



Hearing is Believing

January 2010

The staff of Allen-Fisher Acoustics wish their clients and colleagues the best wishes for 2010.

Beery Earless? Bah Humbug!

Christmas can be a difficult time for the hearing impaired.

Sometimes we fill in gaps when we are not hearing well with unfortunate consequences.

We can become a glass half empty sort of person instead of glass half full.

The enjoyment of sharing Christmas with family and friends is dulled by the lack of clear hearing. We smile and nod and laugh along at jokes that are only half heard hoping we don't make a fools of ourselves.

With this, it becomes harder to enjoy the time of year when we would

normally be able to meet, greet and share with family and friends the joy of the occasion.

Instead we are stuck with half understood words and a stress filled occasion where we have to concentrate on the edge of our seats to make sense of the simple stories and bon mots, which make Christmas enjoyable.



Does this sound like your Christmas?

Better hearing can help you to hear the important things in life.

That glass half empty can be full of good cheer every time we hear.

Don't wait till next Christmas to find you missed out again.

Hear Here.

Contact Allen-Fisher Acoustics and see how better hearing can help you hear a Merry Christmas.

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Naughty or not hearing?

“Is my child being naughty or is he/she having trouble hearing me? How can I tell the difference and should I be worried?” These are the some of the questions that parents ask Bruce Allen, clinical director of Allen-Fisher Acoustics, a local hearing clinic on the north shore.



Hearing loss in children can be temporary and be caused by illness or infection. It can also be permanent and this may be due to illness, injury or genetic predisposition.

Untreated hearing problems will result in delays in speech development and learning and can affect a child's ability to socialise, vocalise and learn.

Bruce advises parents to look out for the tell-tale signs that hearing should be checked. These signs include poor speech development, an inability to hear soft sounds, speaking in a loud voice or not reacting to sudden noises.

Allen-Fisher Acoustics can test hearing of children as young as 3 months at the Lindfield clinic and over the age of 5 years at the clinics at Balgowlah, Castle Hill, Hornsby, Mona Vale and Ryde.

The two main types of hearing loss are conductive loss and sensorineural loss.

Conductive loss is where there is a block to the sound getting to the inner ear. Common causes of conductive loss are wax in the ear canal and middle ear infections. Most of these types of loss will be treated either with medication or minor surgery. This type of surgery may involve the implantation of grommets in the ear drum to relieve the common cause of “glue ear”.

Sensorineural loss is where there is permanent damage to a part of the ear. The causes of this type of loss include repeated infections which may have occurred during pregnancy or after birth, inherited conditions, exposure to loud noise over prolonged periods or head injury. While sensorineural loss cannot be reversed, hearing may be improved with assistance of hearing aids and cochlear implants. Early intervention is essential as the child who fails to be stimulated from the

earliest possible age will not learn to listen and absorb language easily and will be slow to develop normal social skills.

Allen-Fisher Acoustics does not treat childhood hearing impairment but can detect and help parents to get their child treated or fitted with hearing aids at the earliest possible time helping the child to develop good hearing skills to assist in education and socialisation.

One area, Allen-Fisher Acoustics can help is with classroom amplification. This is a device that has been used successfully in schools to boost the ability of all children to hear in the classroom. Childhood illnesses such as colds will temporarily inhibit a child's ability to hear and learn. Installing classroom amplification means that every child will benefit from the boosted sound.

For more information contact Allen-Fisher Acoustics

