

Welcome to the April 2018 edition of Independent Hearing News.

It's a busy time in the Audiology world over the next few months. Audiologists from IHC will attend the Audiology Australia National Conference in May. The focus is 'Harbouring Holistic Hearing Health'. A theme that our Audiologists embrace daily in their focus on providing independent, unbiased communication solutions for our patients. We are reminded of the need to look at each patient as an individual living in their own unique social world. What is a solution for one patient may not be for another.

We hope you enjoy this edition of Independent Hearing News. We are happy to answer any questions. Feel free to email us at enquiries@independenthearing.com.au or phone 1300 182 289.



Barn owls and their ageless ears



If ageing humans had ears like those of barn owls they would never need hearing aids or Audiologists for that matter. The birds, whose sensitivity to sound helps them locate prey, suffer no hearing loss as they are able to regenerate cells in their inner ears.

Researchers at the University of Oldenburg trained owls aged between 2 and 17 to fly in a specific direction in response to an auditory signal. Later, they grouped the owls by age and tested their hearing with differing sound frequencies. There was no reported difference in auditory ability. The study, published in proceedings of the Royal Society concluded that barn owls do not lose their hearing with age.

The authors of the study hope to conduct further investigations into the mechanism that allows barn owls to maintain "ageless" ears, as they put it, which could lead to new treatment options for hearing loss in humans. Until then, they write, we humans "can only regard this capability of barn owls with great respect".

Original Paper: Krumm B, Klump G, Köppl C, Langemann U. [Barn owls have ageless ears](#). *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*. September 20, 2017: 284

Rechargeable Hearing Aids. Hassle free, environmentally friendly options for 2018



Many of our patients have made it clear that they would prefer to use rechargeable hearing aids. Firstly to eliminate the need to fiddle with tiny disposable batteries and secondly to reduce the environmental impact of disposable batteries. There have however been technical difficulties in manufacturing reliable rechargeable devices. Happily this situation has now changed with most brands providing a rechargeable option. So, which rechargeable option is best for you?



1. Lithium Ion Technology

Manufacturer's Phonak and Signia have based their design on lithium-ion technology. The battery is fully integrated into the aid in a sealed case. These aids cannot run on a normal disposable battery. Although this can be a drawback the technology is very reliable and easy to recharge in a specially designed case. Excellent for people who have difficulty managing tiny disposable batteries.

2. Silver-Zinc Technology

Other manufacturers such as Oticon, Unitron, Widex and ReSound have gone with the ZPower Silver-Zinc option. The advantages are that a disposable battery can also be used if needed. The technology can also be retro-fitted into some models of hearing aids by changing the battery compartment. A flexible and practical solution indeed.

To discover if your hearing aid can be retrofitted with rechargeable technology or if you would like to try out any of the rechargeable options from the large range of brands available at IHC contact us on 1300 182 289 or email at enquiries@independenthearing.com.au

UPGRADE YOUR LEVEL OF TECHNOLOGY WITH A UNIQUE OFFER FROM THE **INDEPENDENT** HEARING CENTRE



Are your hearing aids not providing the benefits you hoped for? IHC is offering a free upgrade to the next level of technology with every new hearing aid purchased before 30 June 2018. As an **independently** owned practice this offer is available across all ranges and brands of hearing aids. Here's just a small sample of what we have available.

PHONAK
life is on

Virto B90 CIC

~~\$5260~~ now \$4300

Virto B70 CIC

~~\$4300~~ now \$3100



oticon
PEOPLE FIRST

OPN1 miniRite

~~\$5295~~ now \$4145

OPN2 miniRite

~~\$4145~~ now \$3295



unitron

Moxi All R 700

~~\$3052~~ now \$2318

Moxi All R 600

~~\$2318~~ now \$1762



WIDEX BEYOND™
LIFE WITHOUT LIMITS

Beyond 440

~~\$5245~~ now \$4465

Beyond 220

~~\$3195~~ now \$2550



UPGRADE and save up to \$1145 per aid while taking advantage of the many recent improvements in technology:

- ✓ Rechargeable batteries
- ✓ Direct Bluetooth connectivity (no streamer required)
- ✓ Dedicated, compatible telephones
- ✓ Miniature noise reducing remote microphones
- ✓ iPhone compatibility, control your hearing aids with your iPhone
- ✓ Enhanced noise reduction

FREE trials available. Call 1300 182 289 for an appointment.
(Offer applies to private and top-up (OHS) purchases. Not available with any other offers. Does not apply to Lyric hearing aid subscription)

LOCATIONS:

4/5 Knox Street
(Entrance in Goldman Lane,
b/w Knox St and Knox Lane)
DOUBLE BAY NSW 2028

Loyalty Square
Ground Floor, 2 Beattie St
BALMAIN NSW 2041

Ph.: 1300 182 289

- Now open on Saturdays at Double Bay. 10am to 2pm
- Open 10am - 5pm Mon-Fri
- Located on the ground floor and wheelchair accessible.
- Accredited by the Office of Hearing Services to provide free hearing services to Pensioners and Veterans Affairs card holders.
- Have free 1hr council car parking nearby.
- Are fully equipped to supply and fit all brands of hearing aids.
- Can carry out repairs on hearing aids and provide a wide range of hearing aid parts and accessories.
- Provide cochlear implant programming and support.

IHC Quiz – win a Dry & Store

1. How long is the average human ear canal?
2. How long is the spiral tube of the human cochlea?
3. What does the 'I' in IHC stand for?

Call us on 1300 182 289 or email enquiries@independenthearing.com.au with your responses. The first 10 correct answers will receive a free D-Dry drying and cleaning kit valued at \$110!