



## WELCOME

The Southern Hearing Charitable Trust have had a busy few months. After negotiations with the Ministry the Trust received funding for several upgrades. Unfortunately it is likely that we will not receive the normal one off funding that we have received in the past. This is partly due to the recession. We will continue to lobby for extra funding. The Annual General Meeting is next month and we look forward to meeting clients and staff who wish to attend.

David Kent  
Chairman  
Southern Hearing Charitable Trust

Notice of  
**Annual General Meeting**

To be held in: Conference Room  
Ministry of Education Rooms  
39 Princess Street, CHRISTCHURCH

On:

**Wednesday 16 September 2009 at 7.30 pm**

Proposed Agenda  
Apologies  
Minutes of 2008 AGM  
Matters Arising  
Chairman's Report  
Finance Report  
Election of Trustees  
General Business

RSVP to: Lisa Scott

c/- Southern Cochlear Implant Programme  
Ph. 0800 500 405, Email: [shctrust@xtra.co.nz](mailto:shctrust@xtra.co.nz)

*Tea and Coffee will be served afterwards*

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**LOUD SHIRT DAY**  
**FRIDAY 18.09.09**  
**Register now!**



## ADULT PROGRAMME UPDATE

By Lisa Scott

The first half of this year has once again been busy. We have enjoyed the addition of new clients public and private, this includes the clients that have transferred over from Bay Audiology. Bay Audiology have ceased working with Cochlear Implants. Also young adults that have transferred over to our programme from the Paediatric Programme.

The staff at the adult programme have been very busy with clinical work and also their ongoing education. Leonard Healy travelled to clinics in England for practical experience and Austria to attend a training course both focusing on MED-EL products and found this very valuable. Beth Kempen has also been attending training course's in both Sydney (MED-EL) and Melbourne (Advanced troubleshooting) Penny Monteath attended an Adult rehabilitation course in Tampa, Florida and there is a detailed report regarding this later on in the newsletter. Penny will also travel in August / September to a course in Denmark.

We are excited to announce the first Hybrid implantee. This is a new technology. It is a shorter implant and intended to preserve low frequency hearing. The implantee wears a special hearing aid and speech processor on the same ear. Only a few cases have been done in Australasia as yet.

Loud Shirt day is approaching and we hope that you all get out your loudest shirt and raise some funds to support habilitation for the paediatric programme.

We would like to congratulate Leonard Healy in raising the most money in the Annual Muster 09 event in which he competed. The painting he won for his effort is on display in our waiting area, so feel free to come and have a look.

The funding from the Ministry is not looking as good as it has in past years, mainly due to the recession. This means there will be less adults implanted this coming year. We will continue to work alongside the Southern Hearing Charitable Trust in lobbying the government for more funding.

From the staff at SCIPA we hope you enjoy this newsletter and if you have anything you would like to submit please contact us at any time.



### Paediatric Programme Update

By Neil Heslop, MNZAS-CCC

Audiologist/Manager (Paediatric)

Welcome to the Spring edition of the paediatric programme Newsletter for 2009.

Loud Shirt Day is again approaching and the date this year will be **Friday 18 September**. Those who registered for L.S.D. last year should have received an e-mail from the organizing committee inviting them to re-register. If you haven't, please visit <http://www.loudshirtday.co.nz> for details of this year's event.

A significant number of the children on the programme have this year "graduated" to the adult programme. The paediatric programme provides care to children until 18 years of age after which services are provided by our adult programme. To this point we have generally had 3 or 4 each year move to the adult programme but this year between 10 and 15 people have transferred. Current numbers in the paediatric programme are now in the order of 128, while adult programme numbers are now in excess of 200. Despite transfer of children to the adult programme we continue to be busy. Each year we provide well in excess of the 15 "base" implants funded by the Ministry of Health.

An increasing role of the programme is in the education of others who work with children with cochlear implants. As well as outreach visits provided (mostly) by Donna and Joanne, we also provide in-service training to Teachers of the Deaf, Audiologists, Audiology students, and others. These training and support roles ensure that people in the child's own region have the skills they need.

