



# APODC Update



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## KIA ORA Hi

### **NAU MAI and a special welcome to new APODC families and whanau.**

APODC now has over 50 families registered as full financial members. We hope all of you will join APODC again in 2016 to enjoy the benefits of another year of family friendly events.

If you renew your annual membership before December 6 this year, you go in the draw for a surprise bonus gift. The winner's name will be drawn at our Christmas party/end of year event on December 6<sup>th</sup> - so keep reading to find out how you could be that lucky family...

### **Why should I join Auckland Parents of Deaf Children?**

- You become part of a group run by parents, for parents. All of our families have a deaf or hearing impaired child in common.
- When families get together they share information. Connection between families not only helps the deaf child to reach their potential, but also supports the rest of the family.
- You get access to subsidised or free events in different Auckland locations. The whole family gets to enjoy some freebies.
- We all want the best for our deaf or hearing impaired child. Parents in the same situation are a great resource. They too understand the challenges of the health and education system and how to advocate for your child. Meet them for yourself and find out (if you haven't already)!

### **A Tip Top time was had by all...**

If you didn't get a place on the **Tip Top Factory tour** on September 30<sup>th</sup> you might not want to hear that we had a great time and enjoyed the newest ice-creams on the market. My my, they were delicious! Oh dear doesn't that make you feel better? Sorry. But this **MIGHT** make you smile... due to high demand, APODC will book two Tip Top factory tours in 2016 to make up for it. You don't have to miss out!

Yum yum - even more reason to renew your APODC membership for 2016!

# APODC CAMP RAGLAN

## 6-8 November 2015

Hurry hurry! Last chance for members to register for APDOC's awesome bi-annual camp. You don't want to wait another two years, do you? Register now by sending your payment and registration form to [apodc@orcon.net.nz](mailto:apodc@orcon.net.nz)

Registration must be completed by Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October.  
Contact Chris on [apodc@orcon.net.nz](mailto:apodc@orcon.net.nz) for more information

APODC Camp is held this year from **Friday evening 6<sup>th</sup> November - Sunday afternoon 8<sup>th</sup> November 2015** at **Camp Raglan**, 578 Wainui Road, RAGLAN.

**Camp Raglan is situated on the bush-clad slopes of Mt Karioi and has views of the Tasman Sea and beach. The camp is 6km beyond the township of Raglan. The camp facilities include a variety of indoor and outdoor activities for all ages to enjoy.**

### ***Some benefits of camp:***

- Families with deaf or hearing impaired children get together
- Children mix with others who understand the challenges of being deaf and hearing impaired
- Families get together in a setting that normalises deafness and hearing impairment
- There is a lot to learn from other families and the way they communicate
- Adults get to have FUN with the kids by participating in all the activities
- There are heaps of things to do – the programme is varied and achievable for all ages
- It's a chance for families to spend quality time together at a very reasonable price
- This year APODC blends with families of Deaf adults with hearing children – Deaf adults are fabulous role models for deaf and hearing impaired kids (they were children once too!) Their hearing children are called CODA, an acronym for Children of Deaf Adults.



### ***A parent's view of Camp Raglan 2013:***

*"Our family really enjoyed camp. Sleeping in the dormitories was fun and the kids loved the outdoor activities, especially the flying fox and BMX bikes. It was the first time my son spent a whole weekend with other children wearing hearing aids and cochlear implants. For once he wasn't the only one. I even learned a little bit of sign language!"*

# Last APODC event for 2015

With tears in our eyes we realise another fun-filled fabulous year of family festivities must be farewelled (sigh)

But don't break out the hankies just yet. There's one last event to bring all our families together before 2016 comes knocking on the door. Read on...

## APODC Christmas/end of year event

Get your family's name down for **SUNDAY 6<sup>th</sup> December from 11.30 - 1.30**

It's the last hurrah for 2015 - the APODC Christmas party.

Email/text/phone in your name and how many are attending. You don't want to miss out! Contact us on [apodc@orcon.net.nz](mailto:apodc@orcon.net.nz) or 022 084 2244.

