



It is approaching three years since the Wellington Welfare Guardianship Trust held its inaugural information evening attended by many professionals, advocating on behalf of clients without capacity, in care without an independent advocate.

The Trust, following Otago's lead is now supported by six trustees, and has a pool of volunteers working with clients, some legally appointed as Welfare Guardians and some are in the relatively long application process.

In 2019 we have supported the establishment of similar organisations in both Waikato, and Christchurch.

We recently enjoyed an evening where volunteers shared their experiences with each other, and the trustees. A lot of learning came out of this, and we intend to develop a new pamphlet covering many questions and experiences of the volunteer.

This "FAQ" will be available on our website in due course.

Whilst our initial focus was on elders in care, we have been approached for assistance for a variety of cases from people with brain injury, through intellectual disability to terminal illness. The trust has decided to accept applications from or on behalf of any person lacking capacity, who requires on-going support.

This has implications for our recruitment of volunteers to become Welfare Guardians.

If you know of anyone who may be interested in volunteering have been approached for assistance for a variety of cases, from brain injury, through to the terminally ill in hospice care. We'd love to hear from you or them.

## Trust Objectives



1. To assist all persons who lack capacity to make decisions relating to their personal care and welfare.
2. To recruit and train suitable persons to apply for Welfare Guardian Appointments
3. Provision of Education and Training to promote and mentor volunteers.
- 4 To promote and educate the public on the role of Welfare Guardians
5. All WWGT Activities are consistent with a charitable Trust

Of interest this year, we have also fielded requests from persons requiring an Enduring Power of Attorney - often required by a residential care facility. These persons retain full capacity, but simply don't have a suitable person to act on their behalf (if needed) as required by the home. We made enquiries with the Ministry of Health, who advise that a lack of EPOA does not preclude entry into care.

However, it would appear some facilities still make a this a mandatory entry requirement.

The trust operates on a completely voluntary basis, and as such we are continually looking for suitable applicants to become Welfare Guardians.

We would really appreciate it if you could canvas your networks for persons who may have some availability to become a Welfare Guardian and assist a person in care. Whilst our initial focus was on elders in care.

For further information on the role of a volunteer welfare guardian, there is additional information on our website.

<https://welfareguardians.nz/?wellington>

Thank you for your continued interest.

WWGT Trustees and volunteers

*Trustees of the Wellington Welfare Guardianship Trust 2019*

**Dr Ben Gray - Vicki Wilde - Annette Gray - Darien Mahony –  
Judge Pat Grace and Tom White**



For further details on the Trust please refer to our website

<https://welfareguardians.nz/>

**email [wwgtrust@gmail.com](mailto:wwgtrust@gmail.com)**

Please send this newsletter onto any person that would be potentially interested in WWGT services or as a potential volunteer.

Donations gratefully received.

If you would like to be removed from the email distribution email [wwgtrust@gmail.com](mailto:wwgtrust@gmail.com)