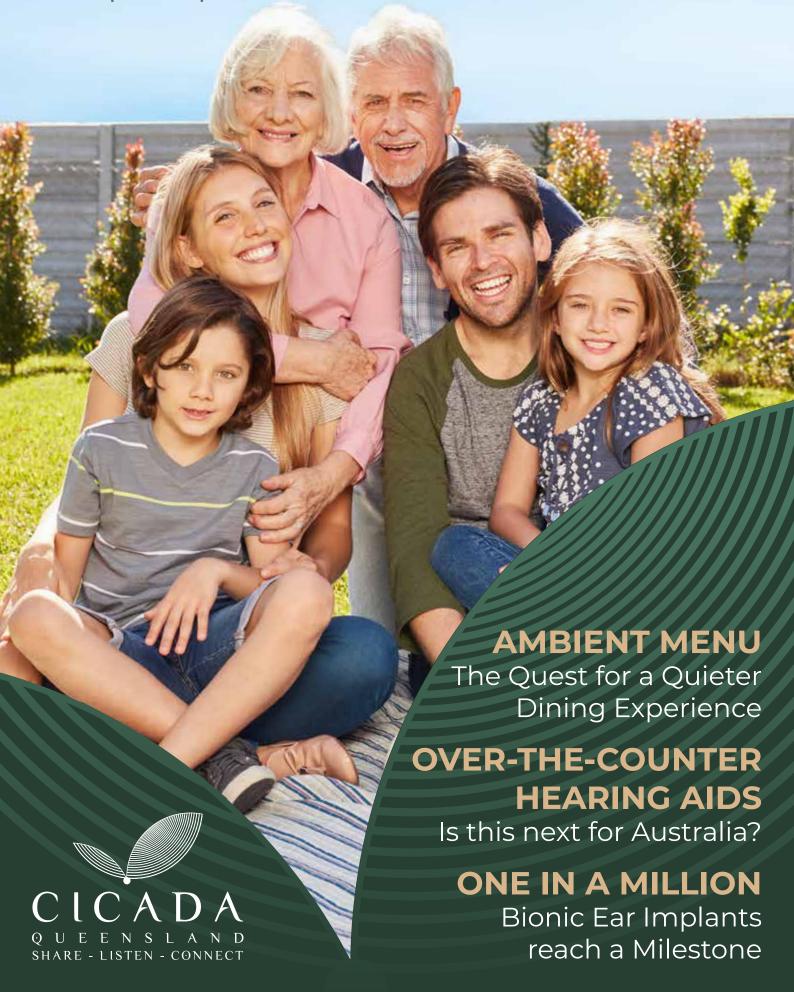
CICADA CHORUS

SHARE | LISTEN | CONNECT

SPRING 2022





Bilateral Cochlear Implants

If one is good, are two better?

Most cochlear implant (CI) candidates consider getting implants in both ears at some point during the evaluation process.

If you are curious if having two implants is right for you, we invite you to scan the QR code to learn more, and hear from both experts and recipients.



If you have any questions, our team of local experts are here to support you.

- Erica Caiuby Clinical Services Manager Erica.Caiuby@medel.com
- Helen Court Clinical Specialist Helen.Court@medel.com
- Rebecca Claridge Rehabilitation Manager Rebecca.Claridge@medel.com

1300 744 782





PRESIDENTS DESK



What an incredible season we're in, there is simply too much happening right now within our amazing association to sum it all up simply in this short letter.

Firstly, I would like to welcome Deborah Bordin and Laura Drexler to our committee, and also send a huge thank you to Samantha Stockwell for all that she has achieved in her time as treasurer. If you would like to read both Deborah and Laura's bio's please check out our committee

page on the website. They both bring amazing skills and passion to our committee and we are so privileged to welcome them.

Behind the scenes there has been an incredible amount of hours and administration work taking place to establish and strengthen our corporate infrastructure. It has taken over 12 months but CICADA Qld is now officially recognized as a Google not-for-profit. This status alone opens the doors to new opportunities and tools which will benefit every member.

Our new corporate image and logo have been met with incredible favor, not only from members but also our corporate Partners, and I want to thank you all for the positive feedback you have given.

