exhibition; Ipswich 21-26th 3812 3437
- Concert; Charters Towers 27th 4787 4286
- Healthy Ageing; Flaxton 25-29th 5445 7044

The above are free but may require bookings





Our Personal Page

I especially thank the author of this contribution to our newsletter for the reference to KinKare. **We really need grandparents to be brave and speak out so that our efforts to help will have more weight behind them.**

The best way to do that is to join in one of the conferences we are organizing especially for you to **share your experiences with those who are in a position to assist.**

Please refer to earlier notices for details of 2 this year and we are already planning a much bigger one for next year.

Title: **The unheard voice of little Jack**

Little Jack loved his paternal grand parents. He developed a "secured attachment relationship" with them. When he was just over 2 years he was very much enjoying himself playing with his granddad at the grandparent farm.

One day, the mother did not like it, when Jack was "hanging on his grandfather neck like a Koala". She could not tolerate the attachment to the grandfather and decided to break it.

Jack who is now over five years has never seen his grandfather since January 2006.

Jack experienced a relational trauma that resulted from a loss of emotional safety, a complicated state of inner being not protected under any law.

The effect of such trauma on the development of the brain of little children has been examined by experts in the field of neuroscience of human relationships and the early childhood development.

KinKare and other grandparents' organisations need your help to make the voice of little children heard. We hope to succeed.

Unfortunately by the time we do so it will be all too late for little Jack and his little sister Katie (three years old) who also have not seen her paternal grandparents.

Laughter is the Best Medicine!



Why did the chicken cross the road?

BARACK OBAMA: The chicken crossed the road because it was time for a *change!* The chicken wanted *change!*

HILLARY CLINTON: When I was First Lady, I personally helped that little chicken to cross the road. This experience makes me uniquely qualified to ensure – right from Day One! – that every chicken in this country gets the chance it deserves to cross the road. But then, this really isn't about me.

GEORGE W. BUSH: We don't really care why the chicken crossed the road. We just want to know if the chicken is on our side of the road, or not. The chicken is either against us, or for us. There is no middle ground here.

DICK CHENEY: Where's my gun?

COLIN POWELL: Now to the left of the screen, you can clearly see the satellite image of the chicken crossing the road.

BILL CLINTON: I did not cross the road with that chicken. What is your definition of chicken?

DR. PHIL: The problem we have here is that this chicken won't realize that he must first deal with the problem on *this* side of the road before it goes after the problem on the *other* side of the road. What we need to do is help him realize how stupid he's acting by not taking on his current problems before adding new problems

OPRAH: Well, I understand that the chicken is having problems, which is why he wants to cross this road so bad. So instead of having the chicken learn from his mistakes and take falls, which is a part of life, I'm going to give this chicken a car so that he can just drive across the road and not live his life like the rest of the chickens.

ALBERT EINSTEIN: Did the chicken really cross the road, or did the road move beneath the chicken?

JOHN LENNON: Imagine all the chickens in the world crossing roads together, in peace.

DR SEUSS: Did the chicken cross the road? Did he cross it with a toad? Yes, the chicken crossed the road, but why it crossed I've not been told.

COLONEL SANDERS: Did I miss one?