



## A Warm Welcome

It is hard to believe that we are already in March and we hope that you and your families are all well and happy. It has been an interesting summer and we hope you are managing to get out and enjoy the sunny days when they do decide to appear! The highlight for my family this year was being able to watch our daughter Molly head off to her first TS Camp in January. After many years waiting to be old enough, she was finally 10 years old and able to attend. She had the best time meeting new people, trying new things and having loads of fun! She cannot wait until 2013 to do it all again!

There have been a few changes this year and it is with pleasure that the Camp and Youth branch of TSSG announce our new committee for 2012. Our new positions are as follows...

- **Jenny Merwyn** - Chairperson and overall Camp Coordinator
- **Vicky Burgess-Munro** - Secretary, Newsletter Editor, Website Manager for Youth Branch, Parent Liaison of Youth Branch
- **Jessica Rogan** - Fundraising, Liaison with main branch of TSSG,
- **Catherine Coups** - Research and Development, new member packs, coordinator of resources and educational information
- **Paula Harris** - Youth representative.
- **Treasurer** - ?

***PLEASE NOTE: We are DESPERATE for someone to replace Vicki as our treasurer. Please get in touch with us if you are interested in contributing a few hours every once in a while to keeping us financially on track. We really need your help!***

***[youth@turnersyndrome.co.nz](mailto:youth@turnersyndrome.co.nz) or call Vicky on 078809780 or 021615172***

## Some Sad Farewells

After many years leading our group into the future, Karen Pratt and Vicki Maaka have stood down as our hardworking and innovative Chairperson and Treasurer. These ladies have been the force behind the creation and continued improvement of the Youth Branch of TSSG. The youth branch was created to focus primarily on supporting Turner Youth and their families and our fabulous camp.

Their tireless work behind the scenes has ensured that camp has continued and improved every year. The reality is that without passionate parents being prepared to be involved, camp would not exist. Karen in particular has been doing the jobs of at least 3 committee members so we thank her again for her passion and commitment. We will miss them hugely and would like to thank them for doing so much for all our girls over the years.

## Camp 2012



As this was the first year I was personally involved in camp I didn't really know what to expect. I was amazed how fabulous Vaughan Park was as a venue and how much fun the activities were at MERC... It's not often you get the chance to rockclimb, do stackem and learn how to surf and kayak!! Long Bay is a divine place to have camp and I can see why camp has remained at this venue each year.

Because we were lucky to receive a generous Lottery grant for this camp, there were a few extra surprises for the girls! A trip to Auckland Zoo was followed by a very cool trip to Club Girly Girls in Albany. Not only did the girls receive cupcakes and sodas but they also got to make sparkly bath bombs and bath fizz as well as receive a manicure AND choose a small item from the gift shop- how spoiled!!!



Throughout the week they got to chat about their lives as girls with TS, while also being involved in a session with Auckland based Fran Mouat (Paediatrician) and Laura Leeson (Nutritionist). The girls asked fantastic questions and were interested in learning as much as they could from these wonderful women.

The annual girly night was again a major hit. The girls were encouraged to dress up, get their hair done and to help each other learn to apply make-up. The photos once again showed how gorgeous all our girls are!!!

Ultimately, camp is all about getting our girls together, having fun, making connections, creating friendships and building their self esteem. It is about getting the girls to love themselves as they develop into strong and beautiful TS women. This year certainly achieved that and more!!!



Special thanks needs to go to Jenny Merwyn and Jess Rogan who along with Karyn stayed with the girls at Camp this year. To take a week off work and to spend time away from their busy families is a huge sacrifice and from all our families we thank you.

## Camp 2013: January 14-18 Vaughan Park, Long Bay, Auckland

Planning is well underway for another fabulous experience in 2013 and I cannot wait to be part of it next year!!!! There will be some new MERC activities and we look forward to seeing those who will be returning and to welcome those who will be on their first camp in 2013.

Attached with this newsletter is a **camp registration of interest form**. If you are thinking that you might like to join us in January 14-18, 2013 then please fill this in and either post it or email it back to me asap. The earlier we get registrations, the sooner we can apply for funding to assist in all areas of camp. Even if you think that costs may be too much please show your interest by registering as we may be able to secure funding like we did this year. Spaces are limited so get in quick!!!

## Upcoming Events

- **Sunday April 1-** Youth Committee meeting in Tauranga- all welcome
- **Sunday June 10-** Fun '**Family Bake Off**' in Matamata- More information to come.  
Contact Vicky at [youth@turnersyndrome.co.nz](mailto:youth@turnersyndrome.co.nz) if you are out of the area but would still like to be informed.
- **Sunday 12 August-**Youth Committee meeting in Taupo- all welcome

For more information on any of these events or if you are holding an event/ catch-up in your part of New Zealand please contact us at [youth@turnersyndrome.co.nz](mailto:youth@turnersyndrome.co.nz).

We love receiving information, personal stories and photos from all our members and we would love to advertise upcoming events on the website and in the newsletter.

## 2012 Membership Fees Now Due

To help our group to run we need to continue to ask for a yearly membership subscription from each family. The fee for this year is now due so if you have not yet paid it please send a \$20 cheque to 133 Firth Street or contact us on [youth@turnersyndrome.co.nz](mailto:youth@turnersyndrome.co.nz) for our bank account to deposit via internet banking.

This fee supports the administrative tasks that go on behind the scenes and contributes to maintaining the website. We are also always looking to extending our library and the resources available to our members.

Also, If you are aware of anyone that would be prepared to donate to our group or to provide any kind of sponsorship to support our girls, please get in touch asap! Every cent is appreciated and welcomed!

Many Thanks  
Vicky Burgess-Munro  
(Mum of Molly, 10yrs)

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Check out our [FaceBook page](#) to keep in touch with long lost friends!

Don't forget to add our website to your favourites so you can check up what is happening and see if any new personal stories have been added . Or you might like to send in your story [info@turnersyndrome.co.nz](mailto:info@turnersyndrome.co.nz) and our website is [www.turnersyndrome.co.nz](http://www.turnersyndrome.co.nz)



If you no longer wish to hear from us please email [youth@turnersyndrome.co.nz](mailto:youth@turnersyndrome.co.nz) to unsubsubscribe.