It is also very exciting to announce that we have received grant funding which will equip us not only with some much-needed technology, but also the ability to expand into targeted regional areas where there is much need for support for those with a hearing loss and Cochlear implants. We are working closely with manufacturers and audiologists in those regions to see something established very soon.

A special welcome goes out to all of our new members and the huge thank you to the many of you who have been members for years. I look forward to meeting those of you who I have not met in the near future, at a meetup, or alternatively please feel free to contact me online if you would like to connect via video calls with live captioning provided.

John Ross, President

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pushproductions.com.au

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AMBIENT MENU

As much as we love dining out with friends, sometimes the background noise interferes with our conversation around the table. This leads to missing parts of the conversation, asking for repeats, and exhaustion from straining to hear. You want to see your friends, but you want to hear them too, right? The Ambient Menu is coming to Queensland to help you with that.



A webapp* that guides people to quieter restaurants where they can connect and be social without straining to hear. We take the 'din' out of dining out. We're here to connect people to restaurants that offer a quieter dining environment without compromising on great food and service. A researchinspired, science-based restaurant rating website that takes the guesswork out of where to eat.

It's a worldwide first, currently active in South Australia and is about to be launched on the Sunshine Coast, Queensland. We are building a community, a network of quiet restaurants / cafes / pubs, where diners leave reviews based on ambient noise, food and service. Diners share their knowledge about their local quiet restaurant on the network, so others can be informed before dining in on the level of background noise.

*webapp; a website that can be saved to your smartphone home screen, so it can be used as an app.

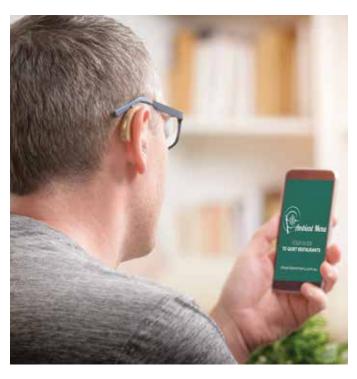
How it Works?

Ambient Menu is a restaurant guide like no other. Venues are systematically rated by diners based on three key criteria:

- 1. Ease of Conversation
- 2. Quality of Food
- 3. Customer Service

The reviews play a huge role in solving the puzzle of finding an Ambient Restaurant. Providing information about your 'favourite place' that is conversation-friendly can allow others to learn about the background noise level they may encounter before dining in.

Like any other rating site it relies on user generated content, and our community looks at your comments when deciding where to go for dinner. Ratings are what give our network its benefits - that



is where the value lies. Then, the webapp will work not only for you but for many others who experience the same frustrations in lively restaurants.

What is Ambient Menu Accreditation?

Venues that offer delicious food, attentive service, and an ambience that allows easy conversation can apply for Ambient Menu Accreditation.

Accreditation is based on science, not solely diners' opinions. We rate the venue against our patented scientific, research inspired acoustic criteria. Accreditation includes educating the venue on which tables and nights are best for conversation. Then, if anyone books through the Ambient Menu, they are aware of the fact they are sensitive to noise so can be seated accordingly.

What our community is saying

Stephen M: "The objectives of Ambient Menu appeal to me, as I know of no other way to find out in advance if new restaurants will suit my particular noise preferences... I would rather not be the 'grumpy old man' who leaves restaurants or asks (politely) for music to be turned down. I prefer to know what to expect up-front and enjoy my meal and a chat without concerns... After all, you visit a restaurant and pay good money for an experience. Why experience a less than optimal lunch or dinner, if you can avoid it with a simple search on Ambient Menu?"

Sarah L: "We visited this beautiful venue on Friday on your recommendation. Thanks so much, everything was stunning, food, service and atmosphere."

Laura, the Ambient Menu creator, initially created the Ambient Menu for her patients. But since launching last year, we have found that many families are using the site and anyone who doesn't want their dinner conversation drowned out by rowdy diners. Date nights, business meetings, families with neurodiverse children, and

multigenerational families regularly use our search function. Surprisingly, we discovered that people also use our search function to locate a livelier venue to dine in before their night really gets going.

