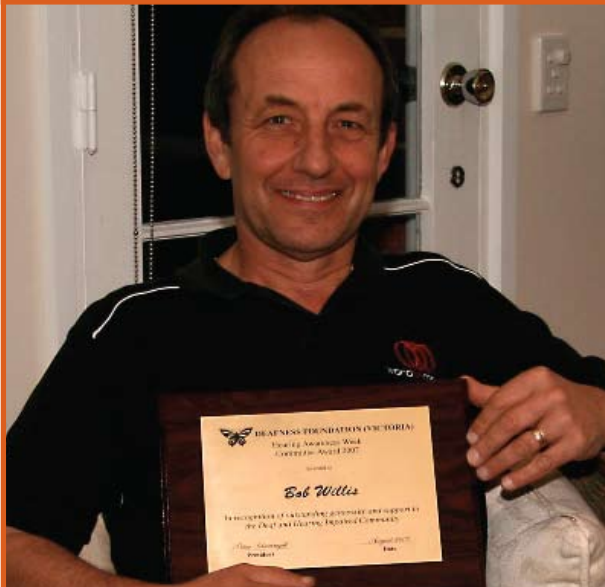


Welcome

If you're reading this hopefully you're enjoying the fourth edition of "Have you Heard". I keep wondering if it'll run out of things to write about but the ideas keep coming from all of you so keep it up! This edition we will talk about some great new products, let you know what's happening around town and give you some contacts for other organisations that provide services to people who are Deaf or hard of hearing. Thanks for your continued interest and remember to email me at haveyouheard@wom.com.au with any questions or ideas for our next edition (which will be the Christmas one!)

Until Next Time ...Ed

Congratulations Bob!



We are proud to announce that at the opening of Hearing Awareness Week (August 2007) Bob Willis was awarded with the "Deafness Foundation (Victoria) Hearing Awareness Week Committee Award 2007" In recognition of outstanding generosity and support to the Deaf and Hearing Impaired community. We are so proud of him and I know that he was overwhelmed by this public acknowledgement of the contribution he has made. Well-done Bob!



Word of Mouth Nominated for Knox Leader Business Awards



We are proud to announce that we have been nominated as a finalist in the Knox Business Achiever Awards for 2007. The program 'celebrates the achievement of businesses in their local area through award recognition.' To become a finalist you need to receive a certain number of nominations from customers – so we sincerely thank all of our customers who voted for us. We will find out if we have won our category on September 17th at the 'Gala awards dinner'.

Word of Mouth Technology supports the Deafness Foundation

Word of Mouth Technology supports the Deafness foundation. Remember that every purchase over \$25.00 receives a Deafness foundation butterfly badge. We'd like to thank you for purchasing from us which ultimately is helping support the Deafness Foundation.



"Raise your hand if you can hear me!"

frontrow™ for active learning

Anyone who has ever been to school or attended a meeting knows this situation. If you're not in the first few rows of seats it is very difficult to hear what the speaker is saying. As the day progresses it becomes harder to concentrate and some of us might even nod off!

Front Row To Go is a new portable voice distribution system from Phonic Ear. This system will improve the listening environment by making the speaker's voice clearer around the room. Front Row To Go is completely portable with a built in battery and two microphones that can be used simultaneously.

There has been a lot of research performed around the world that proves the benefits of voice amplification systems for students in the classroom, we are also seeing the benefits of applying this technology in any other environment where there is a lot of listening. So if you attend local club or community groups consider Front Row To Go as a solution to help everyone hear more clearly. Who knows you might even sign up some more members if they know they can hear what's being said!

For more information on the Front Row To Go system please contact us on 03 9761 2211 or visit our website at www.wom.com.au



Accessible Venues

Where you see this
sign an assistive
listening system is
available



Here are some more venues who have taken the extra steps to ensure those with a hearing loss can access their facilities.

Darebin Arts & Entertainment Centre

The Phonic Ear Easy Listener system installed here can be used by anyone. Simply request a receiver with either a neck loop or headphones at the box office and enjoy hearing more of the performance.

For information on upcoming events visit www.darebinartscentre.com.au or call 03 8470 8288.
Cnr Bell St & St Georges Rd, Preston, VIC 3072

Le Pine Funeral Services Box Hill

We have recently installed an Audio Frequency Induction loop in the chapel here making it accessible to people wearing hearing aids with a T switch. The importance of hearing clearly at a funeral service is often overlooked. We congratulate them on being pro active about making their facilities accessible to people with a hearing loss.

Contact 03 9890 0404, 1048 Whitehorse Road,
Box Hill, VIC 3128

If you would like to know more about making a venue accessible contact us for a free information pack and an obligation free quote.

Welcome Echo Interpreting



We would like to welcome Echo interpreting who have moved in to one of the offices at the rear of our premises.

