



Hearing is Believing

March 2010

Special Workshops on Living with Hearing Loss

The Office of Hearing Services (Federal Department of Health and Ageing) has been concerned that many people who are fitted with hearing aids for the first time, find it hard to adjust. As a consequence, they may take a long time to get used to their hearing aids and sometimes, abandon them as it is "all too hard".

To help people make this adjustment, the government has provided extra funding for people who are fitted with free hearing aids to attend a workshop to learn more about living with hearing loss and adjusting to hearing aids.

For this workshop to be a success for the hearing aid wearer, we have found it is important to bring another

person to the workshop. This person is often referred to as a significant other; someone who can understand and support the person living with hearing loss.

A significant other may be a spouse, partner, adult child, carer or friend.

Allen-Fisher Acoustics has been offering these workshops to people who have been fitted with hearing aids for the first time under the government scheme for over a year. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive.

Participants have been pleased about how much they learned and relieved to hear that other people had similar experiences. They all stated how important it was to have a friend / relative learn more about living with hearing loss.

With this success, we have decided to extend our hearing workshop to include anyone fitted with hearing aids for the first time in the last twelve months.

Let's do that workshop together

To register your interest, please phone your local clinic and we will include you in the next one hour information session. As part of this program, you will be loaned a copy of Allen-Fisher Acoustics Better Hearing DVD to watch with your family.



Check out our updated website www.allen-fisher.com

Enter our competition and go in the draw to win a big button mobile phone (see back page)

Balgowlah 9948 0844

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Mona Vale 9979 8092

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Castle Hill 9634 8127

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Lindfield 9416 5694

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Ryde 9877 6300

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Hearing-friendly ideas for eating out

Dining out with friends or family is often a great way to socialise and enjoy a meal cooked by someone else. Whether you have a hearing loss or not, background noise can make communication difficult and stressful.

Your eating out experience can be a little easier if you choose;

- A restaurant with good acoustics. These usually have soft furnishings such as carpet and curtains to absorb the noise.

- A table away from the noise. If there is live/piped music, choose a place that is not near the speakers. If the weather is warm a table in a quiet outdoor area may be better than indoors.



- The least busy time at the restaurant / café. Find out when they tend to be full and busy.
- A seat with your back to a wall so you are not surrounded by noise.

If you would like to recommend a café or restaurant that you found to be especially hearing-friendly, let us know and we'll spread the word. Email us at headoffice@allen-fisher.com Or phone your clinic with a suggestion.

Hearing Aid Insurance

For many years our clients have asked us how best to insure their hearing aids. Up until now, home contents and travel insurance have been the only way to go.

However, we can now give you details of special hearing aid insurance. Typically the premium is less than 5% of the value of



your hearing aids. There is a low excess of \$100 and you are covered Australia-wide and for short trips overseas.

Brochures are available from our offices or on-line at

www.hearinginsurance.com.au

Introducing the big button mobile phone

Are you tired of struggling with your mobile phone? Do you find the buttons are too small? The volume too soft? The display needs a magnifying glass to read?

Now all this can change. Allen-Fisher Acoustics retails the Oricom Ezy 100 Mobile Phone which addresses the shortcomings of other mobile phones and boasts features which will be welcomed by older hands, eyes or ears.

With a louder ring, a volume boost for noisy situations, big buttons and an easy to read display, you will find mobile phoning much simpler and easier to manage. Call us to place your order.



Enter and
WIN!

To celebrate our upgraded website we are giving away an Oricom Ezy 100 Mobile phone to one lucky reader. To enter the competition, go to our website www.allen-fisher.com and find one advantage of the Open Fit hearing aid style. Email this information to headoffice@allen-fisher.com before **19th April 2010** to go in the draw.