



February 2024 - Newsletter

Kia ora #FirstName#

President's Update

This year we will be hosting our **Annual General Meeting (AGM)** in **May 2024** as a fun filled **family friendly event** with the added excitement of an inspiring keynote speaker, **Clare Best** the founder of [Raising Bilinguals](#). This is one AGM you don't want to miss!

We are kicking off our **Coffee Groups** for 2024 on **Saturday 9th March**. Please register below if you are interested in attending.

You will have seen that we are well underway with our system refresh. **Thanks** to the countless members who have already updated their information with us. We really appreciate you taking the time to help us **improve our database** so we can better **support our community**. If you think you may have missed the email or have any questions please reach out to Alison on alison@apodc.org.nz.

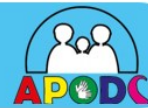
Deaf Wellbeing Society's walking group will be meeting across Auckland throughout February and March - [click here](#) to check out dates and other activities they have planned.

Hand waves 🙌

Willa Hand on behalf of your APODC Committee ~ Anna Park, Duncan Henderson, Jo Weaver, Kirsten Davis, Lydia Cook, Rhian Thompson

A quick look at our upcoming events for 2024

APODC EVENT CALENDAR 2024



February	March	April	May

Connecting our Community

Strengthening our relationships across the industry is an important part of how we support our members. And making sure you know about all the service and tools at your finger tips is role we are privileged to do.

We're excited to keep building our relationships with Deaf Aotearoa, Deaf Children New Zealand, Ko Taku Reo and The Hearing House and we're honoured that our President, Willa Hand, has been asked to join board of The Hearing House to make that connection even stronger.

Check out the article on The Hearing House website to find out more about Willa and her family's personal experience with their team - [Click Here to view](#)

APODC AGM 2024



Save the Date

Our **Annual General Meeting** (AGM) will be held **in person** this year and we hope you will join us as to have your say on our committee nominations and other important topics. AGM is always a great opportunity to **connect** with each other and reflect on all we achieved together last year.

We also have a **special guest** joining us to deliver an insightful keynote speech – [Clare Best of Raising Bilinguals](#). She will also be hosting a **community session** after the AGM to get to know you all as we embark on our partnership in 2024.

Please see event details below and keep an eye on your inbox for registrations, coming soon.

Event Information

Date: Saturday 25th May

Location: [Auckland Deaf Society, Hillsborough Road](#)

Registration: 10am – 10.30am

AGM: 10.30am – 11.30am

Community Session with Clare Best: 1.30pm – 3.30pm

Navigating the Journey - Workshop Save the Date

We will also be offering our members an **empowering and educational workshop** specifically designed for parents and carers raising Deaf and Hard of Hearing children. Created and facilitated by Clare Best, a dedicated **Teacher of the Deaf and a mother to a bilingual deaf child**, this workshop aims to build capacity and **support parents** in navigating the unique journey that comes with raising these brilliant kids.

Event Information

Date: Sunday 26th May

Location: 251 Campbell Road, Greenlane, Auckland 1061

Tickets will be on sale soon. Keep an eye out on our social media and in our March newsletter for our early bird special and more information on how to secure your seat in this fantastic workshop.



www.raisingbilingualsdhh.com



www.facebook.com/raisingbilingualsdhh



Join us at this family friendly cafe to meet and mingle other parents of Deaf or Hard of Hearing children. The event will be hosted by our Secretary Lydia Cook whose little girl has profound bilateral hearing loss and is aided by cochlear implant.

Date: Saturday 9th March

Time: 10am until 12pm

Venue: [Cornwall Park Cafe](#)

Address: [Cornwall Park Pohutakawa Drive, Epsom, Auckland 1051](#)

[Click here to register](#)

UPDATE YOUR INFORMATION WITH US!

DID YOU RECEIVE OUR EMAIL?

We recently reached out via email asking you to confirm or update your information. It should only take you a few minutes to review and update your information. All data will continue to be gathered and stored in line with our data and [privacy policy](#).

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

Updating your information will ensure that you are invited to all of our future events!

If you no longer wish to be a member of APODC please email Alison directly on alison@apodc.org.nz and she will help to update your records accordingly.

WHY ARE WE DOING IT?

Tailored to you - We want to offer support and events that can be tailored to our members. In order to do so we need to be confident that the information we have is accurate. For example, correct address information will help us to plan events in suitable locations.

Less admin, more fun - By better utilising our CRM we can spend less time on administrative tasks and more time creating events, offering support and seeking out resources for you and your family.

Growing our community - Having a robust system that is fit for growth means that we can reach more families across Auckland and build a community of support across the city.

WHAT'S ON?

Raising Bilinguals Bootcamp

The RAISING BILINGUALS Bootcamp

Build a bilingual-rich pathway for your deaf or hard of hearing child



SIGN UP FEBRUARY 26 >>> KICK OFF MARCH 11 >>> REGISTER NOW

The Raising Bilinguals Bootcamp is an online program consisting of 12 comprehensive, interactive learning modules, over 12 weeks. Over 60 hours of learning.

The 12 module Bootcamp, is AUD\$1750 and provides:

- 6 months access to the program, community and resources
- Self paced interactive learning and downloadable workbooks and resources
- Practical 'toolkit' of strategies for parents and carers
- Live monthly webinars
- Access to the Raising Bilinguals Community Hub

The Bootcamp will guide, educate and support families to:

- Build a bilingual 'script' and 'toolkit' of high-yield strategies that can be used anywhere, anytime
- Transform mindset around the language journey with deaf or hard of hearing children (including breaking down 'mental blocks' around learning a signed language!)
- Connect participants with a community of like-minded learners via an exclusive community hub and via monthly Zoom catch ups
- Gather a 'life-time supply' of knowledge and skills to sustain deaf and hard of hearing children through the peaks and troughs of the journey

If you want to find out more you can [CLICK HERE](#) to sign up to the FREE webinar or, check out the [FAQs](#) on the Raising Bilinguals website.

