

# HMA Half-Year-In-Review 2025

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**HEARING MATTERS  
AUSTRALIA**

*Support from real life experience*

# About HMA

- Founded as Self Help Hard of Hearing (**SHHH**) in **1983**, by **Mary Sparke**, as a consumer-led self-help group
- Changed the name to ***Hearing Matters Australia*** in 2018
- A voluntary, self-funded, and not-for-profit organisation incorporated in NSW

# Mission

To provide support based on lived experience to help people living with hearing loss.

# HMA's Core Services

Publishing quarterly journals  
– ***Hearing Matters***  
(1983 till current)

Publishing digital magazines  
– ***Hearing Research Matters***

**Hearing Aid Bank**  
(1988 till current)

**Outreach program**

**Advocacy**

**Hearing Awareness Videos**  
(education program)

Membership engagement  
activities

- Information Centre
- Face-to-face Café and Chat
- Peer Support Sessions
- Opportunities to Hearing Research Study





# Hearing Aid Bank Program

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**Since 2024**, our Hearing Aid Bank program is not only supporting Asylum Seekers/Refugees and eligible individuals with low income **in NSW** but also helping children and adults with hearing loss **in Samoa and the Philippines**, in collaboration with **Professor Philip Newall AM and Cristy Newall**.





Scan this QR code to  
watch the video  
about the  
hearing service  
in Samoa.



