

*Enjoy your  
senses*

## Listen up!

### Fact & Figures

- 📞 20% of Australians suffer from a hearing loss
- 📞 50% of Australian Seniors have a significant hearing loss
- 📞 Only 1 in 5 people form those who need a hearing aid, is wearing one.

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## Recent opening

In April 2004, Falls of Sound, Private Hearing Services has opened a new clinic in Indooroopilly Shopping centre and with success. Clients have visited the clinic for hearing assessments, counselling in noise and hearing aids. Residents from the Western suburbs are able to access full-time hearing specialists services without leaving their immediate area. Local audiologist Katia Peeters will be pleased to help you with all your hearing needs. After eight years of study and clinical work in Europe, Katia managed the Audiology department of Australia's leading hearing aid manufacturer, Siemens. During this time Katia was

responsible for audiology support, training, research and development. Katia says: "After three years training hearing practioners in Australia, I'm missing the clinical challenge and human contact" and the satisfaction of working in the field and making a positive difference in someone's life everyday."

We provide the following services:

- Hearing assessments
- Hearing aids
- Counselling related to hearing impairment and tinnitus

- Hearing conservation and protection programs, earplugs, swimming plus
- Assistive listening devices.



Katia Peeters, audiologist

## Hearing aids: Are they worth the money?

Advertising can sometimes be misleading where invisible miracle cures are sold. Hearing aids are still "aids" and not "cures". It is useful to be updated about the different technologies available today. Low cost fundamental technology will usually perform well enough in quiet but they tend to be less effective in noisy places. The reason for this is that the incoming signal in the hearing aid, is analysed by the use of channels so the higher the number of channels the better the noise will be reduced. Many of today's new digital high performance hearing aids have accomplished this task with

amazing results. Background noise can be dramatically reduced with the touch of a button, or in some cases completely automatically. For most clients, cosmetics is very important, the completely- in-the-canal hearing aid requires a very small circuit so the price will be higher as well.



Completely- in- the- canal

Is it all worth it?  
Several studies worldwide (Keppler- Konsumforschung;

Kochkin) were performed regarding hearing aids and quality of life. The study indicated that 70 percent find that their enjoyment of everyday life improved after they were fitted with digital hearing aids. The improvement in quality of life is seen in increased confidence, as well. 66 percent of those questioned in the survey report a boost in their confidence.



# Falls of Sound

Private Hearing Services

Every Wednesday from 1 pm till 5 pm at Suite 6, level 4, Indooroopilly shopping centre.

Home visits are available on request every weekday from 6 pm till 9 pm and Saturday from 8.30 am till 12 am.

Suite 6, Level 4 Indooroopilly Shopping Centre  
318 Moggill Road  
Indooroopilly QLD 4068  
Tel: 07 3201 1109  
fallsound@bigpond.com

Mail to:  
PO BOX 628  
Kenmore QLD 4069

## Noise protection

Noise is unwanted sound – barking dogs, loud music, passing traffic, lawn mowers, industrial noise. Studies show that over 40 percent of Australians are disturbed at home or lose sleep because of noise pollution. Everyone reacts differently to noise. What can be unbearable for one person may pass almost unnoticed by another. How annoyed we become depends on the loudness, time, place and frequency of noise. Distinct features of noise, such as screeches or rumbles, are also important. Noise is measured on the decibel scale. Noise levels, referred to as decibels on the (A) scale (written as dB(A)) are a good indicator of people's response to noise. State government regulations state that our maximum daily noise dose should be no more than the equivalent of 85dB(A)

for eight hours a day. Permanent hearing damage is likely to occur if this daily dose is exceeded repeatedly. Prolonged exposure to noise levels above 85dB(A) can damage inner ear cells and lead to hearing loss. At first, hearing loss is usually temporary and recovery takes place over a few days. After further exposure, a person may not fully recover their initial level of hearing – irreversible damage will have been done, causing deafness. The extent of deafness depends on the degree of exposure and individual susceptibility. Even brief exposure to very high levels of 130dB(A) or more can cause instant, irreversible hearing damage. Taking precaution can prevent hearing loss. **At Falls of Sound** we make personalised earplugs, whether it is for industrial noise, hunting, shooting or swimming.

Custom made ear protection plugs are the best solutions if you are serious about protecting your patients' hearing:

- They are easy to insert and remove and because they are custom made to fit the patients' ear, they are also comfortable
- The materials we use are durable and long lasting
- There are no occlusion effects
- Conversations are still audible because the noise is simply reduced, not blocked.

### Water Protection Earplug

Ideal for swimmers and surfers, this plug helps prevent ear infections and keeps water out of the ears while in the pool or ocean. Although it is not for divers, this earplug is perfect for anyone with a history of ear infections or a ruptured eardrum, who still wants to enjoy water.



Custom made earplugs



Custom made swimming plugs

## Remote controls and hearing aids

Remote controls expand the hearing computers' functionality. They increase operating convenience and enhance hearing comfort. They preserve the programmed volume and balance for optimal stereophonic hearing. (And they are a lot than most VCR or TV remotes). Discrete control wrapped in an every-day package No it's not something out of a James Bond movie, but it sure looks and acts like it! This wristwatch has hidden controls for the hearing aid. Several hearing instrument models

now have their controls hidden in a wristwatch. It is unique in regards to both design and convenience. The advantages are obvious: It's always on hand It's discreet and elegant It's convenient to operate

*Not all hearing instruments can be controlled by remote control and not all controls and instruments are interchangeable.*

The following features can be handled with remote controls:

- Ⓞ Loudness
- Ⓞ Listening programs
- Ⓞ On/off function
- Ⓞ Simultaneous binaural operation
- Ⓞ Auditory "beep" to confirm change



remote controls