#EarBudHotTips

CICADAs President, John Ross, and your patron Dr Tegan Keogh, President of Independent Audiologists Australia Inc., are Ambient Menu 'Ear Buds'. They assist the Ambient Menu posts 'Q tips' (quiet tips), about a local restaurant on our social media platforms advising diners where the best place to sit in that venue is. 'Q tips' are for venues that may be considering accreditation, or they may not be eligible as they are moderate / lively in ambience, but the food and service is fantastic. There is always one seat in the house that is more conversation friendly than others. This way, someone who is noise sensitive but really wants to dine at a place that is lively in volume, can still put the odds in their favour.

Ambient Menu Ear Buds are people with acoustic knowledge (Audiologists / Audiometrists / Interior Designers with Acoustic Training / Audio Industry professionals) who use their skills, to help you find the best seat in the house.

Origins Story

Whilst doing her Masters research project, Laura's team investigated shared-eating events and if hearing loss affected these gatherings. When questioned, all participants talked about noisy restaurants and cafes. They found their hearingimpairment in conjunction with background noise affected the interaction. They were left out of conversation or missed components of speech. This severely reduced their enjoyment of dining out, and often left feeling exhausted.

The food was a motive for getting together and restaurants / cafes was where they would meet friends to catch up. However, they found their hearing impairment in conjunction with large groups of people and background noise affected the interaction. They were left out of conversation, missing components of speech or required more repeats. This did not cause them to withdraw from these shared eating events, but it severely reduced their enjoyment of them, and often left feeling exhausted.

This research project inspired the creation of the Ambient Menu. Laura is still assisting the Masters of Audiology Research project, now in its third year, but now as a supervisor with Professor John Coveney and Dr Karen Patterson.

Rewards Program

We have teamed up with The Card Network to reward the diners who help us, to help others. The more ratings mean we can guide more people to conversation-friendly restaurants. This not only helps the Ambient Menu Community be able to afford dining out, it also supports restaurants return to normal after social distancing restrictions.



LAURA DREXLER

Hi. My name is Laura Drexler and I'm the creator of the Ambient Menu. I currently work as an Audiologist, and I am partway through my acoustic consultant qualification. also struggle to hear speech in

background noise due to auditory processing difficulties. So, I not only treat my community and guide them to quiet restaurants, but I am also my audience and I use the website whenever I dine out.

Whilst doing my Master's Research project in 2019, the team investigated the topic of commensality, the act of sharing a meal with others. This is something close to my heart because I love food, my friends, good conversation, and enjoy these things together. I wanted all my patients to enjoy it too and what I discovered during the research project led me to create the Ambient Menu website, so they could.

I now work part-time at an Independent Audiology Clinic, another day with an Ear Nose and Throat Specialist, plus running the Ambient Menu, plus as a fitness instructor, plus working for SA Ambulance (but now as a casual Ambulance officer. 25 years in the emergency services was enough).

The biggest love is my family, food, and creating memories with the special people in my life. I'm hoping the Ambient Menu will give others the opportunity to do that too.



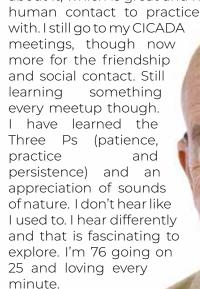
RICK'S JOURNEY

Three and a half years ago I was 73, ill and almost totally socially isolated because of my deafness and years of caring for my late wife (dementia). I overcame the illness and determined to deal with the deafness that happened to me over 35 years. I was frustrated with audiologists who always had a set of expensive hearing aids that would help. They did not. I set about investigating the whole issue

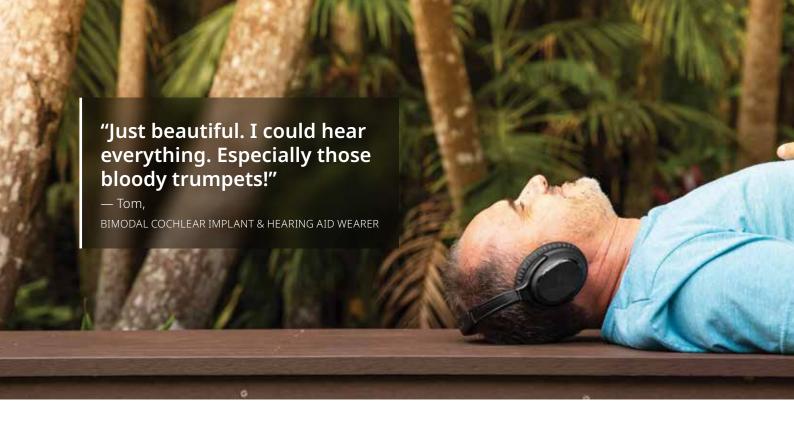
"I now have a life and am able to interact with others in almost any environment."