Shirley Marshall who was been working 3 days per week since returning from maternity leave has increased to 4 days per week since late July. In 2008 Jill Mustard left the paediatric programme to take a sabbatical in the UK. Jill will return to her role here from the beginning of 2010. Donna Sperandio has also decided to embark on a sabbatical in the UK and will take a leave of absence in 2010. This will mean that Joanne Lake will remain with the programme until Donna's return.

The review of habilitation services continues but for the moment it has ground to a halt with the resignation of Mark Hutton at the Ministry of Education. We have not been advised who his replacement will be. We have been waiting on the Ministry to produce a document on implementation of the review. We will keep you informed.

We hope you find the Newsletter useful.



**Postgraduate Scholarship for  
Deaf or Hearing Impaired Graduates**

**Value \$15,000**

**Closing Date 30 September 2009**

The Quest for Excellence Postgraduate Scholarship will be awarded to a New Zealand graduate whose hearing impairment affects his or her ability to communicate and who, as a result, has had to overcome great odds. Its principal purpose is the pursuit of excellence.

One scholarship will be awarded annually.

The Quest for Excellence Scholarship is awarded by the National Foundation for the Deaf (NFD).

Visit [www.nfd.org.nz](http://www.nfd.org.nz) for eligibility criteria, conditions and application forms.

For more information  
Phone 0800 867 446 / TTY 09 307 2922  
Email [enquiries@nfd.org.nz](mailto:enquiries@nfd.org.nz)





## I love to Dance!

**Have you seen Dancing with the Stars? Who was your favourite couple? Did they win? What charity did they support?**

**Hi my name is Bradley McKenzie, I'm 12 years old and I've been dancing for just over 2 years. I do Ballroom, Latin and New Vogue. I recently started dancing with my dance partner called Emily Kendal, and we've been dancing together just over 3 months. So far we've done well with lots of placings and we've won a trophy for our New Vogue. My partner and I have the NZ Nationals coming up in September, this year it will be held in Christchurch.**

**My favourite dance is the Cha-Cha. The club I belong to is called Dance Club Canterbury. My two coaches are Robin who teaches us our Latin, & Robyn teaches us Ballroom and New Vogue. I also do medal classes. At the moment I'm working on my Silver Latin Medal.**



Emily Kendal and Bradley McKenzie

**Recently I have been using the FM through the sound system, this has been much better as I can now hear the music a lot clearer as well as the words in the music.**

**I go to the dance studio three times a week, I love to dance. In fact I dance anywhere and everywhere, I dance all around the house - while I'm cleaning my teeth, doing the dishes - luckily I haven't broken anything....yet!**

**By Bradley McKenzie**



## Chelsey Collins

Chelsey attends Edmond Smith Street Kindergarten, she is loving kindy and playing with the children, especially a wee girl called Chloe. Chelsey likes joining in at music time and is starting to dance. She is understanding lots of phrases now, and has around four words that she is using regularly. Chelsey likes to ask her Mum to "Open" boxes and containers. Chelsey, who is four and half, has had her implant for 20 months, and turns when she hears her name called.





## Latest happenings in the habilitation programme

2009 has been a busy year for the paediatric programme. Two significant new initiatives are underway.

### Workshop Series "Developing Spoken Language through Audition"

This year, a workshop series comprising of seven workshops is being delivered by the paediatric team at the Southern Cochlear Implant Programme. Participants include Resource Teachers of the Deaf, Advisers on Deaf Children and Speech Language Therapists. The aim of the workshop series is to improve the understanding and skills of staff who work with children with cochlear implants throughout the region served by the Southern Cochlear Implant Programme.

Each workshop is first delivered to local participants in Christchurch. A DVD recording is made of the workshop which is then produced and sent to participants working in other areas of the country. Extra copies are made and kept as a resource in the van Asch Deaf Education Centre library.

