

Has your child been diagnosed with a hearing impairment? Do you feel alone, confused? Would you like to meet parents in a similar situation?

When our son Ryan was diagnosed with a hearing impairment and we were told to trail hearing aids, we felt alone.

There was a gap of a few weeks between being diagnosed and seeing a Speech therapist and a teacher of the deaf. Although our friends and family were and still are very supportive they have not been through it and can not answer questions about what to expect, how to deal with it or where to go for help. We needed to talk to parents who had been through this already or were going through it. Some one who understood first hand how scary it was to even have your child referred to a specialist, let alone the gut retching feeling you have when you are told there is a problem.

We were lucky enough to meet a family in a similar situation, and the few times we have caught up and spoken about our children have really helped.

Haven spoken to a few families with children with a hearing difficulty it became apparent that what we all wanted and needed was a support group in Northern Tasmania. A support group that will provide the opportunity to meet families like us who want to be part of a supportive group where we can pool our resources, knowledge and experiences to help our children achieve their best. P.O.D groups have been formed in NSW and Queensland and it is hoped that having a universal brand will help lend a stronger voice for our children nationally.

With this in mind the first meeting of **P.O.D (Parents of Deaf) Northern Tas**
Will be held at the TASDEAF office

Shop 2 Quadrant Plaza,

Launceston on Saturday the 7th February 2009 at 1 pm.

Please come along and meet families like yours and have a chat about any issues you think might need addressing.

For more information please call Tamara James on 0409 429 988 or e-mail

tamara_james1@hotmail.com

See you there.

P.O.D Northern Tas

When our son Ryan was diagnosed with a hearing impairment, I needed to talk to other parents who had been through or were going through the same thing. I went to TASDEAF to get the number of the support group and was told there was not one. Since then Deaf Children Australia have been down to Tassie and spoken about P.O.D groups.

Seeing the need I have taken the opportunity Deaf Children Australia has given us and would like to form a P.O.D group in Launceston and surrounds.

The first meeting will be held **at the TASDEAF office, Shop 2 Quadrant Plaza in Launceston on Saturday the 7th February 2009 at 1 pm.**

For more information please call Tamara James on 0409 429 988 or e-mail tamara_james1@hotmail.com.