

# grapevine

*Giving Families a Lift*



CALLING ALL GRAPEVINE SUPPORTERS:

please join us for a

**WINTER  
WORK-OUT**



I don't know how your body behaves during chilly wet winters, but mine goes all sluggish and slow – more sluggish and slow than usual. And Grapevine behaves much the same. Our donations go all sluggish, our progress slows right down, and it's harder to keep things moving.

We've got a big new drive happening at the moment. **We're hunting for new sponsors.** We've put a much stronger message in the magazine (with a map showing where Grapevine currently goes, an appeal to help us reach "one million unlucky homes", and a tear-off reply coupon). We've got sample mags going into letterboxes that have never seen Grapevine (or haven't seen it for years) ... new radio ads playing on the airwaves ... new promotional mail-outs going to thousands of 'non-active' names on our database.

In every way possible, we're taking our fight-for-families to a new level – with the bold invitation to *"sponsor Grapevine deliveries in your street or suburb ... your school, kindergarten or play-centre ... your local Rotary, Lions or Probus Club ... your church, minister, youth leader, counsellor or social worker ... your office, lunchroom or factory ... the waiting room of your local doctor, dentist, medical clinic – JUST-ABOUT-ANYWHERE!"*

And some encouraging results are already being recorded ...

BUT, WAIT: over recent wintry weeks, our funds have gone like my body – all sluggish and slow. Year-to-date we're now **\$38,000 below budget** – that's \$38,000 down on where we'd planned to be by this stage of the year (ouch). And, if we can't catch up quickly, our big new drive might (*shock, horror*) FIZZLE OUT!

We've got to do something – don't you agree? We can't let that happen. So here's what I'm asking:

***Will you join us for an urgent WINTER WORK-OUT?***

***Will you help us raise that \$38,000 and get Grapevine back in shape?***



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Look, if I'm honest, I'm not very good at keeping in shape. Oh, I enjoy a brisk morning walk when the weather's nice. And so does our dog.

But when the chilly season arrives ... well ... you know how it is. I'm always too cold, or too busy, or too late to bed the night before. With the result? My winter work-out just keeps getting put off.

And it's not for lack of keep-fit gadgets. I'm mean, I've *always* been a sucker for these things – and my family's got used to the sight of them lying unused around our house:

- the chest-expanders that went rusty in the toy cupboard
- the mini-tramp that gathered dust against the family-room wall
- the stretchy-thing-with-handles that perished in my wardrobe
- the skipping-rope borrowed to tie up a climbing rose
- the gym bag my daughter put horse-feed in
- the weights my boys loaned to can't-remember-who back in 1979
- the Power-Rider that went all mossy out on my deck
- the Ab-Roller that's still under a chair in my office
- and the Ab-King Pro that sits behind the couch and makes me feel guilty.

However, I'm happy to tell you that all this changed recently when I dragged my sluggish body off to the local gym. Encouraged by my wife, I signed up for three months – and have been steadfastly puffing and panting and sweating my way to newness, fitness and health.

*(I'd hoped to include my 'before' and 'after' photos in this newsletter ... but I got them muddled up, and couldn't tell which was which! Maybe next month ...?)*

**A**nyway, back to Grapevine's small crisis: **We won't make much progress with those "One Million Unlucky Homes" unless we can raise that missing \$38,000. So, can I invite you to make an extra-special, doubly-generous July effort?**

\$38,000 is a lot of money, and part of me wishes I didn't have to ask. But another part of me recalls one of my many mottos: "Anything worth doing involves some kind of sacrifice ..." And I remind myself: if we want to improve the quality of family life in this country ... it's gonna COST us. And If we want more confident parents and fewer-at-risk kids, healthier marriages and happier households ... this WINTER WORK-OUT is a small price to pay.

So, I don't know how else to say it: **WOULD YOU BE WILLING TO GIVE \$100 or \$500 or \$1000 TOWARDS GRAPEVINE'S JULY CATCH-UP?**

These are tight times for many Kiwi families, and if that's beyond your budget, please don't feel embarrassed. Please just donate whatever you can. You see, every dollar will bring us closer to that \$38,000 target – and encourage everyone here at Grapequarters.

Thanks for your faithfulness and support. I can't wait to hear from you ...



**JOHN COONEY (Founder/Editor)**

**PS:** I'm already excited about the next Grapevine. It'll carry an in-depth feature about out-of-control teenagers: 'SCARED OF OUR KIDS' ... and our interview with a Kiwi author who recommends: 'AVOID RETIREMENT & STAY ALIVE!'

**PPS:** Several supporters took up my challenge in the previous 'Update' – and have sponsored Grapevine deliveries to their local schools. Why don't YOU do the same, and put some of our valuable resources into the hands of teachers and staff at YOUR local school ... or kindy ... or play-centre ... or church ... or club ... or workplace? We'll take care of the delivery, and it's completely anonymous – all you have to do is ring 0800-GRAPEVINE (0800 47 27 38) and tell us where you'd like your sponsored magazines to go!



**CLICK HERE** to make a donation