Workshops cover many topics, including audiology, checking children's hearing devices, how audition and spoken language develop and how to assess auditory and spoken language development. Emphasis is on both theory and practical skills. Workshop participants are required to carry out assignments to follow on from each workshop. These assignments have included reading articles and answering questions, carrying out thorough equipment inventories for children out in mainstream settings, and videoing themselves working with students.

The workshop has been very well received so far, with many staff reporting a higher level of confidence in working in this field.

### Southern Hearing Charitable Trust Auditory-Verbal Scholarship

2009 has seen the first award of the Southern Hearing Charitable Trust Auditory-Verbal Scholarship. This scholarship has been developed by the staff of the paediatric programme and the trust members. Funds from Loud Shirt Day 2008 were used to provide the scholarship, which covered course fees, airfares and accommodation. Professionals working with children with cochlear implants were eligible to apply for the scholarship.

The scholarship provided funding for attendance at a week long course at the Hear and Say Centre in Brisbane. This centre provides training for professionals in using the auditory-verbal approach with children with a hearing loss.

A committee comprising the manager of the paediatric programme, a Habilitationist, a parent representative from the programme and a member of the trust, interviewed each applicant by phone.

The successful applicant was Helen King, a Resource Teacher of the Deaf currently working for the van Asch Deaf Education Centre. Helen was thrilled to be selected for this award. She attended the course from August 2-6. We are looking forward to hearing about her week in Brisbane on her return.

By Donna Sperandio  
Habilitationist



### NOZIFREE TELECOIL EARHOOKS

During my visit to the Conference in Tampa, Florida, I was introduced to this wonderful accessory and thought it warranted a write-up!

This gadget is a thin hook that sits behind either your implant or hearing aid.

It comes in two styles, either a single hook or a double hook. Single hook being for if you just wear an implant and double if you wear an implant plus hearing aid (with telecoil function) on the other side.

It is used with both Implant and hearing aids in Telecoil mode (either MT or T, whichever you prefer)

It has a dual purpose where you can either use them for listening to music or for talking on the phone.

### MUSIC:

Great if you enjoy listening to music on your ipod/MP3 player while cycling or jogging/walking etc. You can still hear the traffic so can keep safe which is important.

Fits comfortably even if wearing a helmet.

Far less bulky than headphones.

Sound quality is EXCELLENT. I find it as good a quality as my Denon DJ headphones which is saying something!

Great if you are a traveller and enjoy watching Movies or listening to music in flight. Doesn't cut out the drone of the engines unfortunately, but you could put headphones over top to try and reduce the noise a bit.

Need an adaptor as most planes have a double plug nowadays. These used to be sold as a separate item but after much searching, both here and in the US, I discovered that they now only come if you buy a set of headphones as well!!! You can buy them as an individual item from amazon.com but they won't ship to NZ! I know someone going to the US shortly so am going to order online, ship to a US address and get him to bring some back for me so hopefully will have a few to sell if anyone interested.

There is an Australian site which sells them individually and will ship to NZ...at a price!!

### PHONE:

These can be used on any phone (mobile or landline) as long as it has a headphone socket. The hooks come with an adaptor so will fit either a 3.5mm or 2.5mm socket.

It is effectively makes the phone "handsfree" as you do not need to talk into the phone, just the microphone which is part of the lead.

Again can be used in either MT or T position, whatever you prefer.

The signal is also nice and clear.

All in all a very handy accessory which is also well priced. We are in the process of stocking these here at the Clinic.

\$60 for single hook

\$75 for double hook

For further information or if you are interested in purchasing one, feel free to contact me. If you are passing through Christchurch and would like a demo am also happy to oblige!!

Penny Monteath  
Adult CI Rehabilitationist





## 5<sup>th</sup> International Adult Aural Rehabilitation Conference

Tampa, Florida March 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> 2009

By Penny Monteath

I recently had the opportunity to attend this conference which was held on campus at the University of South Florida in Tampa.