[Click here to register for The Raising Bilinguals Bootcamp](#)



The Great Piratical Rumbustification

NZ Sign Language Interpreted shows

Dates: Thursday 11th April, Saturday 27th April

Time: 10.30am

Venue: The PumpHouse Theatre, Takapuna

[Click here to book tickets](#)

Hoist the Flag of Fun and Mayhem

Shiver me timbers! The pirates are restless, yearning for a grand piratical adventure. "Oh, for a pirate party!" they proclaim. But, as any good pirate knows, a proper pirate party must be a stolen one. So now, get ready to set sail into the high seas of imagination as Margaret Mahy's delightful tale, *The Great Piratical Rumbustification*, comes to life in a swashbuckling stage performance by Tim Bray Theatre Company.

Join our young hero, Oliver Terrapin, as he opens up the doors of his oblivious parents' home for a party – a party with real pirates!

Mayhem ensues in this rollicking, rumbunctious rumpus of an escapade by Tim Bray Theatre Company that promises the most piratical fun you've had in years. Yo ho ho!

Sign Play Together - Playgroup

First Signs, in collaboration with The Hearing House, have expanded their playgroup offerings. Their Wednesday morning group is now fortnightly and they have set up an additional weekly Saturday morning group. Check out their flyers below for more details.

SIGN PLAY TOGETHER - Fortnightly Auckland 2024



Come and Join us at "SIGN PLAY TOGETHER" on **FORTNIGHTLY** Wednesday mornings at The Hearing House!

We will learn NZSL, play, read books and HAVE FUN together! Your First Signs Facilitators will organise a fun and educational programme for your preschoolers in NZSL.

Your children will have the opportunity to meet other Deaf or Hard of Hearing children like themselves, and use NZSL to communicate!

📅 FEB: 14, 28	JUN: 5, 19	OCT: 9, 23
MAR: 13, 27	JUL: 3, 17, 31	NOV: 6, 20
APR: 10, 24	AUG: 14, 28	DEC: 4
MAY: 8, 22	SEPT: 11, 25	

🕒 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

📍 The Hearing House, 251 Campbell Road, Greenlane, Auckland



SIGN PLAY TOGETHER - Saturdays Auckland 2024



Come and Join us at "SIGN PLAY TOGETHER" at The Hearing House every first Saturday of the month!

We will learn NZSL, play, read books and HAVE FUN together! Your First Signs Facilitators will organise a fun and educational programme for your preschoolers in NZSL.

Your children will have the opportunity to meet other Deaf or Hard of Hearing children like themselves, and use NZSL to communicate!

📅 10th February	8th June	5th October
2nd March	6th July	2nd November
6th April	3rd August	7th December
4th May	7th September	

🕒 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM

📍 The Hearing House, 251 Campbell Road, Greenlane, Auckland



For more information, please contact

First Signs:

first.signs@deaf.org.nz



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Accessible Sports

The Marist NH Juniors rugby club on the North Shore is signing friendly!

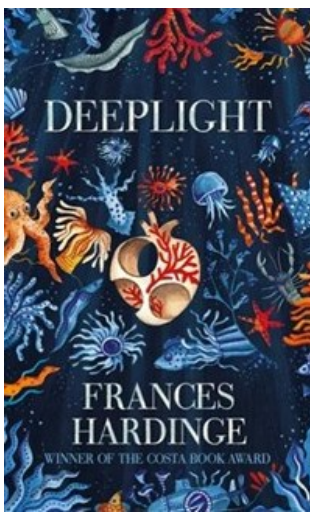
Three of our APODC members who are CODA currently play for the club.

All the junior events are made accessible with the help of an NZSL interpreter.

Check out their website to find out more

www.maristnh.co.nz

Representation and Resource Recommendations



Deeplight

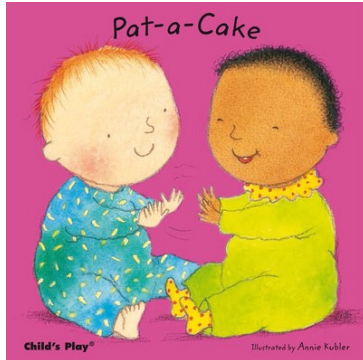
Written by Frances Hardinge

Deeplight is a gorgeous tale about gods who just won't stay dead. Set on the islands of the Myriad, small-time criminal Hark finds himself tangled in myth and reality as he learns more than he'd like about the underwater gods who destroyed themselves many years ago.

The elite divers are the 'sea-kissed', who have lost their hearing to the depths. One such sea-kissed smuggler is called Selphin. Besides being a cool, complex character, she's also an authentic representation of deafness. She communicates through sign and speech, as do almost all the Myriddians. The sign for 'jellyfish' in their sign language is the same sign they use for an insult meaning 'spineless'.

Reading age: 11- 25 years old

This book is available at your local Auckland Library: [Click here to request](#)



Pat-a-cake

Written by Annie Kubler

This award winning series has been specifically designed for babies. A great introduction to books through well-known nursery rhymes and interactive text. The exuberant characters includes a parent with a hearing aid.

Reading age: 2-3 years old

This book is available at your local Auckland Library: [Click here to request](#)

[Nga mihi nui, APODC Committee](#)



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