

The Tattler

Families Achieving Cooperation Together



From the Board

At the February meeting the board approved dates for the National Calendar, with TLNZ Board meetings on the first Saturday of even months, April, June, Aug, Oct, Dec and committee meetings on the first Wednesday of the alternate months.

Also, the National Trainings on June 20/21 and Oct 17/18. We will advise the TLNZ AGM shortly when we can confirm that our annual accounts will be fully ready for presentation to members. Please think ahead to our annual report for which we will continue the current format. We would love to have success stories of families, activities, and regional news to include as this certainly helps when approaching funders. Rachel's inbox is always open for contributions.

We have also welcomed Chris Monk to the board. Chris is from the Cambridge Group in Waikato and joined the meeting via our new speaker system. Next meeting we will have it video linked.

With the return to busy routines hopefully there have been plenty positives happening in our groups with families, and it is great to have a new group open in Auckland; Go Hibiscus Coast PSG.



Upcoming Dates:

- Board meeting
4th April 2020

Sub-Committees:

Employment-
Sonia, Sytske

Funding- Jenny,
Rachel, Jeanette

Programme-
Sytske, Bruce

Brand/ Marketing-
Helen

Resources/
Products- Chelsea

From the Trainers

The Training calendar from 2019 has been revised with this years dates and the National Trainings offered will be the PSG Focus in June and Rep Focus in October. Please ask Rachel if you would like the calendar, you may wish to have it at your PSG's if you run a noticeboard.

The regions have local trainings planned for parents to compliment the TLNZ National, these get togethers outside of the PSG are always great for parents to really see that they are not alone with their challenges. Please contact Bruce or Sytske if there are special topics you would like included with the June or October Trainings, June will be Pukekohe and October will be held in Christchurch. June Registration forms and flyers will be out with next months Tattler, but please note the dates now.

From Christchurch

It has been a relatively quiet time from an administration view for the new year. We just have the one Parent Support Group operating at this time, but that does seem to be well supported and operating well.

The board retreat was a great weekend in January, although not well supported by Christchurch parents. However the Board members and Toughlove Administrators were able to connect with reps and parents from other regions and this is always a great experience and very motivating.

Christchurch is starting to plan the first Regional Training Workshop for the new year on 7 March with the topic Pear Shaped to Cooperation. We have had interest for this already.



Toughlove works, the next generation

A 7year old granddaughter perhaps overdid self expression. Her parents are building a new home on site and miss 7 found a can of spray paint, clearly the builders, and not hers. The art work on the concrete signed off with her name was not appreciated by her parents who produced a bottle of dish liquid, a brush and bucket of water with instructions that it would be fine to come back when the floor was clean.

Miss 7 quickly understood the consequence was appropriate, and with plenty of scrubbing and thinking there is unlikely to be a repeat performance.

It is 20 years since I joined Toughlove for this granddaughter's uncle, lets hope she learns young and will be a TLC Teen like her mum was.

The Board Welcome Chris Monk

My wife Janine and I joined ToughLove about two years ago out of pure desperation. During our time of crisis, we felt like we were alone, lost in the darkness with no hope. Our friends and family all had advice, but no one really understood what we were going through. Within the orientation at our first meeting, light started to appear in the darkness and hope returned.

The people we sat beside at the PSG did understand what we were going through. We were now not alone, we were part of a larger tribe. We have two kids, a son whose 19yrs and daughter who is 17yrs. Our daughter is our ToughLove child. We have experienced truancy, suspensions, drug and alcohol use, running away from home, theft, being arrested, pregnancy close calls and she is a victim of an alleged sexual assault (Police didn't lay charges) by an ex-boyfriend. While she doesn't live at home currently, she is studying full-time for a trade and holds down a part time job.

Her future isn't what we imagined for her when she was a confident and vibrant 10year old, but it is a future far brighter than where she was heading. We are so thankful and appreciative of the ToughLove program, and now it's time to give back. I have now started the training to become a TL rep and have joined the TLNZ board to contribute to the perpetuity of the ToughLove program for other parents in crisis.

I have years of experience in local government, public engagement, H&S, auditing, conflict resolution and the running of small businesses and events with my wife. I am looking forward to using my skills to help modernise and future proof this outstanding program that produces results. Look forward to meeting at a training in the near future.

The new Hibiscus Coast Group

The Hibiscus Coast Parent Support Group has started humbly but steadily. So far we've had 4 meetings, and we've had 4 families come to date. Thanks Jeanette, Annmarie, Karen, and Christine for your support and for the many kms you've travelled to join us.

Info slots have been about Life Piles, Boundaries for Parents, and Stands & Bottom Lines. We've got lovely new premises to meet in which includes a very welcome heat pump!

We've met with the Whangaparaoa Police Youth Aid officer (who was very enthusiastic), presented what the group does to Whangaparaoa Community Hub, and also to a local Youth Trust, and have placed ads and brochures at supermarkets, libraries, police, and other places. This week we've been asked to talk about the group to the staff at Whangaparaoa Family Doctors.

A lady who saw one of our brochures rang a few days ago, spoke with Sharon for 30min on the phone, and then joined us at our last meeting. She had a sense of *'it's been such hard going and I've felt alone for so long, here are people who understand and it feels like there could be some hope ahead'*. For Sharon and I that makes it all worthwhile

- Doug Braddock