Echo Interpreting is a professional Auslan Interpreting service providing interpreters for a range of appointments from TAFE/University to Training days, job interviews, meetings, theatre, recreation events, conferences and more. At Echo interpreting we pride ourselves on providing the most appropriately qualified interpreter for your appointment. We have approximately 80 Paraprofessional and Professional level interpreters and all our interpreters are NAATI Accredited. For Interpreter bookings please access our website at www.echointerpreting.com.au or contact the office on 9761 2208.

Useful Contacts

Tinnitus Association of Victoria

If tinnitus is affecting your quality of life, the Tinnitus Association of Victoria (TAV) can help. Whether you require tinnitus information, management courses or tinnitus counseling contact the TAV on (03) 9770 6075

Menieres Support Group of Victoria

Ménière's Support Group of Victoria Inc (MSGV) offers support to people with Ménière's disease, their families and carers. To find out more contact them on (03) 9783 9233 email: info@menieres.org.au www.menieres.org.au

Product in focus - Meet your hearing aids new best friend

The MyLink FM system

I have said this many times before and I am sure most readers would agree, hearing aids can help in many situations but they also have their limitations. Hearing in environments with background noise or in meetings is a constant challenge for the hard of hearing.



MyLink Receiver

The main problem is overcoming the effects of distance. The further away the sound source the harder it is to hear over the background noise in the room. FM systems help overcome this problem by improving the signal to noise ratio. That means we make the signal you want to hear much louder and clearer than the noise around you. There are many FM solutions available today, some which use a receiver that plugs into the bottom of your hearing aid

or cochlear implant and others that use an inductive neck loop. One system we have been achieving great results with recently is the new MyLink FM receiver from Phonak.

The MyLink system works with any hearing aid or cochlear implant processor that has a T switch. The receiver/neckloop is worn around the neck. Using a neck loop means the signal can be transmitted to one or two hearing aids, without the need to have a receiver connected to each hearing aid.



ZoomLink Transmitter

There are several transmitter/microphone options available. We have found the ZoomLink microphone to be the most appropriate for a variety of situations. It has three microphone settings including omni-directional, zoom and

super zoom. These settings let you decide if you want to focus on one particular sound or pick up sounds from a wider angle.

The ZoomLink microphone can be worn by the speaker at the front of the room or placed in the middle of a table in a small meeting. In a social setting you can hold the ZoomLink microphone and point it towards the sound source you want to listen to.

The MyLink/ZoomLink package is a great listening tool at work and around the home, it can be used with any device with an audio output including televisions, radio and computers. Word of Mouth Technology also has an interface that allows you to connect your ZoomLink microphone to the telephone (at work or at home).

If you're looking for that extra something to make communication easier I strongly recommend trying this product. Word of Mouth Technology can provide you with the MyLink system to trial so if you're interested call us (conditions apply). The system with the Mylink receiver and ZoomLink transmitter costs \$1700.00 GST Free.

If you have any questions or would like an information pack please contact us.

Whats on around town?

Captioned Theatre "Dickens' Women"

In an outstanding new initiative being introduced by renowned Australia producer Andrew McKinnon, the 2007 touring production of Dickens' women, starring acclaimed British actress Miriam Margolyes, will feature captions for Deaf and hearing impaired patrons at selected performances in every one of its 11 Australian venues.

We encourage you to support this fantastic initiative so we can encourage greater captioning and access of future performances across the country. The live captioning is being provided by Australian company "The Captioning Studio," visit www.thecaptioningstudio.com

Two performances will be captioned in Melbourne, for performances in other states please visit www.theatrecaptioning.com.au

The Arts Centre – Melbourne, Wed 19th September, 8.00pm.

– Bookings via Ticketmaster ph 1300 136 166

Frankston Arts Centre – Wed 10th October, 1.00pm.

– Bookings via venue ph 03 9784 1060

Remember – As well as providing captions at these performances both venues provide hearing assistance systems, which were provided by Word of Mouth Technology. Ask at the box office when booking tickets.

Bookings for all of these performances and many more can also be made through the EASE ticket service open 10am – 4pm, Monday to Thursday TTY: 03 9699 7636 FAX:03 9699 8868 PH: 03 9699 8497 or ease@artsaccess.com.au

WORKPLACE MODIFICATIONS

The Workplace modifications scheme administered by the Australian Government provides financial assistance to employers to help make a workplace more accessible for employees with a disability.

Some of the products we supply to assist people who are Deaf or hard of hearing in the workplace include

Paging systems – These can be as simple as a button that is pressed and activates a vibrating pager to let you know that someone wants your attention to more advanced paging systems that are connected to various alarms around the building.

Telecommunications Solutions – If you have difficulty hearing on the phone we have a range of solutions that can assist you. This includes TTY's and telephone amplification devices that transmit the callers voice to both hearing aids.

Communication – For assistance with hearing in meetings a personal FM system (such as the MyLink system reviewed in this issue) can make a huge difference to your ability to actively participate in meetings.

To find out more about this program visit www.jobaccess.gov.au or contact us on 03 9761 2211.



