



Volunteer Newsletter – 25 October 2021

Kia ora to our Volunteers

First, for those new to us and waiting to hear from us, we have again been in lockdown and have, unfortunately, been unable to follow through with any face to face meetings.

We are all volunteers in the Waikato Welfare Guardianship Trust, so when we hit the challenges of volunteering in lockdown when everyone's first priority is responding to the pandemic, then we are understandably on a go-slow for all our activities. So, I expect nothing much will happen for us for the remainder of the year beyond maintaining our structure, doing some planning, and focusing on things that need to be done for when we are up and running again in 2022.

Referrals awaiting welfare guardians

We have 2 referrals one in Te Awamutu and one in Cambridge needing Welfare Guardians. We may be approaching you to consider taking on one of these roles. If you decide to take on one of these roles, you will be assisted with your application so we can proceed to get these before the Court.

The Family Court is also operating under strict level 3 protocols, essentially on lock down, so we are not in a rush. Everything is in go-slow mode at the moment and both clients are in aged care facilities and unable to receive visitors. How difficult this all is!!!!

But in the meantime, following are some of the things your committee will be working on in the background.

Current Activities

1. Establishing a health and safety document supporting our work.
2. We will be reviewing our application forms in line with the need to know your vaccination status. This is relevant as most of the people we support belong to a group vulnerable to Covid-19 and live with other vulnerable people and many also have compromised immunity.
3. We will be asking your technology status and we will look at how we might operate our meetings remotely (these are interesting challenges for me particularly). But also, going



- forward, some of you will be supporting people who are not able to be visited face-to-face unless we are in level 1.
4. We also recognise that the sheer uncertainty and stress of lockdown is creating significant changes in peoples' lives and just like we lost a couple of volunteers in the first lockdown we may lose one or two of you in this one too. If you do wish to discuss anything or it is creating anxiety for you, please give anyone on the committee a call.
 5. Being on a list of potential welfare guardians waiting for a call up also I can see may be understandably frustrating for some of you. All I can say is thank you for your patience.

Resource File

We are working on establishing a resource file, to be available to all volunteers, which will contain useful and interesting documents and articles and relevant legislation.

Advanced Care Planning

We now have copies available of "My Advance Care Plan & Guide" published by the Health Quality and Safety Commission.



If any of you would like a copy to use with your clients, please contact:
Janet Ball | m 021 030 6797 | e janet.ball@xtra.co.nz

Education

If you are interested, click on the links below to see more about these massive open online courses (MOOC) offered by the Wicking Dementia Institute, of the University of Tasmania.



Understanding Dementia

This is a course about dementia looking at a broad range of topics including, basic brain anatomy, pathology, dementia research, risk factors, symptoms, diagnosis, medical management, living with dementia, progression and staging, palliation, behaviours...

- Independent
- 3 hours a week, 7 weeks long
- 8th Feb, 2022
- Free Online Course

Understanding Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI)

Understanding Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) is a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC), offering university-quality education about TBI covering the spectrum from mild concussion through to severe injury. Traumatic brain injury is often described as a silent...

- Independent
- 2 hours a week, 5 weeks long
- 28th Mar, 2022
- Free Online Course

Meetings Coming Up:

We are a small committee which meets on the last Monday of each month at the Celebrating Age Centre, 30 Victoria St., Hamilton at 4pm. Our next committee meeting falls on Labour Day so we are now meeting on Monday 1st November.

Let's hope we can meet up but we might consider an outside alternative, weather permitting.

Our AGM is going to be on the 29th November starting at 5pm. We would love to have as many of you at our AGM as possible. We will provide for social distancing and also provide food. We have asked one of our Trustees, Jane Walker, to say a few words about the Family Court process as part of this meeting. I will say a few words, and all who want to become part of our regular meeting team are welcome to join. We largely run on consensus or if needs be majority support for any key decisions we make.

We keep monthly records of our decisions and hold action points we follow-up with . Finding and maintaining our flow has been a huge challenge as we move through these uncertain times.

Waikato Welfare Guardianship Trust



What is interesting is that EVERY month we have had significant interaction as an entity. This is not necessarily reflected in the number of actual appointments of welfare guardians because we also provide support, guidance and information. Every referral or query we get receives a response. Queries which are best handled elsewhere will receive advice and be redirected.

I am very grateful to you who have put your hand up and said you want to be part of our efforts. Please come forward if you want to attend the committee meetings - we would love to have you on board. Come to our AGM (of course, if we are in level 3, we will postpone)

Waikato Welfare Guardianship AGM
Monday 29th November 5pm-6.30
Celebrating Age Centre.
30 Victoria St
Hamilton

At the AGM, we will be celebrating the 2nd anniversary of our launch as an entity, and affirming everything we do, we do with integrity and love.

We would love to have all of our volunteers there as well to meet up and also for a Seasons Greetings event with food and bubbles provided.



Promotional Banner Available

We are having an Exhibition Banner printed which will be available for use at any promotional events in your local area, should you need it.



Waikato Welfare Guardianship Trust

***Everybody needs
somebody ... some people have
nobody.***

We support people who need a Welfare Guardian who are unable to give informed consent due to a cognitive disorder, and who have no-one that can step up to provide this role for them in their family or the community.

Do you want to be a Welfare Guardian Volunteer?
Do you know someone who needs a Welfare Guardian?

To find out more, please visit our website:

<https://welfareguardians.nz/>

or

email your interest an enquiry to:

wgtwaikato@gmail.com

***Aroha mail aroha atu
Love others and love will come back to you.***