



## June 2024 Newsletter

**Kin Raising Kids Tasmania**  
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**Kinship Alliance Australia.** - A national network of kinship care advocates.

*The United Nations General Assembly (2010) describes kinship care as 'family-based care within the child's extended family or with close friends of the family known to the child, whether formal or informal in nature'. It is widely believed that most kinship carers are grandparents, however current Australian data suggests that around half of all kinship carers are other relatives or family friends. Australian 2011 census data suggested that over 100,000 children were in kinship care at that time. Over 80% of the identified kinship care families were providing care on an informal basis, that is, without recognition or financial support by child protection authorities (Kiraly et al, 2021; Kiraly, 2023). With population increase, the number of children in kinship care in 2024 can be confidently estimated to far exceed 100,000. Indigenous children and families are over-represented (Kiraly et al, 2021). Kinship Alliance Australia is a national network of organisations with an interest in the wellbeing of all Australian kinship care families.*

Kinship Alliance Australia had its inaugural get together at Government House SA on Tuesday the 25<sup>th</sup> June 2024. **Kin Raising Kids Tasmania** (KRK) are members of this 'Alliance' and were represented at this meeting (courtesy of the Mirabel Foundation) to welcome Guest Speaker, Kate Bundle from New Zealand. Kate being sponsored by the Alliance, and all participants were invited to a luncheon at Government House, by the Honourable Frances Adamson AC, Governor of South Australia and Mr. Rod Buntten.

Kate Bundle is a recognised NFP sector leader and advocate with experience in governance, organisational management and leadership. Since 1999, her work with Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Trust NZ in voluntary, governance, leadership and management roles has involved working with Government and non-governmental organisations in the field of kinship care.

Kate has a proven track record and an ability to work collaboratively to achieve excellent results, including being an effective advocate for legislative change to benefit non-statutory kinship carers, securing legislative changes to the NZ Social Security and the Orphans Unsupported Child Benefits Acts.



Kate Bundle

In 2021 she was invited by the Chair of United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to speak to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child Day on "Delivering appropriate quality alternative care services" for the Day of General Discussion on Kinship Care

She has also developed and improved service delivery and programs offered by a national charity from its grassroots beginning to its position today as a highly regarded organisation achieving positive outcomes in the lives of children, grandparents and families.

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Following the Adelaide event, Kate travelled to Canberra for a meeting with Parliamentarians on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> June. She then had a forum in Melbourne the next day where 6 delegates representing 4 Organisations from Tasmania, including KRK, were in attendance. On the following day, she had a further engagement in Queensland to address affiliates of Kinship Carers there, prior to her returning to New Zealand.



At the close of the Inaugural Kinship Alliance - Adelaide meeting.

Mirabel Foundation in Melbourne.



The Panel: Anne McLeish, Janet Rice, Mike Feszezak, Meredith Kiraly & Kate Bundle at the Melbourne Forum.



Networking after the Melbourne 'Forum'.



Flight home Delayed at Tullamarine

The six delegates from Tasmania who attended this Melbourne forum had a great time listening to Kate and the hoops she had to jump through to get recognition and support for informal carers in NZ. They have been recognised and supported since the late 1990's. Kinship Alliance Australia is hoping to convince the Federal Government to follow the same model. Kin Raising Kids are inaugural members of this alliance. You can find out more about the Alliance by visiting. [www.kinshipalliance.org.au](http://www.kinshipalliance.org.au)





Greetings,

Kin Raising Kids Tasmania Inc. (KRK), is a small organization and was formed in 2017 after seeing a gap in the 'system.' It was formed by Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, both formal and informal, having experienced inequality and injustice and we are dedicated to striving for equality and transparency in the support of Kinship Carer families throughout the State of Tasmania and at a National level. KRK is actively seeking persons to join our Board and reaching out to organizations and people that we feel may have the passion, skills, and experience we are in need of and looking for. The board is primarily made up of grandparents and as life happens, we are finding the tasks and time more difficult. All of our governance and policies have been updated and we are dedicated users of Teams, but there are areas we require new board members that will enhance our outcomes, strategic planning, governance, advocacy and finances. Our meetings are monthly, and they all are online, so no travelling involved. If you're interested in using your expertise and leadership to help us, we more than welcome the chance to talk with you. A position with our board, might offer you personal and professional growth, the opportunity to use your current role and to gain experience on a board, plus the opportunity to make a difference. Our mission is to encourage and support kinship carers who are the primary carers of diverse family and kin. The group offers peer support, advocacy, information and referral services to member kinship families throughout Tasmania. Our work includes.

