

COCHLEAR IMPLANT CONSUMER GROUP

Minutes of the meeting held on 26 April 2014 at The Hearing House, Greenlane, Auckland

Present: Donna, Vince, Virginia, Donald, Zita, Ged, Stuart, Maxine, John, Raewyn, Anita, Frank and Di

Apologies: Lyn, Nic, Lee, Diana and Fred Houtman, Kerry, Laurie Barber, Cabby Keyte, Graham Duffy

Host and Hostess: Donna and Vince

The meeting was a social one.

Donna spoke about a project she was involved with at the Auckland University Clinics suggesting how helpful the results could be. Involving home-based computerized listening skills over a period of a week – results showed an 11% increase. This information may be used in the future to help cochlear implantees with their listening skills, especially so if they are unable to get people to help.

Raewyn said she uses a website called www.medel.com. This is along similar lines to the above to help with listening skills. The 2 activities she does are called 'Telling Tales' (for retaining information) and 'Oceans and continents' (Sentence matrix).

Donna also spoke about some different magazines available.

There is a magazine put out by the National Foundation for The Deaf. 'Hearing Matters' comes out about 4 times a year. You are able to access old pdf copies on their website.

A recent seminar in Auckland on tinnitus was put on by the Neurological Foundation of NZ. Unfortunately there is no quick remedy, however there are different management systems that people may utilise. The Foundation puts out a publication 'Headlines' every 3 months – and their Autumn 2014 issue had a 4 page spread on tinnitus.

Recent reading from the Auckland library collection has found new publications. One called 'Shouting won't help – Why I – and 50 million other Americans – can't hear you' – by Katherine Bouton. This is a condensed information book on hearing-related issues.

Also 'Coping with Hearing Loss' – by Christine Craggs-Hinton.

There are 2 cochlear implant books by Arlene Romoff who is an American motivational speaker. (1 for each implant) Very down to earth and written in an easy-to-read format.

There was much interaction between members.

The meeting closed at midday.