



NEWSLETTER

The Hearing Association Hamilton And Districts Branch



Inside This Issue

We're delighted to share the latest news from our hearing care team! A new audiologist on site, bringing fresh expertise and dedicated care for our community. We also welcome our new Admin and Client Support volunteer, who will assist with day-to-day operations and enhance our client experience. Looking ahead to next year, we're developing an extensive "Rest Home Care Visit Plan" to reach those who may find it difficult to come into the office. Hearing support, ear checks, wax removal and consumables are always available to help you maintain your hearing with ease.

As the festive season approaches, enjoy our free recipe and don't forget to complete your membership form to stay connected and enjoy all the benefits of being part of our caring community.



NEWS UPDATES



MEMBERS



EVENTS & MORE



News UPDATE



Audiologist On Site from January 2026!

We're delighted to announce that starting January 2026, a qualified Audiologist will be available at Hamilton Hearing Association. Melissa Mesina, whose practice is Hamilton Hearing, will offer her services right here. While our names are similar, her clinic is completely independent, giving our members and the public more convenient access to expert audiology care.

Meet Melissa:

Melissa earned a Bachelor of Science in Medical Technology and a Master's in Clinical Audiology (2005) from the University of Santo Tomas, Philippines. She moved to New Zealand 17 years ago, travelling and working nationwide before settling in Hamilton, drawn by its rich culture and welcoming community.

With over 20 years' experience, Melissa has held leadership roles in multinational companies and has been a full member of the New Zealand Audiological Society since 2011. She specialises in adult hearing diagnostics, hearing aids, rehabilitation, and tinnitus management, following evidence-based clinical practices to enhance people's quality of life.

Melissa and her husband James founded Hamilton Hearing Clinic as an independent practice to provide personalised, non-corporate audiology care. Free from big-brand ties, they offer practical, cost-effective hearing solutions tailored to each client's hearing, lifestyle, and budget.

To make an appointment
with Melissa contact:



Phone: 07 949 6809
Mob.: 021 280 3625



Melissa Mesina



Christmas Closure

We will close from Friday 19 December
2025 and re-open Monday 12 January
2026

Reminder of our office hours:

Monday	9.15am to 2.00pm
Tuesday	9.15am to 2.00pm
Wednesday	9.15am to 2.00pm
Thursday	9.15am to 2.00pm
Friday	Closed

We often do work amongst the community, the office might at other times be unattended - please call ahead or make an appointment if you need specific assistance/hearing aid maintenance or cleaning

Important information for Members:

All current members will need to complete a Membership form to renew their memberships.

Please go to our website: <https://hamiltonhearingassociation.org/>

OR

Scan the QR code



OR

Complete the form on the last page of the Newsletter and drop it in our letterbox.

Membership Fees are now overdue for 2025 - if you have not paid, please do. Your valued support helps us to continue doing the important work we do in our Community and for our Members

Membership fees 2026:

\$38.00 a person \$55 per couple Student \$22.00

Bank details for online payment

Hamilton Hearing, Westpac 03-1556-0065744-00

Please quote your surname & initials eg; Smith J S

REST HOME CARE VISIT

Can't come to us? We'll come to you!

The Hamilton Hearing Association (HHA) **expanding Rest Home Care Visits** for people who are unable or find it difficult to visit our Claudelands office.

What We Offer

Our caring team can visit your rest home to provide:
Hearing aid cleaning, maintenance, and minor repairs
Ear-wax checks and safe micro-suction
Advice on hearing protection and device care
Delivery of hearing aid batteries and accessories to your home care.
Demonstrations of assistive listening devices like amplified phones and alarms

Who It's For

Rest homes and Lifestyle villages, If you're homebound, living in a rest home, or have mobility or transport challenges, our Rest Home Care Visit service ensures you still receive the hearing support you deserve—comfortably and conveniently.

How to Book

 Call: 07 852 5725
 Email: info@hamhearing.org
 Visit: 27 O'Neill Street, Claudelands, Hamilton 3214
 Office Hours: Mon, Tue & Thu 9:15am–2 pm

Why It Matters

Hearing well helps you stay connected with family, friends, and community.
At Hamilton Hearing Association, we're dedicated to making hearing care accessible for everyone—wherever you are.
Hamilton Hearing Association – Supporting better hearing for our Hamilton community.

SUPPORT OUR WORK

Support Our Mission with a Gift - Or leave a Lasting Legacy

As a valued member of our community, you play a vital role in helping us fulfil our mission. Your generosity has already made a meaningful impact - but if you're looking for a way to deepen your support, we invite you to consider making a donation or leaving a bequest to our organisation.

Make a Donation

Your contribution - no matter the size - helps us to maintain our services and continue to provide for the deaf and hard of hearing in our community.

We are a voice for the deaf and hard of hearing, and provide unbiased support and understanding to enable our Members to enjoy life to the full within our community.

We educate our younger generation on the importance of protecting their hearing.

One-time or recurring donations can be made easily and securely

Leave a Legacy

By including our organization in your Will or Estate Plan, you ensure that your values will live on and continue to make a difference for years to come. A bequest is a powerful way to leave a lasting impact, and it's easier to arrange than you might think.

Whether you choose to give today or plan for tomorrow, your support helps sustain and grow the work we do.