and discovered that "audiologists ain't audiologists Sol" like the old Castrol ad. I searched for the highest qualified, independent audiologist I could find and went to see her. Independent audiologists have no connection to any manufacturer and can provide what you need, rather than only what they contract to sell. She did the testing and said that she could give me expensive hearing aids but would not do so as they would not help for very long. I was profoundly deaf and she felt that I would benefit from a cochlear implant (this was always talked down by the hearing aid selling brigade). We discussed it and she pointed me at sources to look at, CI users to talk to (CICADA Queensland) and surgeons to consider. I used the internet and personally researched the various CI makers and the various ENT surgeons, finally deciding on the Cochlear brand, as it suited my lifestyle, and a highly experienced surgeon. I did the testing and was scheduled for surgery within three months. The operation went well with minimal side effects and very manageable pain. I was activated seven days later. I am bimodal with a compatible Resound hearing aid and my CI. The event was life changing for me. I heard straight away, understanding speech and I was able to determine gender and individuals within gender. They sounded "normal"ish. I heard without even looking at them. They seemed very happy and,

I admit it, I cried with relief. Then I went outside. What a noisy place the world is! I had no idea. It took a few months for me to really come to terms with hearing this way and I had a number of mapping sessions. In hindsight I think some of that was because of unrealistic expectations and impatience on my part. I was assiduous in doing rehabilitation training using audiobooks, TedTalks and some apps. After two months I was able to use my mobile phone and listen to TV via the TV streamer. Now, three years later, I watch and listen to TV unaided, and I can follow conversation in groups and difficult acoustic environments (like Mens Shed), although it is very hard work! I have learned to use the various controls like sensitivity, volume, forward focus to enhance my hearing experience depending on the situation. Music, unfortunately, is still a bit difficult but is improving with time. I am listening to "Night Jazz" on YouTube as I type! Interestingly, my speech perception in noisy places improves when I wear hearing protection! Big lesson there! I now have a life and am able to interact with others in almost any environment. I am proud of my processor and don't hide it (can't, I'm bald!). Really, if you've got it, flaunt it! It's like having a dog, people stop me to ask about it, which is great and more







Enjoy music, the way the artist intended

Music should be heard as the artist intended, so it's frustrating when it doesn't sound the way it should.

People with hearing loss are choosing Audeara personalised headphones to give joy and fulfilment to their chosen entertainment. Whether that's watching a favourite TV show, FaceTiming family or listening to music.

Purposefully designed to improve your listening experience when connected to any Bluetooth device, Audeara headphones use a health-check algorithm to personalise sound to your unique hearing profile.

Packed with features like noise cancelling, Bluetooth, and made with superior durability, Audeara headphones are suitable for all types of hearing loss and compatible with cochlear implants and hearing aids.

audeara.com

Support Australian owned







OVER-THE-COUNTER



The issue of purchasing hearing over-the-counter aids something that will eventually come to Australia.

In August, the Food and Drug Administration in the U.S. gave the green light to hearing aids being sold at Pharmacies and other general stores. So do we want it to happen here?

For people with deteriorating hearing loss, it could cause issues down the track. There are many causes of hearing loss which need

to be identified by a healthcare professional. Audiologists customise hearing aids to suit your specific hearing needs. Not all types of hearing loss benefit from simple amplification of sound. A quick fix over-the-counter may leave you out of pocket for only minimal benefit.

BUT, if it encourages people to get their hearing checked and allows them to be able to afford hearing aids it is a step in the right direction. Too many people ignore signs of hearing loss, but in doing so they risk losing what residual hearing perception they have. This may lead to isolation, losing touch with family, friends and workmates, so there is a plus to acknowledging hearing loss and taking action.

If you believe that you or a loved one may have a hearing loss, we recommend speaking to your audiologist or healthcare professional to determine the best course of action to meet your individual hearing needs.

