

ISSUE

01

February/March
2020

NEWSLETTER
OF THE
NAPIER HEARING
ASSOCIATION

hear here

Napier Hearing Centre

Civic Court Mall
Dickens Street, Napier
(next to Café DMP)

9am - 2pm
Tuesday to Friday
Phone: **835 7790**

www.napierhearing.org.nz
Email: naphear@xtra.co.nz
Facebook:
[www.facebook.com/
napierhearing](http://www.facebook.com/napierhearing)

Post to:
PO Box 4019
Marewa, Napier 4143

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Treasurer: Diana Clift
Secretary: Angela Moloney
Volunteer Co-ordinator:
Ann Bain
Committee: June Chorley,
Jacqui Lee, Richard Walsh



this issue

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PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR
AGM AND

MORNING TEA

WITH SPECIAL GUEST
M-J BLOEM
FROM LIFE UNLIMITED

TUESDAY
31 MARCH

TARADALE CLUB
55 WHARERANGI RD
ARRIVE: 10.30AM
TICKETS: \$12 / \$14

Join us for our Annual General Meeting, followed by a presentation from M-J Bloem about the range of solutions for mobility and everyday living offered by the Life Unlimited Mobility Centre in Hastings.

Recently opened in Hastings, the Life Unlimited Mobility Centre offers an extensive range of products to support independent living, from daily living and kitchen aids such as ergonomic kettles, can and bottle openers to mobility scooters and walkers.

Morning Tea will be served, featuring a delicious selection of sandwiches, savouries and sweets, tea and coffee.

Purchase your tickets from the Hearing Centre by **Friday 27 March**. Transport is available - please contact the Hearing Centre on 835 7790.



Ask Audiologist Barclay Winter



Napier Audiologist Barclay Winter has generously offered his time to meet individual members to give advice on getting the most from your hearing aids, and look at any minor issues you may be experiencing.

The clinic is intended to give you some time with an audiologist to discuss your hearing loss and optimise use of your hearing aids.

Bookings are by appointment, and available only to members of the Napier Hearing Association.

These will not replace the care of your Audiology service - hearing aids which require adjustment or replacement will be referred back to your Audiologist.

**Wednesday
1 April
from 10am**

Places are limited -
phone **835 7790**
to book.



In Memorium: Brian Cottle

President, Napier Hearing Association

With great sadness we heard our President and friend Brian Cottle passed away suddenly on 13 February.

During his time as President Brian worked tirelessly for the hearing impaired community of Napier. As well as hosting our events, leading the Committee and working on our Street Appeals and raffles, Brian instigated a number of initiatives to help us raise funds, and was always on the look out for new ideas.

Brian was born in Bristol, UK in 1946, and moved with his family to New Zealand when he was four. The family settled in Napier, and Brian attended Port Ahuriri School, Napier Intermediate and Colenso High School.

After leaving school, Brian worked in the printing industry, but his varied career also encompassed experiences as diverse as security work, short-order cook and sailing the Mediterranean.

Brian was heavily involved in a number of community activities for many years, including the Scouts, the Scottish Country Dancing Club and the Bay Harmony Singers (Acappella Fellas). He served terms as President for each of them.

Brian joined the Napier Hearing Association in 2013, and joined the Committee a year later. At the 2015 AGM he was elected President. He was also elected as President of the Central Region of the National Hearing Association, and served on the Hearing New Zealand National Board until 2019.

Brian was a very kind, caring and generous man who always offered to help wherever he could. He was also a great friend to many of us, and we miss him dearly.



Summer maintenance tips for your hearing aids



Summer is in full swing and while you enjoy the warm weather, make sure you know how to treat your hearing aids.

Water: While most hearing aids have some form of water protection, your hearing aid isn't designed for water activities. The electronics in hearing aids are vulnerable to water damage which can ruin a device. **Salt Water** is also a threat, as it leaves behind crystals that can damage hearing aids.

Heat: Spaces like cars where extreme heat builds quickly are especially dangerous, and can harm the electronics of your aids and warp or crack the protective outer shell.

Sand: Small sand particles in a hearing aid can impair its performance and cause permanent malfunctions.

Sprays: Aerosol sprays can also be a hazard to your hearing aids. Spray-on sunscreen and insect sprays can introduce small particles and moisture in to the air that can get into your devices.

Perspiration: Moisture from perspiration and **Humidity** can damage hearing aids and lead to corrosion of battery contact points.

During summer pay extra attention to keeping your devices dry. At the Hearing Centre we have an **Ultravac Machine**, which can remove moisture from hearing aids. This service is FREE for members. We also have drying beakers and capsules for sale, which can help prevent moisture build up.

Hearing Hero: Trevor Smithers

At our Christmas event in December, long time member Trevor Smithers was presented with Life Membership.

The Napier Hearing Association has been fortunate to have many wonderful people helping us as volunteers over the years. We thank you all, and wouldn't be the organisation we are without all your help. One of these generous people is Trevor Smithers.

Trevor has been a member of the Napier Hearing Association for many, many years, and in that time, he has given us so much of his time and energy. He is a well-known face at Pak 'n Save Tamatea, where, for many years he is known to do regular two and even three hour stints selling our raffles.

Trevor has also helped us sell raffle tickets at other places, and is a regular at our annual street appeals, often offering to pack up a site and the end of the day and bring in the money to be counted. He also is a regular and cheerful deliverer of our newsletter in Tamatea, and has one of the biggest areas to deliver to. He has always been a strong and vocal supporter of the Napier Hearing Association.

