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Time for Grandparents

GRAND MATTERS NEWSLETTER

December 2015 

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THOUGHT OF THE DAY

If I had known how wonderful it would be to have grandchildren, I'd have had them first.

- LOIS WYSE

JOKE OF THE DAY

You can never lose a homing pigeon. If your homing pigeon doesn't come back, what you've lost is a pigeon.

Contact Details

Time for Grandparents Program

PO Box 2376

Chermside Central QLD 4032

Ph: 1300 135 500

E: grandparentsinfo@uccommunity.org.au

W: www.grandparentsqld.com.au

Grandchildren's Activities

Term 1 Renewal Reminder

Are we funding term-based activities for your grandchildren? If so, please remember you need to contact us prior to the commencement of each term to discuss continuing your grandchildren's choice of activity and availability of funding. We need the following information from you in order to process the payment as quickly as possible: name of the activity provider or club; a contact person's name and their phone number/email; the sign-on date; activity start and finish date; and the cost of the activity. You can phone us on **1300 135 500**.

Get Started Program

Round 7 Applications

Round 7 applications open in January 2016:

Get Started is a Queensland Government funding program to assist young people to participate in sport and recreation activities. This funding is separate from (and in addition to) funding available through our own Time for Grandparents program.

Families of eligible children can apply for vouchers valued at up to \$150 for use at a sport or recreation club registered with *Get Started*. The next round of voucher applications will open on 27th January 2016. There is a limit of one voucher per child per calendar year.

As it is a web based application if you do not have access to a computer please contact Time for Grandparents as we may be able to assist. Please call prior to the open date so we can organise a permission form to apply on your behalf. Our number is 1300 135 500.

Who is eligible?

- Children aged 5 -18 years of age who hold, or whose parent, carer or guardian holds a Centrelink Health Care Card or Pensioner Concession Card with the children listed as dependants, and who are Queensland residents.

Need More Information?

Phone: Smart Service Queensland on 13QGOV (137468)

Email: getstarted@nprsr.qld.gov.au

Web: www.nprsr.qld.gov.au/getinthegame.



Events for the Grandchildren

If you would like to find child and family-friendly events occurring throughout Queensland each month, click [here](#) or visit the Events section on our website.

Tell us what you think

UnitingCare Community values all compliments, complaints and feedback. To provide a compliment, make a complaint or offer feedback you can call us on **1300 135 500**.

Contribute to the Newsletter

If there is information on a particular topic that you would like to see included in our newsletter, or you would like to share your story with others then please send your thoughts or ideas to our contact details to the left. All ideas are welcome.



UnitingCare Community Values Compassion | Respect | Justice | Working Together | Leading through Learning

UnitingCare Community Services Lifeline | Child and Family Care | Counselling | Crisis Support | Disability Support | Social Inclusion

PCYC

Possibility Program

The PCYC Possibility Program began in October 2013 at the Beenleigh PCYC and is a specific tailored program for anyone with a disability or special need. The Possibility Program is a professional sport and recreational program on offer to the community. The Program provides quality sport and recreational sessions that enhance the self confidence, social skills and cognitive sensory of participants.

The PCYC Possibility Program is available to anyone at any age with any disability or special need. The main target groups include: disability day services, schools, community services and local sport organisations.

There is no disability that is too high or age that the program cannot cater for. Each session in the Possibility Program is designed specifically for the needs of participants in each group. Some examples of activities and sports available include: balloon tennis, bean bag throwing, sitting volleyball, rock climbing and soccer.

The cost to join the PCYC Possibility Program include a \$10.00 PCYC Membership Fee (individual), followed by a \$5.00 Possibility Program Weekly Activity Fee (Individual).

If your grandchild wishes to participate in the PCYC Possibility Program please phone Time for Grandparents on **1300 135 500** to see if we are able to fund this activity for you.

If you have any other questions regarding the Possibility Program you can phone Peter Speaight on **(07) 3380 1777**.



CHRISTMAS FINANCES

Easing the burden this Christmas

Christmas can be a time of year filled with joy and happiness but it can also be a very challenging time of year for families finding it tough to make ends meet. There can be a lot of added expense trying to provide presents and a Christmas meal for the kids.



If your family is struggling to make ends meet this year, it may be possible that our Time for Grandparents program can assist you to link in with welfare agencies who can provide some Christmas relief, often by providing a community Christmas lunch or a Christmas hamper.

Perhaps contact your local council for ideas on free and cheap events happening in your local region or have a look on our [events page](#) for ideas. Do not hesitate to call us if you are struggling to make ends meet this year.



Please note that we cannot guarantee we will be able to find an appropriate service in your area, but we will certainly do our best to help you. You can phone us on **1300 135 500**.

