

Join the Celebration: World Hearing Day 2023

Dear members and friends,

I hope this letter finds you well.

As the President of Hearing Matters Australia (HMA) and someone who is hard of hearing, I want to bring your attention to the upcoming World Hearing Day on March 3rd, 2023.

World Hearing Day brings to the forefront the importance of reducing barriers to inclusion and improving access to supports and services for people with hearing loss. Hearing Matters Australia offers peer support to all Australians living with hearing loss and it welcomes this year's call to action for ear and hearing care for all. Hearing Matters Australia welcomes this event as an opportunity to remind people not only to take care of their own ears but to also better support those around us who live with hearing loss.

Hearing Matters Australia would like to use this occasion to encourage Australians to make a commitment to better awareness and inclusion of deaf and hard of hearing people in their family, workplaces and communities.

We are excited to invite our members and new friends to join us in various activities and events to celebrate World Hearing Day 2023 together.

- **Share your thoughts with us and be featured in the Hearing Matters Journal**
We would love to hear your thoughts on World Hearing Day and its importance in your life. Please share your quotes by emailing admin@hearingmattersaustralia.org, or reaching out to us on Facebook www.facebook.com/HearingMattersAustInc or via SMS at 0477 785 525 **by March 31st, 2023**. Selected quotes will be published in our May edition of the Hearing Matters journal.
- **Join our trial Zoom Café and Chat**
Join us for our trial Zoom Café and Chat on *Friday, March 3rd 2023, from 10am to 11:30am*, to learn more about our Hearing Aid Bank program. Live Captioning will be available. Please RSVP your attendance via email, Facebook, or SMS



(same as above) **by March 1st, 2023**. We will send you the Zoom link and the event reminder prior to the event.

- **Special event at Macquarie University**

Macquarie University Hearing invites our members to a special event on the World Hearing Day (3 March) at the Australian Hearing Hub. The running order of the event is as follows:

9am	Registration, tea & coffee and hearing screening*
10.30am	Welcome and update on the Australian Eye and Ear Health Survey
11.30am	Lunch and hearing screening*
1pm	Public Lecture 'Why and how you need to look after your hearing'
2pm	Hearing screening*
3pm	Event closes

The speakers include renowned academics and experts in the field, Prof David McAlpine, Academic Director Macquarie University Hearing; Professor Bamini Gopinath, Macquarie University Cochlear Chair in Hearing and Health; Prof Paul Mitchell, Emeritus Professor of Ophthalmology at the University of Sydney, Director of the Centre for Vision Research at the Westmead Institute for Medical Research and Mr Oskars Stubis, Clinical Educator at the Macquarie University Health, Speech and Hearing Clinic.

You are welcome to join for the entire day or only the morning or afternoon sessions. Please register your attendance through the link: <https://event.mq.edu.au/world-hearing-day-2023/registration-a> and put "HMA member" in the organisation field of the registration form.

- **International Cochlear Implant Day Gathering**

CICADA CI volunteer support group invites all recipients and friends to celebrate the International Cochlear Implant Day Gathering in the Sydney Botanic Gardens (the lawn between Morshead Fountain Gate and the Calyx) on Saturday, 25 Feb 2023, between 8am and 4pm. Contact suewalters@cicada.org.au for further information.

Let's celebrate the World Hearing Days and work together towards a better and more inclusive world for the deaf and hard of hearing community.

Warm regards,

Bec Stewart
President of HMA