

July 2015

APODC

Update



Auckland Parents of Deaf Children Inc., P.O. Box 202001, Southgate, Takanini, Auckland 2246.

Text/Ph: 022 084 2244

Email: apodc@orcon.net.nz

Website: www.apodc.org.nz

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/981153361914892/?ref=ts&fref=ts>



KIA ORA

Hi

NAU MAI and WELCOME to our July newsletter. Is winter wearing you down? Does the wild weather make you weary? Does the wind cause you woe? Or are you willing away the wet days wrapped in warm woollies? Whatever the weather, APODC have wonderful ways to make you feel like a winner!

What is Auckland Parents of Deaf Children (APODC)?

APODC is an organisation for parents who have a child diagnosed as deaf or hearing impaired. The child's hearing loss may be mild or severe and their ages range from babies to secondary school students. The child may use hearing aids, cochlear implants, bone assisted hearing aids or may communicate through New Zealand Sign Language (NZSL).

Our main focus is to help families. Most deaf and hearing impaired children are born into hearing families who have no experience of what it's like to grow up deaf or hearing impaired. There may be challenges in learning to use an assistive device, such as a hearing aid, or learning to communicate using NZSL. Some families may be reeling from the shock that their baby or child does not hear well. They may have a lot of questions about what the child's future holds...

What we know is that every family is different in how they deal with their situation. We also know that getting together with other families builds strong resources to help your child get the best start in life. There are even research studies that back up what we already know - when families connect, it helps. A group of volunteer parents who have deaf and hearing impaired children run our organisation, so they have first hand experience.

If you would like more information or to meet us, contact us by email, phone, text, post or visit our website. We are also on Facebook! Keep reading - we have lots of news, events and information.

Newsflash! APODC on Facebook! Read all about it!

The Auckland Parents of Deaf Children Facebook page is a great place to connect with other parents, share ideas and learn what's happening with APODC and the Deaf world!



Join our group today!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/981153361914892/?ref=ts&fref=ts>

AUGUST Events!

No time to hibernate. Get yourself out and about this winter with the friendly families of APODC. **Families who aren't members but would like to join in (you may have CODA) are WELCOME.** Associate and non members pay a small charge.

Family Coffee Group.

11 -12.30 on Sunday, 2nd August

Lollipops Ellerslie, Gate Nine, Morrin St, Ellerslie.



You don't even have to like coffee! This is a chance to meet other parents and families and have a chat while the kids' play.

There's an under fives area for the littlies. Children must wear socks.

Contact Chris on apodc@orcon.net.nz or phone/text on 022 084 2244 to let us know your numbers or for more information. Free entry for members. Non members and associate members \$3.80 per adult, 1-2 yrs \$8 and 2-11 yrs \$12.

FREE if you have a deaf or hearing impaired child and want to find out more about APODC.



Rock Climbing! 2-5 pm, Sunday 30th August Extreme Edge Climb Zone 40C Morrin Rd, Panmure.



Flex the limbs and challenge the mind! Enjoy an energetic afternoon with other families and learn how to scale the heights of climbing walls! Free entry for member families.

A NZSL interpreter will be present for any children whose primary language is NZSL. Please remind us if your child is a NZSL user. Contact Chris on apodc@orcon.net.nz or phone/text on 022 084 2244 with the names, ages and numbers of your climbers.

Associate and non members welcome with a small charge. Under 6 climb for \$9.50 and ages 6 – 15, \$14. Contact Chris for more information on apodc@orcon.net.nz or phone/text on 022 084 2244.



APODC Camp News!

Get ready for APODC's 2015 Camp

When? Friday evening 6th November - Sunday afternoon 8th November 2015.

Where? Camp Raglan, 578 Wainui Road, RAGLAN. The camp is on the way to Whale Bay.

How much? Financial members of APODC pay **\$70 per family** for the weekend camp. This covers food, accommodation and all activities for the weekend. Monica Leach is working on financial assistance to include families in the wider Deaf community and will shortly have more information on costs.

Why? Without fail, families tell us that camp is **THE** best APODC event. Families really get to know each other during a full weekend of fun activities.

What do I do? Wait for the registration forms, coming out next month. If you want to register for camp, you'll need to fill in the form and pay a deposit to secure your place.

Keep your eyes on your email for camp registration forms, coming soon...



Can you help? 2015 Camp won't run itself!

With camp only a few months away, a group of willing workers are needed to organise APODC's weekend of events. Camp committee will shortly commence – our aim is to ensure that everyone who attends camp has a positive and safe experience.

Can you help us? If you can help with planning or assist us during the weekend itself, please get in touch. With all hands on deck everything will get done in a jiffy.

Email apodc@orcon.net.nz or text/phone 022 084 2244 with your name and availability. Every bit of assistance, even a small contribution, is much appreciated.