ARAFMI QLD

Support for Mental Health Carers

ARAFMI (Association of Relatives and Friends of the Mentally Ill) is a unique carer-based organisation formed by families who experience the loss, loneliness, stigma and isolation of caring for loved ones with serious mental illness. Arafmi Queensland can provide information to carers through a variety of sources including workshops to learn, develop and practice skills in Communication, Boundary Setting, Coping and many other areas for Mental Health Carers. This organisation also offers a 24hour telephone support line which gives carers access to someone who is able to listen. Its comforting to know that when you need to talk - someone who understands will be there - at any hour.

Getting in touch with Arafmi:

You can visit the Arafmi House at 52 Merthyr Rd, New Farm Qld 4005 or phone them on **(07) 3254 1881** or **1800 35 1881**.



QUEENSLAND POOL FENCES

1st December 2015 deadline

From 1st December 2015, all Queensland pool fences must meet the safety standards, or earlier if you sell or lease your property. All swimming pools, spas and portable pools that can be filled to a depth of 300mm and have a volume of more than 2000 litres need to comply. To assist in finding out if your pool fence meets the safety standard, the QBCC has developed a safety standards checklist guide to complete to ensure your fence, gate and surrounds are safe.

If you would like a copy of the pool safety checklist please give us a call on **1300 135 500** and we will post one out to you. Otherwise you are able to contact QBCC directly on **139 333** to discuss any safety concerns you may have.



Wishing each of you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all of us at Time for Grandparents –

Julie, Joanne, Peggy, Barbara, Dulcie, Sharlene,
Molly & Sarah!

Seniors Enquiry Line and 'Time for Grandparents' program would like to take this opportunity to let you know that this office will be closed from noon **Thursday 24th December 2015** and will re-open **Monday 4th**

January 2016. Please remember that should you require any urgent assistance over the Xmas and New Year period please call

Butternut Snap Rudolph Chocolate Tartlets



- 250g packet Arnott's Butternut Snap Cookies
- 65g unsalted butter, chopped
- 1/3 cup cream
- 200g milk or dark chocolate, chopped
- 10 vanilla marshmallows, halved horizontally
- 2 tablespoons vanilla ready made frosting
- 20 jaffas
- 20 mini vanilla marshmallows, halved crossways
- Rich choc fudge writing icing
- 40 mini star pretzels

Step 1 - Preheat oven to 180°C (160°C fan-forced). Place 1 biscuit over each hole of a 12-hole, round based tartlet tin. Bake for 2-3 minutes or until soft. Remove from oven. Using a small ladle or a lime, carefully press softened biscuits into tin to mold into a cup shape. Allow to cool. Remove from tin and transfer to serving plate. Repeat with remaining biscuits.

Step 2 - Place butter, cream and chocolate in a saucepan over very low heat. Stir constantly for 7 minutes or until melted and smooth. Pour into a clean, dry bowl and refrigerate for 20 minutes or until cool but not set.

Step 3 - Fill biscuit cases with 1 heaped teaspoon of chocolate mixture. Place in refrigerator for 20-25 minutes, or until set.

Step 4 - Using the picture as a guide, gently press 1 marshmallow half, cut-side down into each tartlet. Attach 1 jaffa to each marshmallow with ready-made frosting to form a nose, then attach 2 mini marshmallow halves above nose, cut-side up, to form eyes. Use a drop of writing icing to form pupils. Cut pretzels in half to form antler shapes. Place 2 pretzel pieces above eyes. Press to secure. Then serve.

<http://www.taste.com.au/recipes/27423/butternut+snap+rudolph+chocolate+tartlets?ref=collections,christmas-kids-gifts>

WHAT'S ON IN YOUR AREA?

December events happening across Queensland

Sunshine Coast

- ◆ Caloundra NYE Beach Party (31 Dec) Contact details: 07 5439 7254
- ◆ Christmas in Cooroy (5 Dec) Contact details: 0403 023 802
- ◆ Mary Valley Tomato Festival (6 Dec) Contact details: 07 5488 6717

Central QLD & Wide Bay

- ◆ Bundaberg NYE Fireworks (31 Dec) Contact Details: 07 4130 4176
- ◆ Rockhampton Carols By Candlelight (19 Dec) Contact details: 07 4927 4111
- ◆ Hervey Bay RSL Xmas Carols (12 Dec) Contact Details: 07 4197 7444

Gold Coast

- ◆ Labrador Xmas Family Fun Day (13 Dec) Contact details: 07 5537 2240
- ◆ Surfers Paradise Carols on the Beach (20 Dec) Contact details: 07 5584 3700
- ◆ Varsity Lakes Xmas at Frascott (5 Dec) Contact details: 07 5582 8255