Philip and Cristy Newall in Samoa 2026, their 26<sup>th</sup> visit since 2008

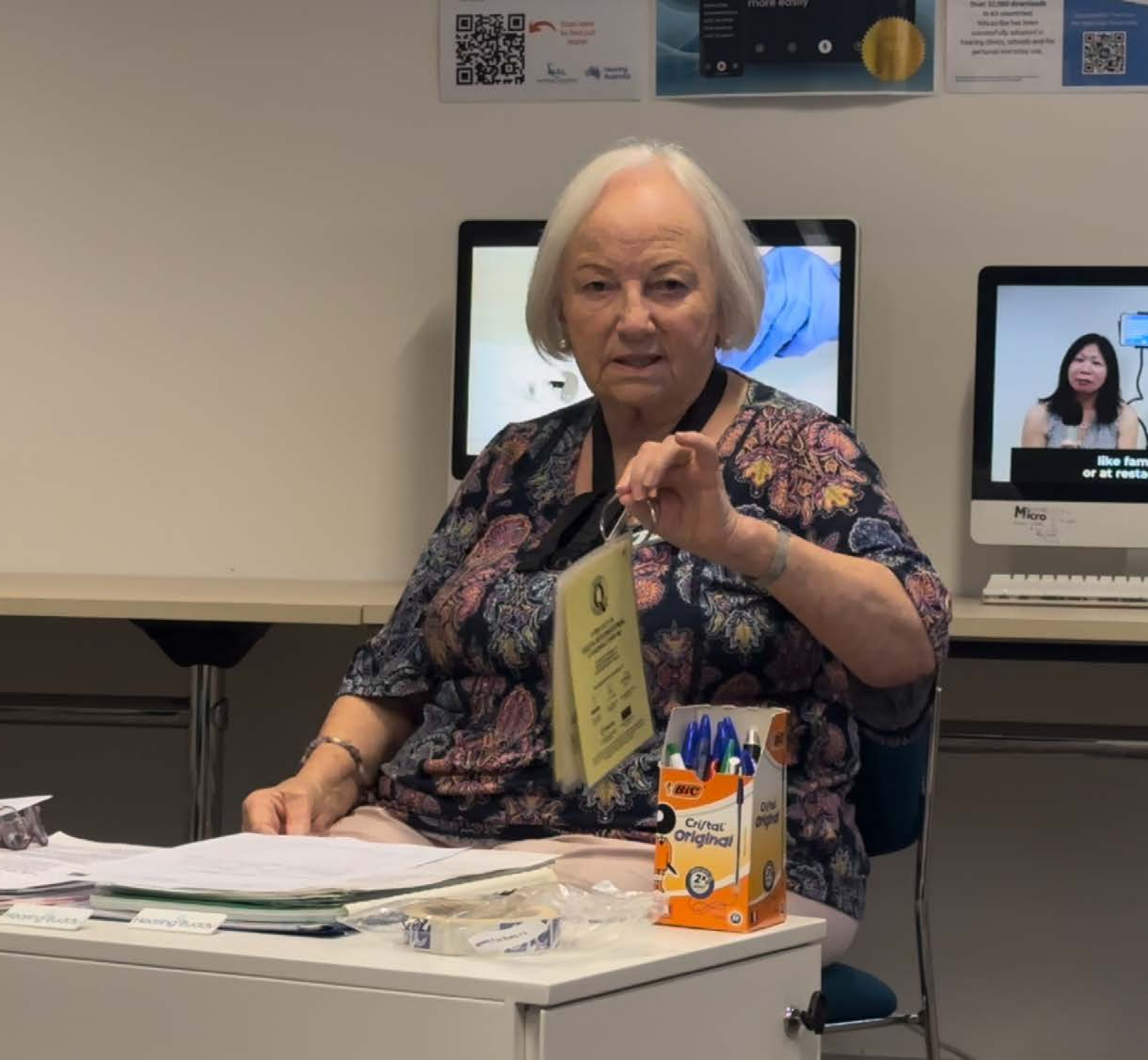




# Café & Chat Sessions

HMA continues to host **monthly face-to-face Café and Chat sessions** with guest speakers.

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## 25<sup>th</sup> March 2025

Libby Harricks Award recipient and guest speaker, **Pat Fulton**, talked about challenges that people with hearing loss face in hospitals and aged care facilities, discussed self-help tips and things can be easily done to support aged care residents.



