

Presidents Report ~ AGM 2022/23

Dear Members,

Throughout the 2022-23 financial year, CICADA Queensland has achieved significant growth.

Our membership continues to grow thanks to raised awareness and medical professional support. Membership is now at the highest level it has been. What is more exciting is that the median age of our members is also becoming lower and more consistent with the actual median age of cochlear implant recipients throughout Queensland.

This has been primarily achieved through the production of print material, the provision of rehabilitation seminars and support group assistance given to audiologists and hospitals throughout Queensland, all made possible with our ongoing support from our partnership with Cochlear Implant manufacturers as well as grant funding received from Queensland Health.

CICADA Queensland is hosting and has scheduled ongoing Rehabilitation seminars across Queensland targeting a variety of Hearing Loss issues and also supporting all of the various brands of Cochlear Implants and assistive technology devices thus providing vital information and assistance to those who need it.



New Support Groups

This year we have seen new groups meeting on a regular basis in Townsville, and new casual groups with growing interest in Bundaberg, Mackay and Gympie.

Regional Disability Expo's

Thanks to the grant funding we were able to achieve a Queensland First, representing cochlear implant and hearing loss support and awareness throughout the state. We have attended Bundaberg, Cairns, Townsville, Mackay, Rockhampton, Fraser Coast, Sunshine Coast and Toowoomba.





AUDA23

We were also able to present at the Australian Audiology Conference (AUDA) on the Gold Coast in May.

New Equipment

The recent purchase of sound reinforcement equipment that is compatible with hearing aids and cochlear implants. This system will provide a greater listening experience to those with a hearing loss. They also will assist with providing live captions in public meetings.

This system will eventually be made available to all our groups having special events around Queensland.



Presence

We were also present at other Expos and events throughout the year. Our face value presence in Queensland reached thousands of people interested in Hearing Loss. We do get to see this both in membership growth and also the traffic we receive on our website and other forms of media.

Special Thanks

Our need to express my gratitude and thanks to our team.

Firstly our Coordinators, without you the backbone of who we are and what we do would not be possible.

Our Committee, we are so lucky to have a team of committee members who all bring something to the table. Our growth is a reflection of their commitment.

Making a difference

Thank you for helping raise awareness, and providing support not only to each other but also to those in Queensland who need it.

As a member you are part of the success story that continues to grow as CICADA Queensland.

Yours sincerely

John Ross
President