Cochlear Implant System

Here to support you

Because sound matters

You may have heard about the plans to divest Oticon Medical in a recent media release. Please rest assured that we at Oticon Medical Australia and New Zealand, will do our utmost to service and support those of you living with your Oticon Medical solution during this period. If you require clinical support or have any questions, please contact us at info@oticonmedical.com.au, or reach out to your local Oticon Medical team members.



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Grethel Sanchez Programme Project



Amy Wang Marketing Manager, E: amwn@oticonmedical.com



www.oticonmedical.com/au

Tips for Understanding Conversation in Small Groups.



Brought to you by MED-EL's Rehab at Home for Adults video series.



Photo Credit: MED-EL. Cochlear implant recipient and CICADA member Mary-Jane and her husband Nick.

CICADA member Mary-Jane's hearing loss in one ear was caused by Meniere's disease. She made the decision to get a cochlear implant when her ENT surgeon explained that her other ear could be affected in the future leaving her totally deaf. Mary-Jane is training her brain to understand speech using her cochlear implant by doing auditory training direct to her implant.

You can watch how she does it in the lastest epsidode of MED-EL's

Rehab at Home for Adults video series.

Scan the QR code to watch.

Try These Tips

Try some of these to help you achieve the goal of understanding conversation in small groups (3 to 5 people).

To Get Started

- Invite 2 or 3 friends over to your home and let them know you are practicing listening in small groups.
- Reduce background noise by turning off the TV and radio or any other noises.
- Decide on a familiar topic and ask one person to speak at a time.
- Use a variety of questions to check you have understood correctly.

As You Progress

- Invite a small group (3-5) of friends or family over to your home and let them know that you are practicing listening in small groups.
- Reduce background noise and have a conversation about a topic unknown to you.
- Play a card game or a board game together.

Once You're Almost There

- Meet a group of friends or family in a public place.
- Let them know that you are practicing listening in small groups.
- Ask for a table away from any noise sources & choose a seat that allows you to see everyone.
- Begin with topics you have decided on, then try unknown topics.

For more great tips, head to the MED-EL Blog (blog.medel.com)



Soomaiya's

Bilateral Journey
Soomaiya (photo left)
features throughout the
Rehab at Home video
series. She will be
receiving her second
cochlear implant later this
year, and is looking
forward to hearing
bilaterally for the first
time since losing her
hearing in her late 20s.



Your clients can personalise and secure their hearing devices with confidence.

DEAFMETAL® design a range of jewellery and accessories to empower people of all ages who have hearing loss.

Functionally, they stop hearing aids from falling off or becoming displaced.

Emotionally, they **empower hearing aid** and cochlear implant wearers to wear their devices in styles fitting their unique personalities.

Hearing Care Professionals in Australia and New Zealand can now offer their clients a fantastic range of jewellery that will deliver **increased acceptance and confidence** in wearing their hearing devices.

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It's extremely easy to start offering DEAFMETAL to clients within your Hearing Centre or ENT Practice.

It starts with ordering your DEAFMETAL Sales Kit, which includes a poster, display stand, catalogue, and a small inventory of our most popular lines.

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DEAFMETAL Australia

Phone: +61 8 8272 9862 Email: contact@deafmetalau.com

Address: PO Box 110, Daw Park SA 5041, Australia





KONNEKT PHONE WINS OVER **ROBIN AND DES**



Robin lives alone in the remote Queensland Tablelands. She has only 10% hearing, in one ear.

Thanks to the Konnekt-Telstra Program, Robin replaced her legacy captioning phone fast.

Quick and Easy Installation

The Konnekt phone was unboxed and connected to power. Robin didn't want Bluetooth. She chose the optional handset rather than going hands-free.

Konnekt had configured automatic wireless Internet connection. Nothing more to do!

Lip Reading, One-Touch Calling and Dial-Pad

Son Brad installed the free Skype app on his own mobile. Robin presses "Brad" to call him via video. She can read his lips and see him smile! If Brad isn't on Skype, it rings his phone number.

Konnekt also set up buttons for Robin's GP and audiologist for telehealth, a takeaway, vet, taxi, 000 and Konnekt. Most people have 10-30 contacts and

a Phone button to dial others, and prefer larger text. Inbound calls ring, flash and show the caller. A remote alert is optional. Missed calls can go to your mobile's visual voicemail. The optional auto-answer for trusted callers has saved a life, but Robin didn't want it.