## Alarms and Alerts

### Notification

- Alarm clocks (vibrating, flashing)
- Alarms and Alerts (vibrating, flashing, loud)
- Smartwatches (vibrating)



**29<sup>th</sup> April 2025**

HMA life member and  
guest speaker,

**Andrew Stewart,**

shared his expertise in  
hearing technology  
focusing on **alerts** and  
**alarms** for daily living,  
including hands-on tips  
and demonstrations.



OPY IN THE UK

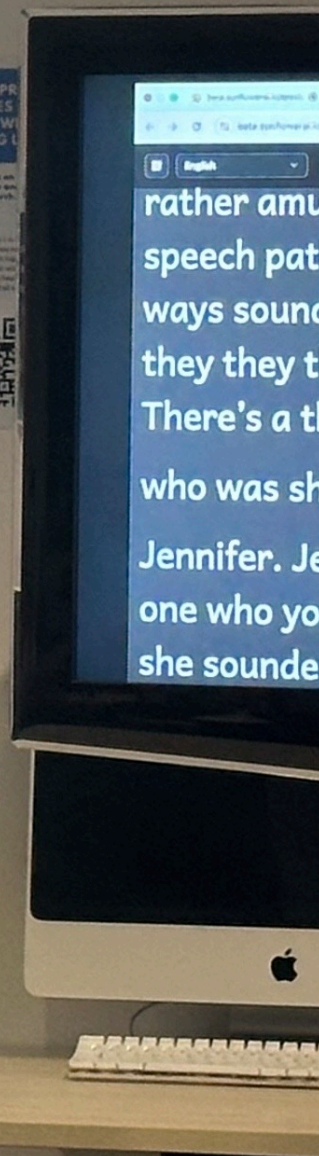
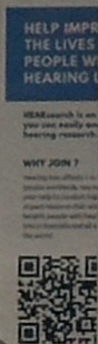
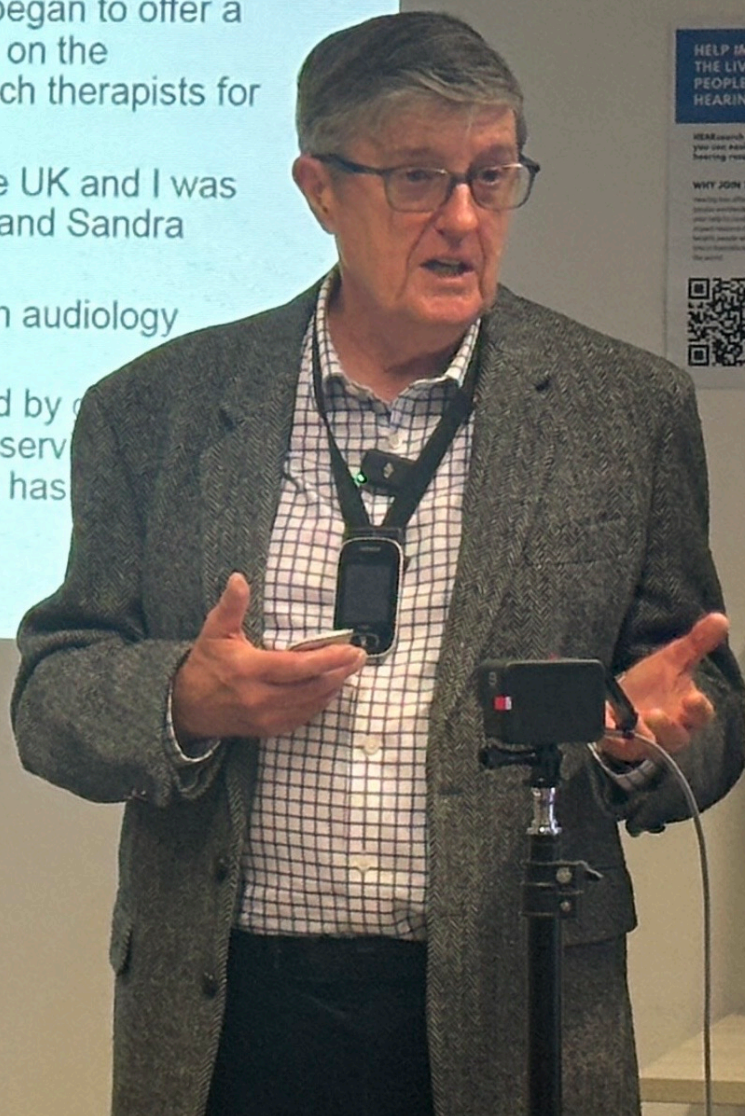