Toowoomba & South West QLD

- ◆ Warwick's Carols in the Park (20 Dec) Contact details: 07 4661 9073
- ◆ Toowoomba Bush Xmas (4-13 Dec) Contact details: 07 4696 4529

North QLD

- ◆ Townsville Stable on the Strand (18-22 Dec) Contact details: 07 4774 4542
- ◆ Townsville Carols by Candlelight (5 Dec) Contact Details: 1300 878 001
- ◆ Cairns UMI Arts Indigenous Markets (11 Dec) Contact Details: 07 4041 6152

Brisbane

- ◆ Lord Mayor's Xmas Carols (12 Dec) Contact details: 07 3403 8888
- ◆ Scarborough Xmas by the Sea (5 Dec) Contact details: 07 3205 0555
- ◆ Cherside School holiday art workshops (15 Dec) Contact details: 07 36242103
- ◆ Clancestry Community Day (5 Dec) Contact details: 07 3840 7444

Grandparent Useful Contacts

Time for Grandparents Program - 1300 135 500
Centrelink Grandparent Advisor - 1800 245 965
Centrelink Social Workers - 131 794
Kids Helpline - 1800 551 800
Bravehearts - 1800 272 831
Lifeline Crisis Line - 13 11 14
Parentline - 1300 301 300

Beyond Blue - 1300 224 636
ARAFMI - 1800 351 881
Relationships Australia - 1300 364 277
Legal Aid Advice Line - 1300 651 188
Financial First Aid - 1800 007 007
Family Relationships Advice Line - 1800 050 321
Medicine Line - 1300 633 424

Grandparent Support Groups in QLD

In an effort to keep information current, if you find any of these details to be incorrect or if you know of any additional groups, please phone us on Ph. 1300 135 500 or email us at grandparentsinfo@uccommunity.org.au

GOLD COAST

Broadbeach Waters - Grandparents & Grandkids Support

Phone: (07) 5504 6178

Information and support for grandparent carers, regular meetings if in demand.

Studio Village/Oxenford - Grandparents Raising Children Playgroup

Phone: Nikki or Belinda (07) 5529 8253

Email: family@studiovillage.com.au

Weekly playgroup for grandparents raising their grandchildren to build social connections and support your child's development. Transport may be available.

CENTRAL QLD & WIDE BAY

Hervey Bay - Wide Bay Support 4 Grandparents & Carers

Phone: Karen Rogers 0457 857 457

Email: kazzarogers_6439@msn.com

Fortnightly meetings for support, care and advice whilst children are being supervised.

Rockhampton - Grandparents Support Group

Phone: Louise (07) 4926 5007

Email: ronje1@optusnet.com.au

Weekly meetings for information, support & companionship.

NORTH QLD

Townsville - Grandparent Support Group

Phone: Hazel Illin (07) 4725 7744

Fortnightly meetings for support, care and advice whilst children are supervised.

Mackay - Grandparent Support Group

Phone: Debbie 0423 749 552 or Kellie 0434 035 124

Meets 4th Wed of the month to share issues and concerns and connect with other grandparents.

BRISBANE & WEST MORETON

Ascot - Grandparent Playgroup

Phone: 1800 171 882

Weekly meetings for you to socialise with other grandparents and for your grandchildren to enjoy spending time with other children.

Deception Bay - Grandparents Support Group

Phone: (07) 3204 2022

Fortnightly meetings for support, care and advice whilst children are being supervised.

Eagleby - KinKare

Phone: (07) 3287 1664

Regular meetings for grandparents and kin carers for information and social support.

Zillmere - Murri Connections

Phone: Tess Rowley at Centacare (07) 3252 4371

Regular meetings for all Indigenous carers, including grandparent carers.

SUNSHINE COAST

Bokarina - Grandparents as Parents

Phone: Bill (07) 5413 1500

As needed meetings for support, information and companionship.

Buderim - Grandparents Raising Children Playgroup

Phone: Michelle Poole (07) 5453 4938

Email: mpoole@playgroupqld.com.au

Weekly playgroup for any grandparent providing care for their grandchildren under school age to obtain support and interaction from like-minded people.

Gympie - Grandparents and Grandchildren Society

Phone: (07) 5482 9012

Regular meetings and support for grandparent carers.

TOOWOOMBA & SOUTH WEST QLD

Toowoomba - Grandparent Support Group

Phone: May Benstead 0439 717 586

Fortnightly meetings for support, care and advice whilst children are supervised.

Disclaimer:

The materials and information included in this edition of the "Grand Matters" newsletter are provided as a service to you and do not necessarily reflect endorsement by the Time for Grandparents Program. The Time for Grandparents program is not responsible for the accuracy of information provided from outside sources. Groups and workshops promoted in this flyer are for your information and are not coordinated by or connected to Seniors Enquiry Line or the Time for Grandparents Program in any way unless specified.