"There really is no other viable option. It is the best service out there."

Recommended for impaired hearing

"The Captioning Videophone is perfect for me, very clear. I would recommend it to other people with impaired hearing." - Desmond S (64), Quorn, SA.

CICADA Secretary uses a Konnekt

Penny has started using her Videophone and is showing it to others in CICADA. Konnekt staff report that she is delighted with Konnekt's support.

We hope for Penny's review in the next CHORUS!



The new way for people of all ages to connect

CAPTIONING VIDEOPHONE





- Mum and the boys will be over to see you on Sunday.
- Captions: Auto-corrected, no operator listening
- Video call option: read lips and facial expressions
- Easy to use: One touch to call or answer
- Big buttons, adjustable text, large touchscreen
- Adjustable sound, handset & Bluetooth options
- Konnekt set-up, lifetime service and support

\$5/month Konnekt-Telstra Program: Includes all calls, no more to pay.

Fund via NDIS, MyAgedCare, DVA or JobAccess EAF.

konnekt.com.au/cap 1300 851 823

(F)))) EAR TO THE GROUND...



FRASER COAST

I'm sure all CICADIANS are as pleased as I am to welcome Spring at long last.

The cold, unpredictable weather has kept many from attending over the past months.

However, in August we welcomed two new people from Childers.

We shared the various phone apps we used for speech to text. Some were surprised that the iPhone and Android phones have different apps. A good learning experience for many.

The Fraser Coasters also enjoyed a Presentation, in July, by Karen Lovelock from Cochlear.

Hearing Australia will be holding a Presentation on 7th September. The information on their Clients entitlements will be very informative. I'm sure that their display and demonstration of Assistive Devices will be of great interest to everyone.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank CICADA Secretary, Penny, for her updates and the interest she takes in all the CICADA Support Groups. Thank you Penny, you are very much appreciated.

If you are holidaying on our beautiful Fraser Coast you are very welcome to join us on the first Wednesday of each month.



DARLING DOWNS

The meetup was attended by a total of eight, two of whom were partners.

Held at the Picnic Point Cafe Restaurant, it was a little noisy and most noted that, but all agreed that it is normal and something we need to deal with

Everyone adjusted and conversations flowed easily around the table. In the group was a recent recipient and he has adjusted outstandingly. He told us the first month he had this intense feeling of regret but is increasingly accepting. I would not be surprised if at the next meetup he'll report it was the best decision he'd made. Another was due to receive her implant in a few days and was understandably anxious. The group gave her every assurance and wished her all the best. Again, I'm really looking forward to seeing how she fares the next time we meet.

We welcomed one new member who had been attempting to attend since the beginning of the year. She brought a renewed energy and vibrancy to the group, and I'm pleased she has managed to attend and hope she will be able to become more regular. Her story of her journey was sobering, and most could relate. It's a nice group of friends. We all connected and were able to share both our experiences and give support as well as simply socialising.

I like the general environment and atmosphere that restaurants bring, but we need to find a slightly less challenging one. All suggestions welcomed.



SUNSHINE COAST

The last few months have been hectic but very. successful. Lots of positive changes to CICADA QLD with new Brochures and Posters available, which have been met with lots of congratulations for everything!

The Sunshine Coast group grow as more and more people

itself continues to grow as more and more people gravitate to a Cochlear Implant and we have opened to anyone with a hearing loss. All are welcome!

We continue to meet at the Waterfront, the room is set up well for us, with carpets and all the right equipment for presentations.

Karen Lovelock from Cochlear Ltd joined us to present their new Rehabilitation app. Thank you Karen. On the day also, as a first, we had an Auslan Interpreter to sign for those members who use Auslan - this was very welcomed. Thank you Kylie, you did an amazing job.

Hearing Australia joined us for an information session on what the Government services can offer you and how to register to become a client, which will provide you with free batteries along with other technology equipment if you are eligible.

Finally, in August, Julie from Hear Check attended and showed us some Phonak equipment which could help us hear better in group situations. One such piece was the Soundfield which many members raved about as the speech perception was brilliant. We are hoping to purchase one of our own complete with neck loops for those without a T switch, so watch this space.

What would you like to hear about next?

It is your group, and we want to support you in any way we can, so please let us know!