We really appreciate Trevor for all the wonderful work he has done for us, and it was the Committee's great pleasure to award him with life membership.



Temporary new Opening Hours

Napier Hearing will be closed on Mondays from 24 February.

Our interim opening hours are: **Tuesday to Friday, 9am to 2pm.**

Taradale Battery Agent

Our battery agent is available if you run low on batteries. Please phone before visiting to make sure he is home:

Don Wilson,
15A Eton St, Taradale
Ph: 844 0055

Wooden Truck Raffle

Our Christmas Raffles were drawn on Thursday 20 December:

CHRISTMAS CAKE RAFFLE:

Drawn by Brian Cottle
Winner: F. Thompson
(Yellow 35A)

TRUCK RAFFLE:

Drawn by J. Atchinson
Winner: C. Morgan
(Green 75A)

Thank you to everyone who helped us with raffles sales, and purchased tickets!

We are now launching our Grocery raffle featuring lots of handy staples, and some lovely treats! Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5 - available at the Hearing Centre now!

Services available at the Hearing Centre:

FREE to Members

- ✓ Independent information and advice
- ✓ Funding information
- ✓ Communication strategies
- ✓ Wax checks
- ✓ Hearing Aid cleaning and drying
- ✓ Hearing Tests
- ✓ Free trials of equipment

Discounted Prices for Members

- ✓ Hearing Aid batteries
- ✓ Amplified phones, TV headphones personal listeners and other devices



it's time to

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

Join us in 2020 - Memberships due now!

Thank you to those who have already renewed your membership. If you haven't had a chance to do this, please check your email inbox and act now to continue to support our community and enjoy our membership benefits.

Firstly, THANK YOU for your continued connection with Napier Hearing. Without your loyalty and support, we would not be able to continuously provide our members with valuable benefits and actively develop our programmes in the community. As valued members, you make what we do possible.

In 2019, your membership has enabled us to accomplish so many initiatives:

- ☞ We were able to assist 3,185 local people with hearing loss.
- ☞ We held a series of informative events with interesting guest speakers
- ☞ We developed a FREE Personal Listener lending programme for people with hearing loss who had important appointments or hospital stays.
- ☞ We visited local retirement villages and rest homes to provide information and trouble shooting clinics for residents.

Here are just some of the great benefits of membership:

- ✓ Cost Savings: Our members receive discounted prices on events, hearing aid batteries, hearing aid care products and helpful devices for everyday living. Even our specials attract a further member discount!
- ✓ FREE At-Home Trials: Members enjoy a free at-home trial period for all our devices, and you can try them out at the Hearing Centre before you buy, so you are confident that you know exactly how to use them.
- ✓ FREE hearing tests (\$25.00 for non-members), and a FREE Ultravac cleaning and drying service for hearing aids for members.

Renewal information was mailed out to all email members a few weeks ago. If you haven't yet renewed and can't find this, don't worry, we'll email you a reminder in a couple of weeks. Please join us again in 2020.



We would **love** our valued members to consider whether joining your Napier Hearing Committee might be something you would like to do. If you have a couple of hours each month to spare, we really want to hear from you! It is not a time consuming position - we meeting once a month for an hour or so, and Committee members also help out occasionally with fundraising stalls, events and delivering newsletters in your neighbourhood. If you would like to know more, please phone or drop in for a coffee - **835 7790**.



THIS YEAR'S ACHIEVEMENTS

Helping people with hearing loss

Low cost hearing screening and consultation

Ear checks and referrals to hearing and ear professionals

Help with WINZ quotes, battery estimates and Disability Allowance information

Demonstration and loan of extra-loud hearing devices

3,185 people helped

FREE Personal Listener Lending Programme

Napier Hearing has personal listening devices available for short-term loan that provide clear, amplified sound. They are particularly helpful for important meetings, medical appointments and small meetings.

Bev came to us after her elderly mother had been admitted to hospital after a stroke. Due to her hearing loss, she couldn't understand what was being said to her, and was in great distress.

We were able to lend her a Personal Listener, and the family couldn't believe the difference it made to her well-being, and to her ability to co-operate with her much needed rehabilitation programme.

Informative TALKS & EVENTS

A series of events throughout the year, featuring talks by hearing and health professionals. This year we hosted local Audiologist Barclay Winter, the Health & Disability Advocacy Service, and featured information about solutions for hearing the TV, Bluetooth and extra-loud phones & devices.



Some Funding Highlights

Generous funding from the Higgins Bequest Trust to purchase a new, portable audiometer so we can conduct low-cost hearing tests. Rest homes and community groups will benefit as we will now be able to conduct hearing tests off-site when needed.

Selected as one of 6 charities the Rotary Club of Napier collected for at the Mission Concert with Phil Collins. We were delighted to be presented with \$3,000.

National Award

Committee member Ann Bain was honoured with the Inaugural Hearing New Zealand **VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR Award** at the Hearing New Zealand National Conference.

SOME 2019 PROJECTS

Educational talks to community groups, retirement villages rest homes about prevention and treatment of hearing loss, helpful devices and communication techniques.

Hearing Aid troubleshooting clinics for retirement village and rest home residents.

Successful Hearing "Warrant of Fitness" campaign encouraging people to have their hearing checked.

We are grateful for the generous support and funding from these organisations:

