



Services at Falls of Sound:

Hearing assessments
Hearing aids & repairs
Counselling related to hearing impairment and tinnitus
Noise plugs
Swimming plugs
Musician plugs
Assistive listening devices

Trading hours:

Mon-Thurs

9:00am-5:30 pm

Friday: 9:00am-4:30 pm

by appointment only

Thursdays after

5.30 pm and

Saturday

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Dear readers,

Hope you all had a great festive season! I wish you all the best for 2007, a new exciting year. Enjoy your senses and take care of your precious hearing, that is my biggest wish for all of you. At Falls of sound, we have always cared for the environment and we need to take some action... First we look at those all used hearing aid batteries and how you can recycle them, People with severe to profound losses often have big Behind the Ear instruments, now the fine tubing is available for them as well!!

Katia Peeters

No more compromise between cosmetics and performance

In the past, power users often had to choose between a hearing instrument that was highly visible but effective, or smaller in size but unable to meet their hearing needs. *microPower*'s Canal Receiver Technology (CRT) offers more. By placing the hearing instrument's receiver in the canal, the size of the BTE can significantly be reduced to an ultra small casing. With the separation of the microphone and the receiver most sources of acoustic feedback are eliminated. Furthermore, the new product is the first micro device with an automatic T-coil and FM capability. *microPower* with CRT is a real breakthrough as it offers a perfect mix of discreet design, power and high performance benefits of a mid-priced product.



Comfort right from the start

At a weight of only two grams (0.07 oz), *microPower* introduces a new level of ease for the wearer. By using a soft instant fit dome, the power user experiences the benefits of this new system immediately. At the follow-up session a custom shell perfectly molded to the contours of the ear canal, guarantees a secure and comfortable placement. The discrete housing and connecting tube blend perfectly with the skin, allowing the device to remain almost invisible. *microPower* is offered in nine casing colors, including the stylish "black transparent" option, as well as four face plate colors for the custom shell.



Hearing Re-assessment

If you are a client under the Office of Hearing Services Government Program and feel that there is a need to have your hearing re-assessed or you need new hearing aids, we can certify that need for Return Client Services on the voucher application form. Clients can have their hearing assessed every 2 years, and we can refit you with new hearing aids every 5 years. Both of these conditions only apply if there is a clinical need. Please contact the office and we can let you know if you are eligible or not to apply for a new voucher.

Remember all our services to you!

At Falls of Sound we want to care for all your hearing needs.

- 🔊 Hearing assessment from the age of 4years.
- 🔊 Service Provider for the Government Program, call us to check for eligibility. Free service to adults* conditions apply
- 🔊 Cleaning and repairing of all brands of hearing aids
- 🔊 Hearing devices like headphones, hearing aids, FM systems,
- 🔊 Plugs for swimming, music, noise, sleeping, Ipods,

Zinc-Air batteries

The hearing aid battery, is a small portable source of electricity, often called a zinc air cell. The zinc air cell is a tiny device that converts chemical energy into electrical energy. The voltage of the cell is characteristic of the anode material, zinc metal, and the cathode material, oxygen. The source of the oxygen is air. When all of the zinc has been discharged, zinc oxide is left, and the cell is done.

The zinc air battery is different from any other battery system because it contains only one of the electrode materials, the zinc. The other electrode carries only a small amount of oxygen, and when that is used, it looks for more from the outside air. That's why there are air holes on the bottom of the cell. They allow air to enter the cell as it is being used. The tab that is placed over the vent holes blocks air from entering and moisture from either entering or leaving, during the time that battery is in storage before the user needs it.

The zinc air battery could even be thought of as being half a battery and a half fuel cell. In a traditional battery all of the materials needed to make electricity are contained inside, including the source of the oxygen. In the zinc air cell, the zinc and the electrolyte are added during manufacturing, but only the sophisticated air electrode is present. The air comes in later, entering the cell when it is needed. There's no air tank strapped on the side, it doesn't take up any extra room. That puts a lot of energy into a small, powerful package. You get electrons on demand and the power to hear. The desire to make hearing aids smaller places an extra demand on the battery, because high performance instruments need to work very well, using the smallest battery possible. Adding features adds greater load on the battery and in so doing, the result could potentially be shorter battery life. Luckily, the quality and technology of batteries has been able to keep up with the smaller and more powerful demands of newer and better hearing instruments! If you find that you are changing batteries more frequently, it may be due to entering a noisier environment like shopping centres. Remember, the battery is powering the hearing aid all the time, even when the wearer is ignoring the sound that is being amplified!

Recycle your used batteries

Australia does not currently have a national recycling scheme for batteries. A working group made up of members from the battery industry has recently formed and are currently investigating a national battery collection and recycling scheme for Australia. At the moment, collected batteries are usually encapsulated in concrete and then placed in landfill.



Please bring your used batteries to Falls of Sound and we will collect them all for future recycling.

Price of our batteries: \$7.00 AUD for a pack of 6 cells. With the **loyalty battery card**, you can enjoy a 10% discount and for all clients who have purchased hearing aids with us, we offer a 20% discount with our battery plan.

Please call Cynthia for further information33785999.

Tips for batteries

- Before inserting the battery into your hearing aid, the battery should be dry and at room temperature.
- Check for corrosion that looks like white dust, if you see this dust, do not attempt to clean the battery and use it anyway because damage to your hearing aid can result.
- When your hearing aid is NOT in use, remove the battery, or at least open the battery door. This will help to reduce corrosion.
- If you notice a sudden decrease in battery life (determined by the frequency with which you replace batteries for the child), have the aid checked by the hearing aid dealer or dispenser. Excessive battery drain generally means a defective aid.

Exciting things happening in March...

Some very interesting products are entering the market soon. Hearing aids that are self learning, they learn to know your loudness preferences in different situations.

Are you looking for a speaker in your community group?

Falls of sound has presented many talks about hearing aids and hearing loss. Let us know and we make sure your friends and/or colleagues will have an educational session. Please call 3785999 or mail info@fallssofsound.com.au