Suggestions are always welcome, so fire away!

NEWS AND EVENTS ((

GOLD COAST

Important Update: The Gold Coast Group will now be meeting once a month at the Able Centre, 13 Sykes Court, Southport on the last Thursday of the month starting at 10.00am to 12.00pm instead of a fortnightly meet up.

Kerry Campbell will be on hand and looks forward to support from the Gold Coast CICADA QLD members.

Until new contact details are confirmed please contact Penny on secretary@cicadagld.com.au or text 0421 328 909 for more details.





BRISBANE

CICADA Qld has continued to meet in our two usual locations in Brisbane. The Dragonfly cafe in Carseldine for midweek morning tea, and The Garden Room at Roma Street Parklands for our Sunday social gatherings. We've been delighted to meet some new faces and it is always great to catch up with CICADA members from across Brisbane and beyond!

See the Website for coming Brisbane dates.



WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Hello from Cicada in WA! The easing of Covid restrictions is making life a bit easier however the usual winter ailments are around and masks are still a 'facial adornment' for many. Our small group meets monthly, and our move into the Perth City Community Centre has proved very beneficial. The room has a hearing loop plus electronic resources available which has enabled power-point presentations with subtitles, and is a real asset for guest presenters.

This year we have had two excellent presentations covering advancing technology with remotes, streamers and apps and other assistive devices, and the importance of rehabilitation post cochlear surgery, as well as an update on NDIS and CSO's. A recent social event was a trip to Mandurah where we enjoyed a fish-n-chip lunch on the Mandurah estuary – and a perfect playground for a dolphin or three! So lovely to see this. Another social outing is planned for next month when we head in a different direction for a tasty pub lunch.

The Perth City Community Centre is on the upper concourse of the Perth railway station complex. We meet on the third Wednesday of each month - except December and January when we have a summer break. Our group has a small conference room from 9am until 1pm - however meetings usually begin around 10.30am, but we can be flexible to work in with any guest presentations. The Community Centre has a cafeteria style dining room with a varied menu, and members have the opportunity to "lunch before they leave" after a meeting.

MUSIC TO MY EARS

A CICADA Queensland member recently wrote to us...

"I rang the bank and I couldn't really understand the man [on the phone]... trying to guess what he said didn't work and I stumbled along with it until he said (I think) he would put me on to someone else. So I am waiting and waiting to speak to someone else but I could hear music very faintly... I waited some more until I got fed up and I hung up... only to hear the faint music still in my ears. Yes, that is what Musical Ear Syndrome sounds like! If it had been louder I would have known that! And I probably would have sung along with it...

The joys of being deaf, you hear such funny things."

Hearing loss can often coincide with other less-desirable auditory conditions such as tinnitus (ringing in the ears); hyperacusis (increased sensitivity to, and discomfort from, everyday sounds); and recruitment (the intolerance of a perceived loud volume of sound - for example, we might not hear someone call us until we suddenly do and it feels uncomfortably loud).

But have you heard of Musical Ear Syndrome? This unusual condition describes the presence of auditory hallucinations in the form of music or singing, which may be linked to hearing loss. A 2020 study found a high number of cochlear implant recipients had experienced this phenomenon. (https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/33257264/).

We'd love to know if you have experienced any unusual sounds as a result of hearing loss. To find out more about some of the auditory conditions mentioned, check out CICADA Queensland President John's Vlog at: https://youtu.be/n1jzKRKnFQI

And remember, always chat to your hearing care professional or GP if you are worried about any unusual symptoms.

ONE

Cochlear implants have reached a huge milestone. According to an article published by the Acoustical Society of America, the world has now surpassed the one millionth cochlear implantation!

Cochlear implants have come a long way. From old-school speech processors worn on the body to the latest off-the ear marvels, innovations in hearing technology have made the world around us more accessible than ever.

But what does the future hold? Fully implantable cochlear implants? Restoring hearing through advanced DNA therapy?

Whatever it brings, we at CICADA Queensland are proud to be part of this remarkable story!

