



Winter Newsletter 2021

It's hard to believe it is July already! We are having quite a few hard frosts at the moment. I hope you are all keeping warm and that this newsletter finds you happy and well.

Our news

Sincock & Till Audiology has bounced back well post the COVID lockdown which we are very grateful for. We have had to adapt over time, as we all have, with the occasional change in Alert level. We are always very mindful of keeping yourselves and ourselves safe at all times. Thanks to everyone who has been signing in or scanning the QR code when they come into the clinic, and rebooking appointments when they are unwell.



We had our 7th birthday in May which was a great milestone. Thank you all for your continued loyalty, especially those who have continued to support us when they claim insurance. There have been changes in this space so feel free to contact us **before** you contact your insurance company if you have to make an insurance claim for your hearing aids. Thanks to all of you who have recommended me to others. I am very thankful for these referrals and new clients mean I am able to continue to help others and carry on the work I have loved for 25 years! I have seen a lot of change with hearing aid technology over that time. When I started in audiology we used to use a small one of these



to tune the sound in with hearing aids, haha. How times have changed...

We continue to 'support local' by sponsoring various events (including the Special children's Christmas party) and of course assist the wonderful local café across the road with our regular patronage 😊. Your choice to support local is much appreciated.

With traffic lights now at the intersection of Warrington and Barbadoes Street we have noticed a small increase in the traffic in the neighbourhood. However, it is great to see the traffic lights allow pedestrians, including school children and our elderly neighbours to cross the intersection more safely. There is still easy access to our clinic and off-street parking behind the clinic and on the street out front. We are also on a couple of bus routes with bus stops very near our clinic.



We have had some new signage made and the new plants out front are going well.

Lucky enough to take a plane trip?



With the growth in the popularity of rechargeable hearing aids, we advise that if you travel by air with your hearing aids and recharger you should have these in your carry on baggage. If you pack these in your checked in baggage you may find they have been confiscated when you get to your destination 😞.

Itchy ears?

I have had recommendations from my colleagues about some drops that are helpful assisting people with itchy ears. If you would like to try these, I have managed to purchase some and they are available in the clinic. A bottle costs \$32.

Having trouble grasping your hearing aids or getting them out of their charger?

We have purchased some cloths with small rubberised dots on them to help grip on to hearing aids. If this is an issue for you, feel free to pop into the clinic to pick up one for a small cost (\$5).

Keeping your hearing aids working well

Remember to keep your hearing aids dry and clean. The most common failure of hearing aids is due to moisture or wax getting into their outlets (microphones, receivers/speakers and battery drawers). Generally changing wax guards at least monthly for nearly all hearing aids, and using a dry box is great (for non rechargeable hearing aids). Brushing across the microphone openings occasionally with a **clean** brush is also recommended.

Updates from manufacturers

As always, there are new products on the market including rechargeable hearing aid devices which are becoming increasingly popular. These are predominantly for behind the ear/receiver-in-the-ear hearing aid models and come in small styles. Some models are compatible with smartphones so you can control your hearing aids from your smartphone, and in some cases receive phone calls or stream audio through your hearing aids. With some of these devices, all you need to do is tap the hearing aid/top of your ear to receive a phone call from your phone into your hearing aids. If smartphones aren't your thing, these rechargeable aids work perfectly well as hearing aids without having to have a smartphone 😊.



One manufacturer has produced an aid helps support the brain to focus on what is important and reduce what is not. I have had several people who have been very happy with the sound quality and performance of these aids. At this stage they only come in a rechargeable model.

The computer chips in hearing devices are becoming increasingly clever! There is increasing research showing a relationship between hearing loss and dementia. Treating hearing loss with hearing aids is one of the risk factors for dementia that you can address. Research is ongoing in this area. Treating hearing loss is always a good idea for your overall health and wellbeing. Being independent means I can recommend a device that is right for you as I am not owned by a manufacturer or tied to a particular brand of hearing aid.



Quote for the season: Never catch snowflakes with your tongue until all the birds have flown north for the winter

Best regards

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