and the City Literary Institute began to offer a  
sts in the late 1970's, based on the  
n training programs for speech therapists for

rapists were appointed in the UK and I was  
my centre (Christine Moses and Sandra

y Lit course, Christine was an audiology  
teacher.

e UK were gradually replaced by  
felt that they could offer the serv  
therapists and the profession has



**21<sup>st</sup> May 2025**

HMA committee member  
and guest speaker,

**Professor Philip Newall AM**

shared his experiences about  
Hearing Therapists in the UK.  
Hearing Therapists provided  
advice and counselling,  
rehabilitation and support  
for adults and children who  
have a hearing loss.



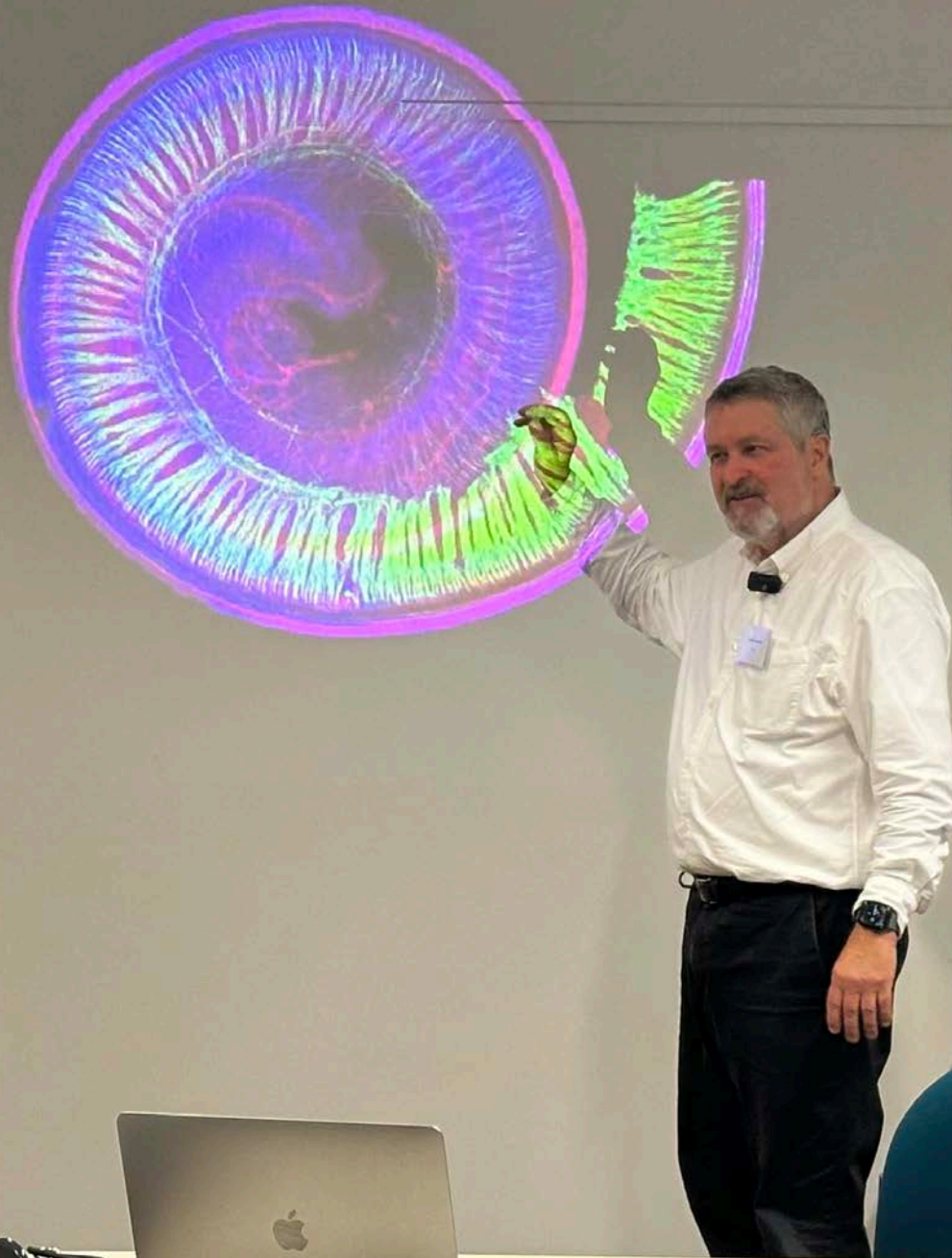


## 4<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Our guest speaker  
**Karen Hirschausen,**  
Principal Audiologist for  
Commercial Clinical Services  
at Hearing Australia, brings  
over 25 years of experience to  
the field of audiology. She  
shared insights into Hearing  
Australia's general and  
specialist services, with a  
particular focus on support  
for adults.



## The Cochlear Hair Cells



**25<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

Our guest speaker,  
**Dr William Martens** -  
perceptual psychologist,  
cochlear implant recipient,  
HMA committee member,  
and senior research  
Scientist at NAL - shared  
insights from his past and  
current hearing research on  
hearing matters and  
hearing health.