For the full article head to: ASA Express Letters 2, 077201 (2022); https://doi.org/10.1121/10.0012825

DO YOU WANT TO KNOW:

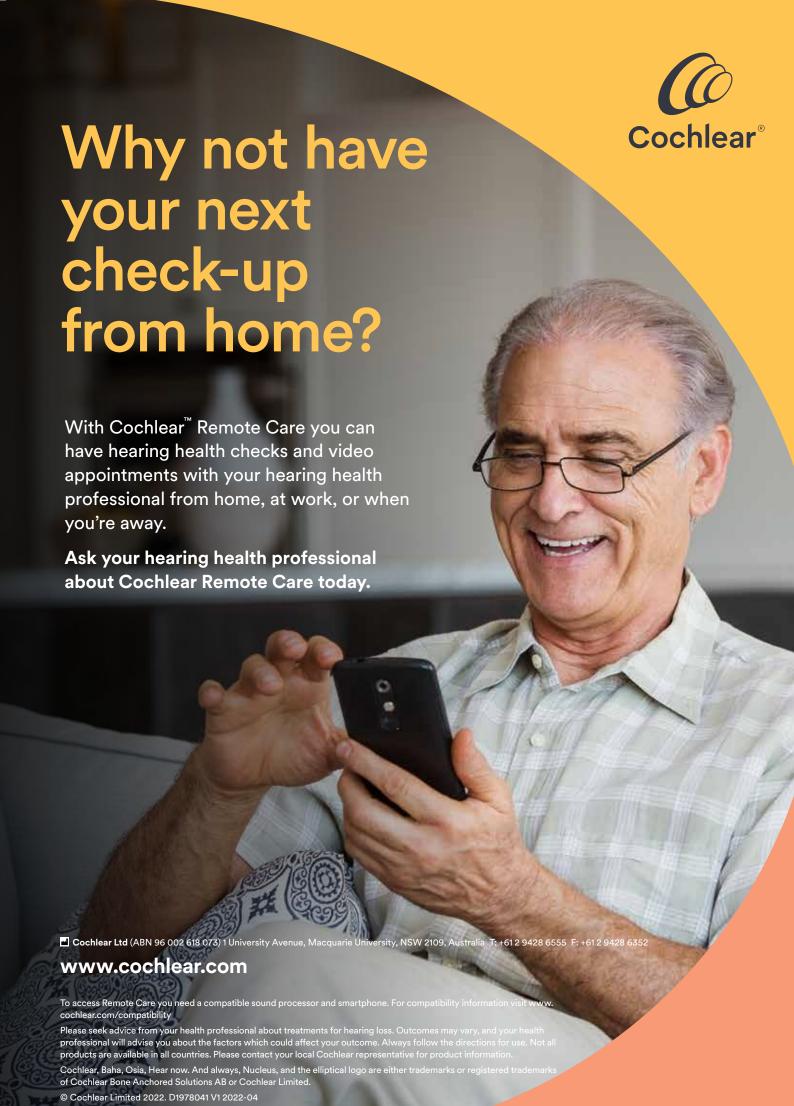
All about a Cochlear Implant

Meet with someone face to face and ask those burning questions before committing to a Cochlear Implant.

Have a chat by video call with someone who understands the personal journey. or meet up at your home or local café.

Just make contact and find out more... we are here to help.







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WHO WE ARE

CICADA Queensland is a completely independent, not-for-profit organisation staffed by volunteers.

We support people from all walks of life who have been affected by hearing loss, including current and prospective cochlear implant recipients and hearing aid users. Whether you identify as Deaf or Hard of Hearing, use Auslan or spoken language as your primary method of communication, or simply need some support for yourself, family or friends, CICADA Queensland is here to help you navigate this journey!

VISION STATEMENT

To ensure all Queenslanders, of all ages affected by hearing loss or considering or using Cochlear implants, and their families are supported and informed.

MISSION STATEMENT

To provide education, rehabilitation support and opportunities for social engagement in a community to all people with hearing loss or those considering or using cochlear implants, including their friends and family.



Would you like to host a CICADA Qld group in your local area?

Can you spare a few hours a month to hold a regular MeetUp? We are looking for friendly, outgoing people with a passion for supporting people with hearing loss,

cochlear implant users and prospective cochlear implant recipients.

Good with technology? We need volunteers to assist with social media, graphic design, digital content and technical assistance. Are you a business with a venue or room suitable for our MeetUps? If any of the above apply, please contact us.



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OUR PARTNERS