If you would like to discuss your options or learn more about how to make a bequest, please don't hesitate to contact us at the Hamilton Hearing Association.

Thank you for standing with us, and believing in the future we're building together

Meet Mary Ann Castillejos



We're excited to shine a spotlight on one of our dedicated volunteers — Mary Ann Castillejos!

Mary Ann brings a wealth of international experience and a heart for helping others. She holds a Bachelor's Degree in Hotel and Restaurant Management and spent 13 years working in Qatar in the residential building management sector. After many years in the Middle East, she made the move from Qatar to New Zealand just over a year ago, and has been actively involved in community work ever since.

Originally from the Philippines, Mary Ann has embraced life in Aotearoa with warmth and enthusiasm. In addition to her volunteer role with the Hamilton Hearing Association, she is also works part-time as an Administrator and Facilitator at Tangata Tiriti that support inclusivity and wellbeing across New Zealand.

We're so grateful to have Mary Ann on board — thank you for everything you do!

"Volunteering alongside Adel has been such a wonderful experience. She's very supportive and makes sure I feel comfortable and confident with every task — from admin work and assisting members to event planning and daily office routines."

"Everyone treats me like a family, and the committee has been so welcoming since I joined. I've learned so much and met amazing people along the way!"

Ear Wax Removal

Our Ear wax nurse Donnell is also available for ear wax removal every Thursday.

From January her service will shift into a new room at our office at 27 O' Neill street, same place, same awesome service.

Contact us on 07 852 5725 to book in.



Ear Microsuctioning / Wax Removal

Donnell Our Ear Nurse is in the Clinic on Thursdays from 09:00am to 5:00pm

To book call 07 852 5725

Adults: \$55.00

Members: \$50.00

Children 18 and under \$45

ACC Funded Hearing Aids: \$20

Registered War Veteran Affairs: No Charge

Home/Rest Home Visits: Enquire

Christmas Luncheon

Our Christmas Luncheon this year will be hosted at Zenders, 4 Hopkins Road, Newstead on 3 December at 12:30.

For those that have confirmed their attendance - we will be in touch with you to provide all the details.

We look forward to seeing you there.

If you have not confirmed and would like to attend please call Adél in the office on 07 852 5725 we might be able to still get you on the list.





REMINDER OF WHAT WE CAN HELP YOU WITH:

- Information, support, and advice for people with hearing loss and their families.
- Hearing aid batteries and consumables available for purchase.
- Personal assistance with hearing aids, including minor repairs and maintenance.
- Demonstrations of assistive listening devices — such as amplified telephones, alarm clocks, and doorbells.
- Ear care services, including earwax removal every Thursday in our rooms.
- Rest-home visits for those unable to come to us.
- Community education and hearing protection talks, including sessions for schools.
- Resources and information on hearing health, prevention, and funding options available on our website.



THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS!

We would like to thank our recent funders for their continued support



Lottery Grants Board
Te Puna Tahu
LOTTO FUNDS FOR YOUR COMMUNITY



Easy choc wreath

Christmas Recipe : Easy Choco Ripple Wreath! Ingredients You'll Need.

- 4 cups thickened cream
- 2 tbsp icing sugar
- 1/2 tsp finely grated orange rind
- 2 tbsp Cointreau
- 2 x 250g packets choc ripple biscuits
- 10 Oreo cookies
- 12 mini meringue drops
- 1/2 cup Maltesers
- 1/2 cup Jaffas
- 1/2 x 180g packet BB's mint balls
- Icing snowflakes, to serve
- Christmas sprinkles, to serve
- Fresh mint leaves, to serve
- Icing sugar, to serve

• **Step 1**

Using an electric mixer, beat 3 cups cream, icing sugar and orange rind until firm peaks form. Fold in Cointreau.

• **Step 2**

Spoon 1/2 cup cream mixture into a snap-lock bag. Snip 2cm off one corner. Pipe a 20cm circle on a flat serving plate to form a base. Spread flat side of 1 biscuit with a little cream mixture. Stand biscuit upright on its edge on cream on serving plate. Spread another biscuit with a little cream mixture. Place in front of the biscuit on plate and sandwich together. Using the piped cream round as a guide, continue to sandwich biscuits together with cream mixture to form a wreath shape. Spread biscuits all over with remaining cream mixture. Refrigerate overnight to set.

• **Step 3**

Using an electric mixer, beat the remaining 1 cup cream until just-firm peaks form. Spread wreath with cream. Decorate with Oreos, mini meringues, Maltesers, Jaffas, mint balls, snowflakes, sprinkles and mint leaves. Dust with icing sugar. Serve.



Membership Form

Joining The Hamilton Hearing Association, connects you with a supportive community passionate about improving the lives of those with hearing loss. As a member, you'll gain access to regular newsletters, exclusive events, and discounts on various services.

Your membership also plays a vital role in strengthening our advocacy efforts for better resources, support, and awareness for the hard of hearing.

To become a member or renew your membership for 2026 please complete this form and return it to us by post or do it online by scanning the QR code provided below:

Personal Information

First Name :

Last Name :

Contact No. :

Address :

Email :

Type Of Membership

*Choose your type of membership

Single Membership \$38

Couple Membership \$55

Student Membership \$22

Term & Condition

This membership is valid for a year

Membership includes exclusive events for members only

Membership is not automatic