In past years, it has been held in Portland Maine but was decided to move to a warmer climate which certainly was appreciated by those from the Northern Hemisphere!

There were approx 50-60 delegates representing 9 countries which made for meeting individuals much easier.

Geoff Plant who is very well known and respected in the field of aural rehabilitation was our compere for the 3 days ensuring that our speakers kept to time, most essential as it was a very full programme. As Geoff said, the depth and range of the papers give great hope for a future where the whole person is considered and catered for, and audiology extends well beyond testing and fitting.

There were 4 invited speakers with Arthur Boothroyd giving the Keynote address along with 31 others presenting papers on a wide range of topics.

Arthurs keynote address was on Improving Speech understanding by Increasing Time on Task-Evidence of Benefit?

In speech understanding a listener uses sensory evidence, contextual evidence, knowledge and skill to make a best guess about a talker's message. Adults with hearing loss need to modify or increase skill in order to deal with decreased sensory evidence. Research suggests that "time on task" is a key to success. For some individuals, everyday interactions are enough. Others need to supplement everyday interactions with formal training. Research shows that such training leads to improvements on trained tasks with some evidence of carry over to untrained tasks. The major challenge for researchers in this field, however, is to show that formal training in speech understanding leads to enhanced participation and quality of life .

Harvey Dillion who is director of Research at the National Acoustic Laboratories in Australia gave the first presentation . His topic was : Derivation of the NAL-NL2 prescription procedure for hearing aids: How does hearing loss diminish speech understanding?

While hearing impaired people want many things out of their hearing aids, for most people, understanding speech without discomfort from excessively loud sounds is paramount.

The NAL-NL2 prescription has been derived with the aim of maximising speech intelligibility while keeping overall loudness to be no greater than that perceived by people with normal hearing .To perform this derivation, the Speech Intelligibility Index method of predicting speech intelligibility was modified to allow for the diminished ability of people with hearing loss to understand speech, even when it was entirely audible. Based on an extensive data set of speech intelligibility results for speech (sentences and consonants) filtered in different ways and presented at different levels and different signal-to-noise ratios, hearing loss of a given magnitude appears to have very similar effects at all frequencies. This simple result conflicts with earlier findings that a given degree of loss adversely affects intelligibility by increasing amounts as frequency increases. Another result they found from this study is that the adverse impact of hearing loss on ability to extract information from audible speech increases with sensation level .These two findings have marked consequences for the bandwidth of amplification, and amount of gain that should be provided to hearing impaired people if intelligibility is to be maximised.



5<sup>th</sup> International Adult Aural Rehabilitation Conference  
Tampa, Florida March 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> 2009 .....cont

Louise Hickson, PhD, Speech Pathologist, Audiologist is head of Audiology Programs and Post Grad co-ordinator for the school of health and Rehabilitation sciences at the University of Queensland.

Her Presentation was titled: Serving an ACE in Audiologic Rehabilitation

Her presentation presented an overview of ACE (Active Communication Education for Adults with Hearing Loss), an evidence- based programme developed by herself at the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia. ACE is an interactive group programs that focuses on effective communication for older adults with hearing loss.

The approach focuses on the communication problems of the participants, and they work together to find solutions that can be used in everyday life. ACE groups consist of 6-8 participants who meet for 2 hours /week for 5 weeks with a group facilitator. In Brisbane, facilitators have been audiologists or speech pathologists, but Louise believes that other health professionals could also take on this role.

The participants determine the areas of concern, and the group approach allows them to develop problem solving skills, practise communication, interact with others with similar problems, and learn from their peers. The programs have been evaluated using a range of self report questionnaires focusing on communication and quality of life measures. These have shown that attending ACE results in significant improvements in the participants reported communication activities and participation, and in their general well-being.

The next invited presentation was given by Mary Beth Jennings, Faculty of Health Sciences, National Centre of Audiology , Graduate Program in Health and Rehabilitation Science, University of Western Ontario , Canada.

Her presentation was titled: Application of Universal Design Principles to Hearing: Implications for Workplaces.