30<sup>th</sup> July 2025

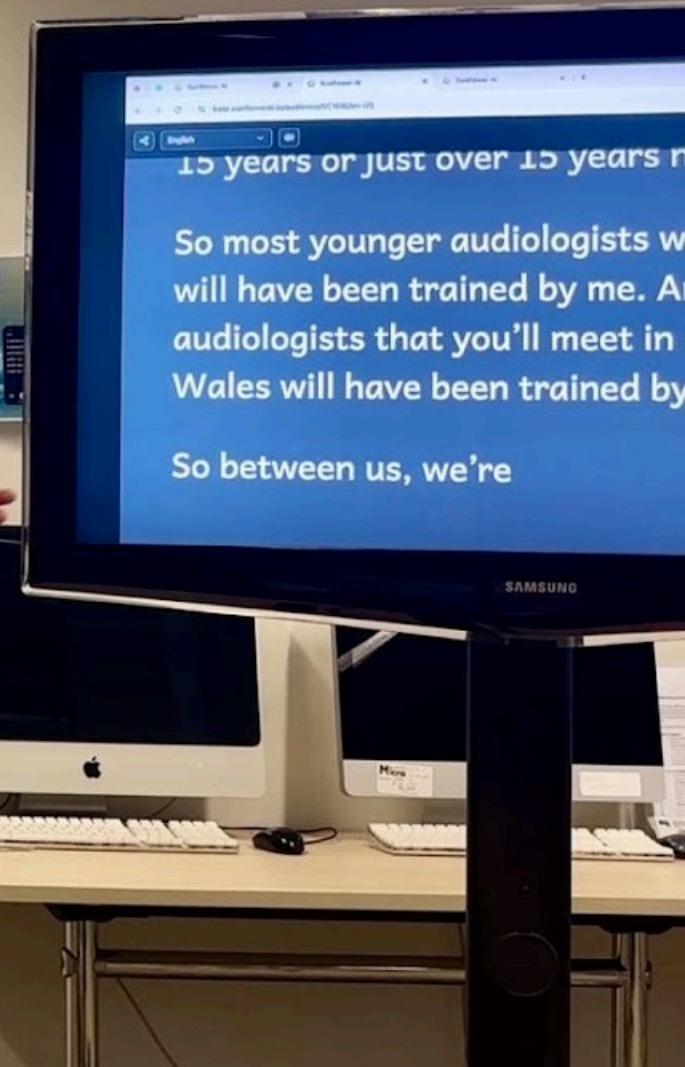


Our guest speaker,

**Dr Rom Bouveret**

Director of Operations and  
Strategy at Macquarie  
University Hearing, share  
insights on the people,  
projects, and future in the  
Australian Hearing Hub.





9<sup>th</sup> September 2025  
&  
28<sup>th</sup> October 2025

Our guest speaker, **Dr John Newall** talks about what people should know about hearing loss and hearing loss management from the perspective of a professional audiologist and audiology educator.



**Scan** the QR Code & **Subscribe** to our HMA  
YouTube Channel *@HearingMattersAustralia*

Watch our recorded Café and Chat Sessions, Lived Experience  
Interviews, Hearing Research Talks, and other videos online....



# Outreach Program Impact

HMA outreach presenters and volunteers tirelessly participate in events to raise awareness about hearing loss and share experiences and tips for managing it.

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**3<sup>rd</sup> March 2025**

**World Hearing  
Day Event  
at the  
Australian  
Hearing Hub**





**11<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

**Outreach Help Desk at Meadowbank Community Centre**





**12<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

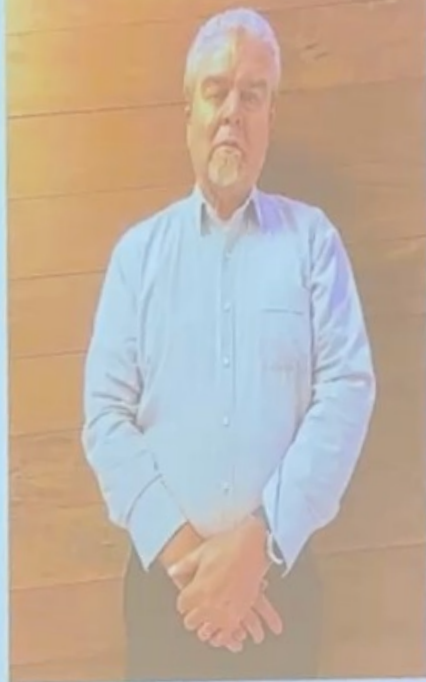
**Senior Expo Day – Ku-ring-gai Council**





**18<sup>th</sup> March 2025**

**Anglicare Warrina Village Castle Hill**



## About my Hearing Journey

**14<sup>th</sup> May  
2025**

**Macquarie  
University  
Introductory  
Audiology  
Class**







**3<sup>rd</sup> July 2025**

**Living well with health challenges - Health Day for Seniors  
by Ku-ring-gai Council**





**13<sup>th</sup> August 2025**

**Glenaeon Over 55s Retirement Village in Belrose**





# 5<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> December 2025

## Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Community College Aged Care Cert IV and Cert III Classes (Zoom and Face-to-Face)



# Student Projects Supporting HMA

This year, HMA partnered with Macquarie University's PACE Media Communication student placements & Master of Management strategic planning practice to create impactful content on hearing loss awareness and services.

