



Winter Newsletter 2024

I hope our winter newsletter finds you warm and well. Why not sit down with a cuppa and have a read.

Our news

We celebrated our 10th birthday in May. We had a lovely morning with people dropping in for free hearing aid clean and checks with lovely nibbles to share. We had a good turnout and luckily there were minimal leftovers for Jo and I to finish 😊. The winner of our hamper giveaway was thrilled.



We have been busy, even in the challenging economic climate. Thank you for your ongoing support and loyalty! We strive to give excellent service. If there is anything we can improve on please feel free to let us know.



I have recently returned from Rarotonga where I spent the week testing hearing and fitting hearing aids for those who don't normally have access to these services. The hearing tests and aids (as required) were provided free of charge to all those seen. I was part of a team of three together with colleagues Lisa Keen and Brenna Sincock who also went over to provide services. Many thanks to those of you who donated their no-longer-needed hearing devices, paid for batteries to take over to the Islands and sent their good wishes for the trip. It was very rewarding and I was lucky enough to receive many hugs and expressions of gratitude during the week. Thank you again for your generosity and kind wishes. Thanks also to Brenna for helping cover the clinic while I was away.



We are proudly independent and locally owned. We are not owned by a manufacturer. We also are proud of our personalised friendly service and continuity of care (you always see the same audiologist). You're never just a number with us. We thank you for recommending us to others. We truly appreciate it. 😊

Don't forget to bring your loved ones!

We are client-focused and family-centred and encourage you to bring your significant other or family/whanau member/support person to your appointment. They are always welcome, and we enjoy seeing them too. Any potential hearing issue affects loved ones as well. The more ears to receive the information given at an appointment the better 😊



Conference



Our professional body (the NZ Audiological Society) will be having their conference in Christchurch this year during August at Te Pae. I will be attending and will be 'all ears' listening to the latest research and looking for ways to share this with you. It will also be great to catch up with colleagues. I have been a full member of the Society since soon after I graduated with my Masters of Audiology in 1996. We continue to learn over the course of our professional life.

Updates from manufacturers/the world of tech

Many of the main manufacturers have launched new products this year, making the most of new research and development to improve the lives of those hard of hearing by integrating new features into hearing aids. Rechargeable hearing aids continue to be very popular. Some manufacturers have changed the shape of their devices to optimise directionality of the hearing aids to assist hearing in noise. Some are able to detect the wearer's body movement and use this information to deduce what listening environment the person is in and further optimise the settings in the hearing aids for that setting. Bluetooth Low Energy (LE) is also being used in hearing aid technology and will increase over the next few years. Manufacturers are always trying to find ways to assist with speech understanding and reduce listening effort in various listening environments. Rechargeable aids are very popular but battery-operated aids are still available for many models.



We try very hard to match the hearing technology that best suits your hearing needs, ear size and shape, dexterity and other factors, within your budget. Being independent, we are proud to be able to offer and select from a wide range of hearing aid devices to specifically suit each client.

A final word...

We are only a phone call or email away if you need our help.

Quote for the season: "Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see." Mark Twain

Regards

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