Hearing accessibility and usability in public spaces has been underemphasized in research and practice. Traditionally, designs for individuals with disabilities in the built environment have focused on removing physical barriers through barrier- free design ideology. For the past decade, the universal design (UD) movement, which seeks to produce built environments that are suitable for all individuals to the largest extent possible, has informed building and product standards/policies. UD concepts and their application have largely remained restricted to physical and visual domains.

Considerations for universal hearing accessibility and usability in the build environment, by an individual with or without hearing loss, continue to be deficient. In particular, critical reflections of how acoustic and related designs can enable, impede or change the way individuals participate and engage in various activities in a given space is needed.

This presentation describes an interdisciplinary approach taken by researchers from the fields of human factors, audiology/hearing science, and occupational therapy/science to examine the applicability of the UD principles to hearing accessibility and usability in the workplace for aging workers with hearing loss.





The final invited presentation was given by Sophia Kramer, Dept of ENT/Audiology, EMGO Institute, VU University Medical Centre, Amsterdam, Netherlands

Sophia's presentation was titled: Hearing Impairment ,Work and Vocational Enablement

Within the International Classification of Functioning, Disability and Health (ICF:WHO), participation in work is acknowledged as one of the major areas in life. Difficulties that make it impossible for the person to optimally partake in work result in participation restriction. There are a large number of people with hearing impairment who have occupational problems. Various studies identified issues that should be addressed in the management of employees with hearing loss and emphasized the importance of a tailored vocational enablement program.

This paper describes a recently developed Vocational Enablement Protocol (VEP) addressing the specific needs of those with hearing impairment in the workforce. It is characterized by an integrated approach (occupational physician, Otolaryngologist, audiologist, social worker/psychologist, speech-language therapist). The goal is to facilitate participation in and retention of work. The protocol is currently implemented in a few audiological centres in the Netherlands. This paper presents data collected at the audiological centre of the VU University medical centre, Amsterdam. Thus far, 86 patients, aged 19 to 64 years completed the protocol. Experiences with the procedure are described and recommendations for future practise and research are discussed.

As mentioned, there were 31 other presentations given which were highly informative and covered a wide range of topics from Group Aural rehabilitation versus individual, music appreciation with a CI through to where technology is heading with hearing aids and Assistive listening devices available for the hearing impaired.

It was a wonderful opportunity to network with those in the same field and to get a feel for where we are on the international stage in terms of the services we offer and deliver to our clients.

I have made many new contacts and have been given lots of new ideas which I hope will add value to what I do here as the Adult rehabilitationist.

#### **NEW ZEALAND ACOUSTICAL SOCIETY**

Here is a website which some of you may find interesting. It is [www.acoustics.ac.nz](http://www.acoustics.ac.nz). This site has a Café and Restaurant Acoustic index (C.R.A.I) which gives a guide as to the acoustics of many cafes and restaurants throughout the country. These places ratings are determined by the public so they are encouraging us all to participate as the more people who rate a place, the more accurate the information will become.

Take a look and feel free to join in!!

**CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE**

**[WWW.SCIP.CO.NZ](http://WWW.SCIP.CO.NZ)**



PAEDATRIC AND ADULT PROGRAMME STAFF



Donna Sperandio, Shirley Marshall, Neil Heslop, Pauline Cosgrove-Haggerty, Joanne Lake

Leonard Healy, Anne Courtney, Lisa Scott, Penny Monteath, Beth Kempen,

**Neil Heslop**

Audiologist/Manager—Paediatric

**Shirley Marshall**

Audiologist

**Joanna Lake**

Habilitationist

**Donna Sperandio**

Habilitationist

**Pauline Cosgrove-Haggerty**

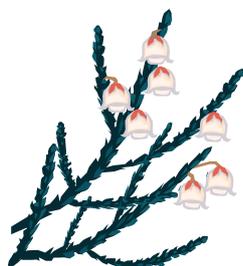
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ENT Surgeon

**Daran Murray**

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