



- Hearing assessments
- Hearing aids & repairs
- Counselling related to hearing impairment and tinnitus
- Noise plugs
- Swimming plugs
- Musician plugs
- FM/infra red systems
- Loop systems

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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 Office Tower
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 Centre
 318 Moggill Road
 Indooroopilly
Ph: 3378 5999

Email:
info@fallsofsound.com.au
www.fallsofsound.com.au

Dear Readers,

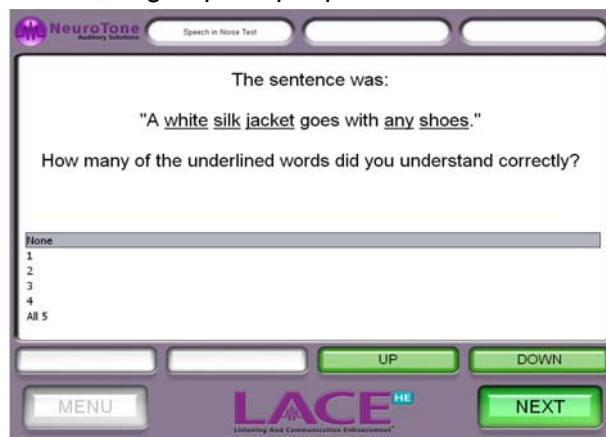
It seems just about the whole country is pounding the pavement for gifts and with summer coming on in full force it's a hot and sweaty job - where's Santa when you need him? Please be vigilant about keeping your hearing aids dry as there is a lot of moisture in the air at this time of the year. Drying kits are available in the office. We are very excited about our LACE program, which is designed to develop listening and communication skills. In this newsletter there are also a few tips on the maintenance of hearing aid tubing and some 'alarming' facts about smoke alarms. Wishing you and your family and friends a safe and happy holiday season and a wonderful start to the new year.

Katia Peeters

Retrain your brain to listen to your ears!

LACE – Listening and Communication Enhancement -

Even though you've taken steps to improve your hearing, you still may be missing out on words and conversations. That's because you hear with your ears-but you listen with your brain. Even people with normal hearing can have poor listening skills and miss portions of what is being said. The good news is that your brain can be trained to use strategies that compensate for situations when your hearing ears alone may not be enough. LACE is a computerised, interactive software training program that helps improve your ear-to-brain muscle memory. Just as physical therapy can help rebuild physical strength and compensate for weakness, LACE can assist in developing listening, communication, and interaction skills. You can use LACE at home on your computer. Even if you don't have a hearing loss, LACE can help you improve your listening skills to help you understand speech in difficult hearing environments, like restaurants, crowds, or groups of people.



 * **Bellbowrie Site** *
 * **open** *
 * **(opposite Shopping** *
 * **centre)** *
 * **Call** *
 * **3378 5999** *
 * **for** *
 * **appointments** *

Did you know?

Using a moisture removal pouch or kit can significantly extend the life and power of your hearing aid. Dry your hearing aid regularly in order to keep it performing at optimal levels for the longest possible time. But did you know that hearing aid dryers can extend the life of your hearing aid battery, as well? Recent tests showed that leaving the batteries in during drying caused no harm to the batteries, and in high humidity conditions, potentially increased battery life by 10%-20%. For more information visit www.fallsofsound.com.au



Tubing for hearing aids.

Keep your tubing flexible and clear. When it begins to discolour it's time to change it. Brittle tubing distorts sound. It also cracks. Cracked tubing can be invisible to the eye but cause whistling and decreased clarity. Stiff tubing prevents the aid from sitting comfortably on your ears, which can promote pressure-spot soreness. If you're an active person stiff tubing is less effective for absorbing shock. Keep it new, clear and flexible. Replacing of tubing can be done at Falls of Sound while you wait and at the same time, you receive a free clean and check!



Perhaps your hearing aid can be updated to the NEW Thin tube. Please call 3378 5999 for more information.



Can you hear your smoke alarm?

Research by Victoria University's Professor Bruck has shown that the most common smoke alarm in Australian homes was the least effective at waking up older sleepers.

Experts have called for the standard smoke alarm to be replaced after studies revealed it won't wake up half of sleepers who are slightly drunk or suffering mild hearing loss. Australian research presented at an international sleep conference in Cairns showed that while the current high-pitched alarm works on healthy adults, it is "disturbingly ineffective" in older people, children, alcohol and the hearing impaired. The specialists from Victoria University say their latest results are the strongest proof yet that the alarm must be changed to a more complex sound guaranteed to wake up twice as many vulnerable Australians.

The studies tested several alarms, including strobe lights and bed shakers, at increasing volumes over several nights once participants had fallen into a deep sleep. The current alarm, about 3000 hertz, was the least effective, with researchers describing it as a "small" convenient sound only suitable to those tuned to hearing a high pitch.

As most people have a high pitched hearing loss due to ageing or noise exposure, 3000 Hz can easily not be heard. The same research mentioned above, concluded a 520 Hz signal would be more effective.

TASK: test your smoke alarm, can you hear the signal? If not, check the battery and test again. If you are unsure whether you are able to hear around the 3000Hz mark, we can check your hearing assessment results. Feel free to come and have a hearing screening test performed in our test room, just mention this article when you book the appointment.

Want to know more about smoke alarms? - contact Peter from Eco Electro 0403 597 789



Frequently Asked Question

Question: The TV speakers do not function when my TV listening system is connected to the headphone output.

Answer: A connection to the headphone jack of any TV will automatically disable the TV's speakers. If others enjoy watching the same programs, we recommend that you connect your TV listening system to the RCA audio outputs on the back of the TV with the supplied cables.

For more information on TV headsets, come in and see us or call 3378-5999. Falls of Sound has a vast range of TV headsets available.



**Festive Season
Closure**
The Office will be
closed from
24th December
until the 7th of
January 2007.