- Establishing a kinship care network across Tasmania and we work with several organizations to achieve this.
- Representing the collective views of kinship carers, including grandparent kinship carers to decision making.
- Raising public awareness of the pressures and advantages of kinship care through participation in reviews, forums, working with researchers.
- Working with and lobbying politicians.
- Referring kinship carers to a range of services relevant to their needs.
- Developing partnerships with other organisations and stakeholders at a statewide and national level to best support kinship carers.
- Represent and advocate for the best interests of kinship.

Please contact us for a chat and for any other information/questions you may have.

*Jan Savage* Acting President, Kin Raising Kids Tasmania.



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### Communication Committee

The communication committee has been meeting regularly. The committee is tasked with improving communication with our members and stakeholders who support and advocate for kin carers within our state and nationally.

Members of the committee have supported our Facebook page by engaging members with request and connecting with similar organisation nationally and internationally. To find our page and like it follow this link

<https://www.facebook.com/kinraisingkids>

We have strategically participated in ACD Grass roots Leadership Celebration Hobart on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> of June. It was exciting to appreciate the talent of leaders especially those with a disability.

**COMMUNITY KINSHIP GOVERNANCE GROUP** which consists of representatives from Child Safety, Bapcare, Mission Australia, FKAT & Kin Raising Kids are still meeting regularly to advise on concerns, needs and progress of informal kinship carers following the Government Review completed in 2020. Services Australia (Centrelink) will have someone from the Grandparents, Foster and Kinship Care Advisors (GFKCA) team attending the meeting on Monday 22 July to take the meeting through some of the content discussed at the last meeting.

**DON'T FORGET IF YOU WANT YOUR VOTE TO COUNT AT THE AGM IN OCTOBER, YOU NEED TO BE A FINANCIAL MEMBER OR KRK. COMPLETE THE FORM ATTACHED AT THE END OF THIS NEWSLETTER**

### • JAN'S BISCUITS.

**250 GRAMS BUTTER**

**¾ CUP ICING SUGAR**

**2 CUPS SELF RAISING FLOUR.**



Cream softened butter and sugar together. Mix in flour. Roll into small ball and press with a fork. Cook for approx. 15 minutes on 160 degrees, or until cooked. Let cool and ice with vanilla icing.

**ENJOY**



## NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Notice is hereby given for the Annual General Meeting of Kin Raising Kids Tasmania Inc, in accordance with Rule 5(a) and (c) of the Constitution. The AGM will be held on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2024 at the Function Campbell Town Recreational Complex, Campbell Town, commencing at 10.30 am. Partners are most welcome to attend. After the meeting, we have arranged to have a hot finger food type light luncheon, which will be provided and include a couple of very informative speakers:

 **Mike Feszczak**, CEO Grandcarers SA and  
 **Meredith Kiraly**, renowned researcher.  
on **Kinship Alliance Australia**, fitting the theme of the AGM.

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**Kin Raising Kids Tasmania Incorporated.**

### NOMINATION FORM

**I Name** ..... **Signature** ..... **hereby nominate**  
..... **for the position of**

Please Tick

- President    Vice-President    Treasurer    Secretary  
 Northwest Representative    Northern Representative  
 Southern Representative

**Seconder Name** ..... **Signature** .....

**I Name** ..... **Signature** ..... **accept the nomination**  
**for the position and will abide by the Kin Raising Kids Tasmania INC**  
**constitution and board of governance policies and procedures.**

**Nominations must be in the possession of the public officer prior to the**  
**commencement of the Annual General**  
**Meeting starting at 10.30 am on 28th October 2024.**



## APPLICATION OR RENEWAL OF MEMBERSHIP 2024-25

*Kin Raising Kids Tasmania Inc. is a state-wide non-profit organisation of kinship carers, including grandparent carers, working together for equality for all carers and the children and young people in out of home care throughout Tasmania.*

Membership:

- \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 Ordinary Member.
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$15 Affiliate Member.
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$45 Corporate Member (defined as agency) or (\$80 for 2 years).
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$15 Interstate Affiliate.
- \_\_\_\_\_ Donation

Please update your details:

Name:.....

Address:.....

Home Phone:..... Mobile:.....

E/Mail:.....

Status: Formal..... Informal..... Unsure.....

Number & Age of Children or Young Person in care: .....

**Payment Method**  
**Direct Deposit** – B & E Banking BSB: 632 001 ACC No: 100178370  
(please include your name as reference)  
**Post/return** this form with payment to: **Secretary** – John Flack.  
**Kin Raising Kids Tasmania Inc. 7 Victory Ave., Devonport. 7310.**  
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