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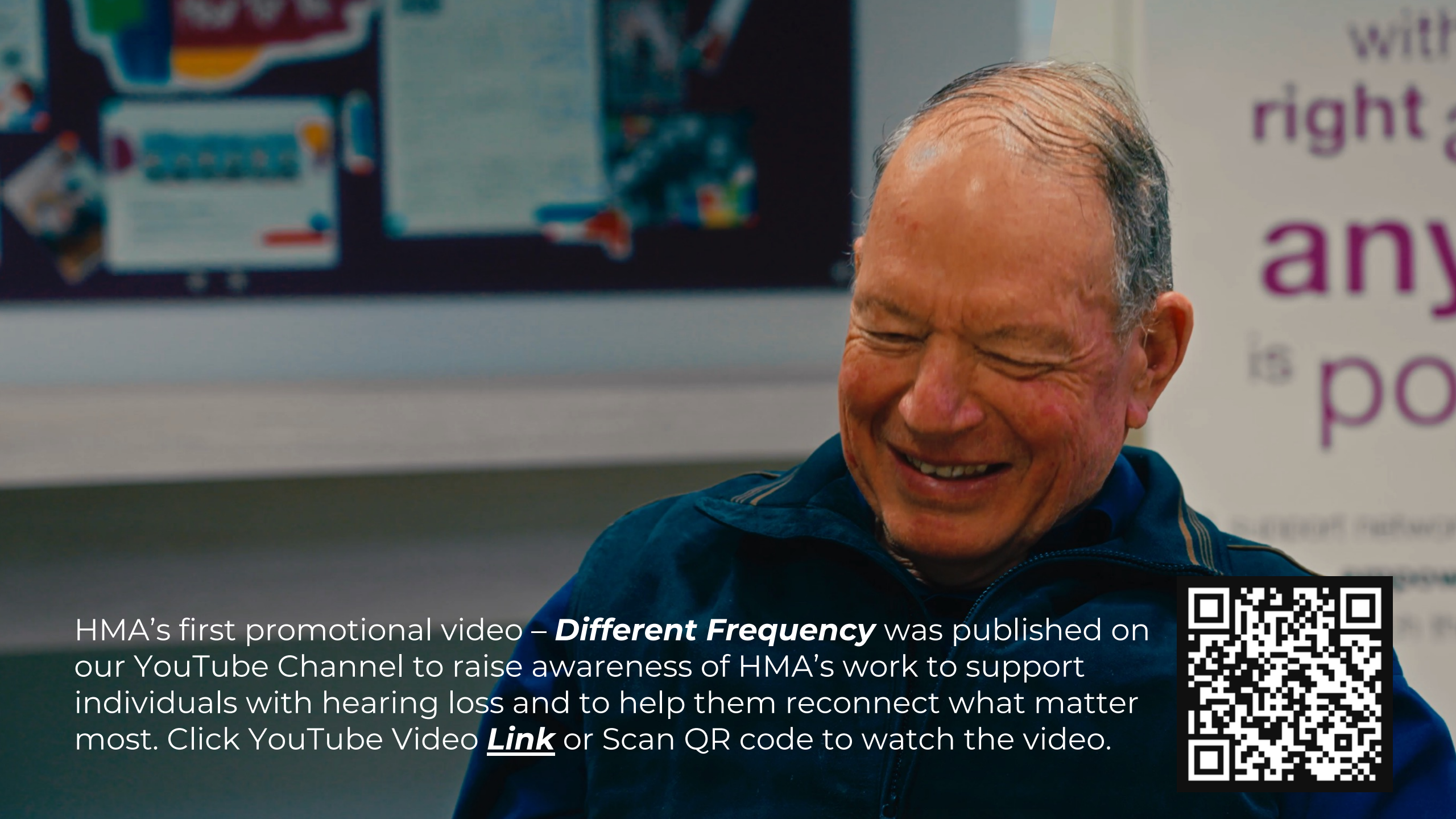
## Lived Experience of Hearing Loss Interview Series



Scan this QR code to hear inspiring stories

**4 MQ Uni PACE Media  
interns** worked on editing  
and filming more  
**lived experience interview  
videos** for our YouTube  
channel to raise awareness  
of hearing care and hearing  
loss management.



A close-up photograph of an older man with thinning grey hair, smiling broadly. He is wearing a dark blue zip-up jacket. The background is slightly out of focus, showing a wall with colorful posters on the left and a white banner with purple text on the right. The text on the banner includes "with", "right", "any", and "is po".

HMA's first promotional video – ***Different Frequency*** was published on our YouTube Channel to raise awareness of HMA's work to support individuals with hearing loss and to help them reconnect what matter most. Click YouTube Video [Link](#) or Scan QR code to watch the video.







## HEARING RESEARCH TALKS

### DR. CHI YHUN LO & DR. WILLIAM L. MARTENS

Interviewed by **LILLY LEAVER**

**Episode 1: Hearing Loss and Music**



The **first** in our series ***Hearing Research Talks*** was produced to bridge the gap between hearing research and public awareness & understanding.