Families of deaf and hearing impaired children are invited free of charge to our family gathering at **YMCA Mt Albert Community and Leisure Centre, 773 New North Road, Mt Albert (behind Rocket Park)**

Games for all ages

Gymnastic equipment

Food

Face painting

Balloons

Awesome raffles

2016 Early membership prize draw



**Catch up with your APODC friends, meet some new families or just chill out and watch the kids enjoy themselves.**

Pay your 2016 APODC membership fee at the door, or before December 6<sup>th</sup> through the usual channels and go in the draw for a fabulous prize. Drawn at this event.

## **Spotlight on committee:**

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

**Name:** Tim Haung  
**Role:** Committee Member

Hi everyone,

My name is Tim, father of two lovely kids: Adam (2 and a half) and Emma (6 months). My son was born with unilateral microtia, and (sometimes) wears a BAHA if he is in the mood. He is developing well and learning to speak 3 languages/dialects. Adam loves trains, trucks, and ice-cream (who wouldn't?)

We first heard of APODC because a very nice kindergarten teacher kept the local newspaper and told my wife Lucy about the coffee group in May this year. We went there and liked the supportive environment. I subsequently volunteered to join the Committee at the AGM meeting. As a fairly new member, I am still learning my way around regarding how it works, how to host events, organize camp, etc. Throughout all the interaction, I am also impressed by the passion and energy other committee members have for this group, given their own busy schedule of work, family, and other commitments. I encourage other members to join the committee and/or give feedback to us as how to provide better support for APODC families. I can be reached at [timlucyfamily@gmail.com](mailto:timlucyfamily@gmail.com)

Apart from APODC, I work full time as a software developer (even though I work in IT, I know nothing more than anyone on how to fix a computer. They are different but often mistakenly thought of as the same). I have studied in 5 countries and hold a masters degree in Computer Science and a graduate diploma in business management. A typical science/engineering nerd with zero music/sports/art genes, but a strong interest in history, politics, philosophy and career development.



### **Editor's note:**

*Welcome to APODC Tim and our special thanks for joining the management committee after attending only two events!*

*APODC is all about inclusion. Self-proclaimed nerds are not only welcome on our management committee, but their exceptional skills are celebrated 😊*



**Remember to find APODC on Facebook.**

The Auckland Parents of Deaf Children Facebook page is an additional way to connect with other parents and families, share ideas and learn what's happening in APODC and the Deaf world!

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

Join our group today and check out our latest photos!



## For your calendar...

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| <p><b>Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> November</b><br/><b>7.30 pm.</b></p> <p><b>November APODC committee meeting</b></p>                | <p><b>The Hearing House, 251-253 Campbell Rd, GREENLANE.</b><br/>Meet the APODC management committee. Watch how we work for the families with deaf and hearing impaired children or have a say on what you'd like to see happening in APODC.</p> <p>New committee members welcome and visitors/ observers/ seat-warmers also welcome.</p>  |
| <p><b>Friday 6<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November, 2015</b></p> <p><b>APODC Camp 2015</b></p>                        | <p><b>Camp Raglan, 578 Wainui Rd, RAGLAN.</b><br/>Registrations currently underway for our bi-annual camp. If you've received our registration form, please register and pay promptly before the 18<sup>th</sup> October.</p> <p>Hurry, spaces filling up fast. Contact Chris on <a href="mailto:apodc@orcon.net.nz">apodc@orcon.net.nz</a> if you need more information or a registration form.</p>   |
| <p><b>Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December</b><br/><b>11.30 am - 1.30 pm</b></p> <p><b>Christmas/End of Year Family Fun event</b></p> | <p><b>APODC Christmas Party at YMCA Mt Albert Community &amp; Leisure Centre, 773 New North Rd, MT ALBERT.</b><br/>Meet up with your friends from camp or make some new ones as we mark the end of another successful APODC year.</p> <p>Food, fun, festivity, games, raffles, face-painting and more.</p> <p><i>Go in the earlybird membership draw! Pay your 2016 membership before December 6<sup>th</sup> 2015 and be in the draw for a bonus prize. The winner will be drawn at this event.</i></p> |

### Contact us:

Email: [apodc@orcon.net.nz](mailto:apodc@orcon.net.nz)

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*This deaf white cat benefits from a special feline cochlear implant. Studies of this and other cats like it are leading to technology improvements for cochlear implant wearers. However, when interviewed about the device this cat said "Meow comment".*