The New Zealand Federation for Deaf Children (NZFDC)

Nominations are now open for the Norma Taylor Memorial trophy, worth \$500, awarded to the highest achieving deaf or hearing impaired student nationally. Nominations for the Paton award for sporting excellence are also open. For more information visit the NZFDC website, www.deafchildren.org.nz

APODC sits under the umbrella of a national group: The New Zealand Federation for Deaf Children Incorporated. The NZFDC was set up in 1976. They are a registered incorporated society whose Executive committee, like parent groups around the country, are run by volunteers who are also parents of deaf and hearing impaired children.

They offer information kits for families of newly diagnosed deaf and hearing impaired children, tutor fee assistance, assistive devices support, annual scholarships for tertiary students and excellence and sports awards for secondary school students.



Are you registered with the NZFDC?

Contact them by email at deafchildren@xtra.co.nz or call on 0800 DEAFCHILD (0800) 332 324. Visit the website for information: www.deafchildren.org.nz

To send applications, grants forms or other postal communication, post to
PO. Box 13266, Johnsonville, WELLINGTON 6440

Spotlight on committee:

Every month we throw the spotlight on the people who work hard behind the scenes on the APODC management committee.

Name: James Zhu

Role: Treasurer

Hi everyone. I have been a member of APODC since my son Kenneth was diagnosed with profound deafness at the age of two. He is now 15 and he has a cochlear implant. He speaks English and does not sign. He uses an FM system at school to assist hearing in class.

As a member of APODC I have enjoyed meeting other families and learning experiences from each other. I have been an accountant for over ten years. As the APODC treasurer I have tried to control costs to meet our financial needs and to serve our families.

I look forward to meeting and supporting our families in the near future.



Name: Rachael Hopkins

Role: Committee Member



Hi my name's Rachael, I'm married to Colin and we have three children: Effie(5), Freddie(3), Ginny(2). We live in a very busy house in Manurewa with our three children, one dog, two cats and one bantam chicken.

Effie is a success story of the newborn screening programme as she was picked up with mild hearing loss in her left ear at birth. Over the next three years her hearing deteriorated in both ears and at 3 ½ she was profoundly deaf in her left ear, severely deaf in her right ear and suspected ANSD. She is now the proud owner of two awesome cochlear implants, which she loves to decorate up and show off in any manner she can.

As a family we have been learning NZSL through the First Signs programme at home and now that Effie is at school she is taking her signing further and the other students in her class are also getting the opportunity to learn a wee bit of sign!

We have joined APODC as we feel it is important for Effie to have positive deaf role models in her world, and we are keen as a family to be more involved in events that all our kids can come along to and enjoy.

For your calendar...

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| <p>Sunday 2nd August, 11 am – 12.30 pm</p> <p>Family coffee group</p> | <p>Lollipops Ellerslie. Gate Nine, Morrin Street, ELLERSLIE. A casual get together where you can meet other parents and families, have a chat and let the kids play together. There's an under fives area for the littlies. Children must wear socks. Free entry for members and new families interested in finding out more about APODC. Contact Chris on apodc@orcon.net.nz or phone/text on 022 084 2244 to let us know you're coming. Small charge for hearing CODA families and associate members.</p> |
| <p>Tuesday 4th August, 7.30 pm</p> <p>August APODC committee meeting</p> | <p>The Hearing House, 251-253 Campbell Rd, GREENLANE. Meet the awesome APODC management committee. Please contribute any suggestions or simply observe how we work for the families with deaf and hearing impaired children. New committee members are always welcome if you would like to join us.</p> |
| <p>Sunday 30th August, 2 - 5.00 pm</p> <p>Rock Climbing</p> | <p>Extreme Edge Climb Zone, 40C Morrin Rd, PANMURE. Get your harness on and enjoy an afternoon with other families as they scale the heights. Free entry for members and families. Contact Chris on apodc@orcon.net.nz or phone/text on 022 084 2244 with the names, ages and numbers. Please specify if your climber requires a NZSL interpreter. Small charge for hearing CODA and associate members</p> |
| <p>Friday 6th – Sunday 8th November, 2015</p> <p>APODC Camp 2015</p> | <p>Camp Raglan, 578 Wainui Rd, RAGLAN. The jewel in the APODC crown! Enjoy a weekend of good old Kiwi outdoor fun and activities. Share the experience with other families of deaf and hearing impaired children. Watch out for registration forms, coming out next month. Only \$70 per family for full APODC members.</p> <p>You can put your hand up to help on the camp organising committee by emailing Chris on apodc@orcon.net.nz</p> |

Contact us

Email us on: apodc@orcon.net.nz

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Website: www.apodc.org.nz