Link:

<https://www.hearingmattersaustralia.org/impact/hearing-research-talks>

# HEALTHY *Eating* HEALTHY *Listening*

*Sounds of the Kitchen*



HEALTHY  
*Eating* HEALTHY  
*Listening*



*Sounds of the Kitchen*

Commenced  
designing a digital  
**Cook Book**  
publication

***Healthy Eating  
&  
Healthy Listening***

***– Sounds of the  
Kitchen***

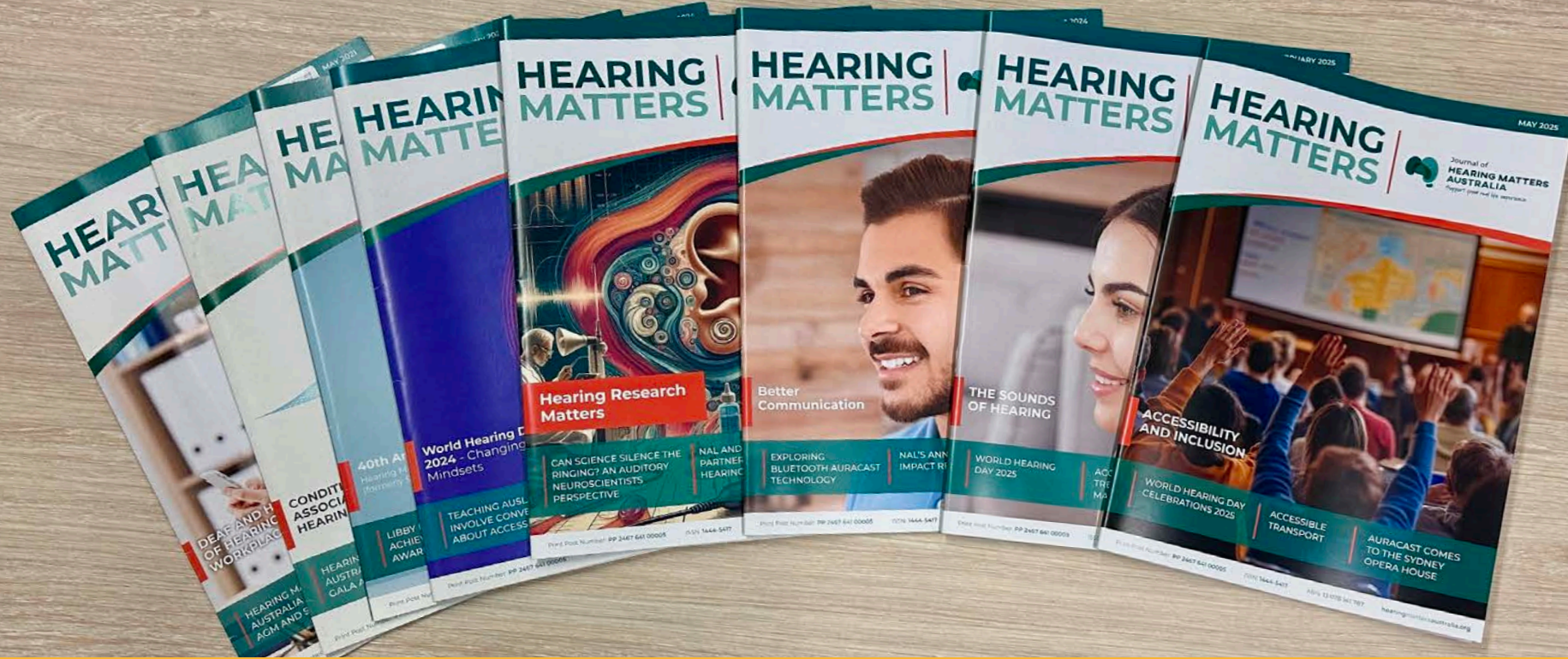
Stay tuned for the  
release of our 2025  
edition!





**24 MQ Uni Master of Management** students did a PACE program under supervision of Dr. Robert Jack, as a capstone project, to explore marketing strategies to help us explore membership growth, funding, and corporate partnership opportunities.





# Quarterly Magazines and Digital Publication

HMA publishes quarterly newsletters featuring impactful articles on hearing loss awareness, advancements in services, and community support initiatives, fostering education and engagement within the hearing health community.





