



# VILLAGE NEWS

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GRENADA VILLAGE NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2018

## SUPPLEMENTARY NEWSLETTER

# PUBLIC MEETING COMMUNITY EMERGENCY HUB

TO DISCUSS THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN  
AND THE EMERGENCY HUB GUIDE

**Date: Sunday 28 October 2018**

**Time: 2.00pm – 4.00pm**

**Venue: Community Hall, 4 Mandeville Crescent**

The Grenada Village Community Hall at 4 Mandeville Crescent is now an officially designated Community Emergency Hub under the auspices and support of the Wellington Regional Emergency Management Office (WREMO).

Community Emergency Hubs (formerly known as Civil Defence Centres) are pre-identified places for the community to coordinate their efforts to help each other during and after a disaster. Community Emergency Hubs will be opened by people within their community, not official staff, when there is a need for the community to help itself, such as when there has been widespread infrastructural damage to buildings and roads, loss of lifelines (power, water, gas) or communication networks are down for extended periods. This is people helping people. WREMO have provided the hub with an Emergency Hub Kit that includes a radio to communicate with the official Emergency Operations Centre along with other necessary items including basic first-aid equipment, maps etc. There are no caches of emergency supplies at Community Emergency Hubs. Included in the Hub Kit will be a copy of the Emergency Hub Guide which describes the most efficient way to run the Hub. The old style Civil Defence Centres with their specific structures and responsibilities (and as a place of refuge) have now gone.

WREMO is facilitating this public meeting to help the residents of Grenada Village finalise a Community Response Plan and the information obtained will be recorded in Section 5 of the Community Emergency Hub Guide. This requires community input and participation. The overall template for the guide has been provided by WREMO. If you wish to view Section 5 of the template for Grenada Village, the link is: <http://getprepared.nz/assets/Hub-Guides/Grenada-Village.pdf>

The main information needed is details of the strengths, skills and resources within this community. Everyone has resources that are used on a daily basis and these resources will be useful during an emergency. In the back sections of the guide will be lists of our local resources and potential vulnerabilities, and lists of suggested solutions for the challenges we may face in an emergency. At this meeting, information required will cover subjects such as Infrastructure, Services, Groups & Networks, Places & Spaces, Medical Assistance, Shelter, Water, Food, Sanitation etc.

Community Emergency Hubs are about the community coming together to do what it can to help each other – people helping people with what they have available.

As was seen in Christchurch and other disasters around the world, people want to help those in need. After a significant emergency, such as an earthquake, the community will naturally come together for company, find out information, offer assistance to those who need it, and look for assistance.

After a disaster, problems at home should be solved first. Do what you can to make you and your household safe. If you can help other households, or need help with yours, go out and check with your neighbours. Check the surrounding streets to see what can be done. Many problems can be solved at this level. Then go to your local community emergency hub to offer what you can.

The community has many of the skills and resources needed to help each other. The hub is a way for people to work together while still coordinating with councils about really big problems. The hub is also somewhere you can either bring information about what you have observed during or after a disaster, relay resources your community needs, or try and get some official information.

If possible, we would like to place in the Hub Kit a list/register of local trades-people who, depending on their personal circumstances at the time, would be prepared to provide their skills and knowledge to the community if it was deemed necessary. For example, the list could include builders, plumbers, electricians, drainlayers, trained medical people, or anyone with skills that could assist. Also, we would like a list of any equipment (if not being used) that could be used if needed such as generators, ladders, ropes, tarpaulins, digger, truck or van etc.

Community Emergency Hub's are about communities taking responsibility for themselves. This needs to be done.

As a community, resilience is not only the best tool to get through an event, but also to recover from it.

When the Response Plan is complete, it is intended that in December or January WREMO will hold a Hub Activation where a simulated earthquake scenario will be held and an emergency response will be run through.

Creating, training and supporting community response groups are a key part of WREMO's Emergency Management Plan.

For further information, or to provide details for the list/register, please contact Bruce Patterson

Tel: 478 4221

Mob: 0275 234 221

Email: [b.patterson4784@gmail.com](mailto:b.patterson4784@gmail.com)