# Libby Harricks Achievement Award

## 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

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# LIBBY HARRICKS ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS 1999 - 2023



ISSUED DATE: OCTOBER 2024

ISSN: 1444-5417

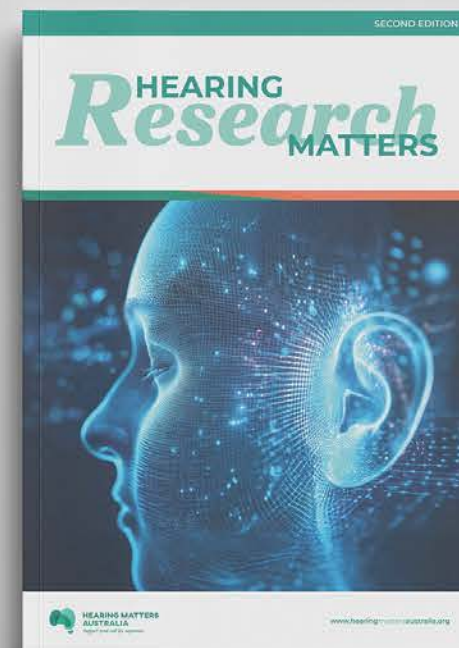
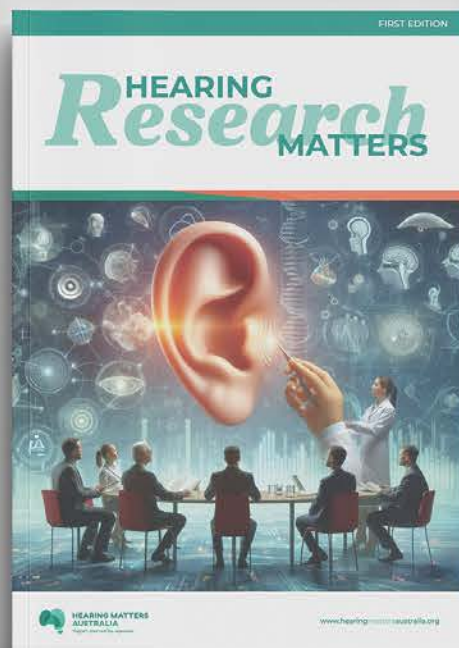
ABN: 13 078 141 787

[hearingmattersaustralia.org](http://hearingmattersaustralia.org)

This year, HMA released its first special edition, *Libby Harricks Achievement Award 1999–2023*, to honour past awardees and celebrate their remarkable contributions and accomplishments within HMA.

Scan the **QR Code** to read inspiring stories.





# Hearing **Research** Matters

## Digital Magazine – two editions

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### Recognising Hearing Loss



### Choosing an Audiologist



### The First Hearing Appointment



### Accessing Hearing Devices & Services in Australia



### Understanding the Cost of Hearing Devices



### How much will my Private Health Insurance Cover



### Hearing Assessments



### Confirmed Hearing Loss What's Next?



### Dymystifying Hearing Devices



### Bluetooth Compatible Hearing Aids



### Communication Tips: For Individuals



### Communication Tips: For Family & Friends



# Updated Support Guides

Updated information sheets were renamed as support guides and are now available on HMA's website for free downloads in assisting with individuals' journey of managing hearing loss

HMA Webpage: <https://www.hearingmattersaustralia.org/services/support-guides>



## ENGAGE IN & SUPPORT OUR WORK

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# Volunteer with HMA

People choose to volunteer for a variety of reasons. For some it offers the chance to give something back to the community or make a difference to the people around them. For others it provides an opportunity to develop new skills or build on existing experience and knowledge.

As a volunteer-run charity organisation, we highly value our volunteers as we can't do our work without them.

If you have a hearing loss, a family member with a hearing loss or you just enjoy helping people we would love you to get in touch with us @ [admin@hearingmattersaustralia.org](mailto:admin@hearingmattersaustralia.org) or **scan the QR code** on the right to fill in the **Volunteer Expression of Interest form**.





# Thank you for your support!

- Email: [admin@hearingmattersaustralia.org](mailto:admin@hearingmattersaustralia.org)
- Phone / SMS: 0477 785 525
- Website: [www.hearingmattersaustralia.com](http://www.hearingmattersaustralia.com)

