

HEARING EYE

The voice of Open Ears

Hard of Hearing Christian Fellowship

No: 161

Summer 2019



Editorial

Welcome to the summer edition of Hearing Eye. I have just returned from a lovely summer break at Cromer, Norfolk where I was able to relax in the sun with my great friend Marilyn and my Hearing Dog, Goldie. It was lovely to enjoy paddling in the sea during that very hot spell

and sampling some seaside delights like ice creams and hot donuts! As you can see, Goldie enjoyed chasing into the sea to retrieve balls and brought them out as if they were treasure, gloating over them and wagging his tail.

The thought came to me that God wants us to live as if we are on a treasure hunt, seeking out the treasures of His love, care and blessings. Also those moments when He calls us to do something for Him, for there is nothing like knowing that we are working together with Him to bring about some precious fruit for His kingdom. As Jesus said in John 4:34: 'My food is to do the will of Him who sent me and to finish His work.' As naughty and delightful as seaside treats like ice creams and donuts are, they cannot satisfy like the joy of living and working in partnership with God does.



In Open Ears we are seeking to become more and more wide reaching in our partnership with Him to reach and serve those with hearing loss and to make churches more aware of the needs of those in their midst who may have hearing loss. It's exciting to seek Him for what He wants us to be doing as a ministry. But we are all individuals too. How does He want to give you the treasure of



knowing you are bearing fruit for Him today? It could be as simple as praying for someone or a situation, reaching out to someone who is lonely, giving a gift to bless someone, sending a card to let someone know they are thought of or simply sharing your faith....Whatever it is He calls us to do is immensely

significant if we do it with hearts of love and purpose. So be encouraged and whether you've been away or stayed at home this summer, I pray you will know the joy of His loving presence with you and the treasures of His blessings in your life. May this Summer edition of Hearing Eye be a source of blessing, encouragement and challenge too as you'll discover there is a good variety of features, tips, news, prayer points and invitations to events. Be blessed and enjoy!

Tracy Williamson.

Out of the mouths of babes

More fun sayings from our 2 youngest members, Nadine and Dominic Willdig

D (aged 3) Playing with some similar aged boys at camp. An argument ensues as to who is a big boy, a little boy etc. Other boy: "I'm 4-and-a-half!"

D. ready to trump this: "But I am a pain in the bum!"



Nepal News from Mike Smith, July 2019



We came to England for leave about 3 weeks ago and it was busy before I left Nepal, and then coming back here. I will return to Nepal (to the International Nepal Fellowship Ear Centre in Pokhara) at the beginning of September, Fiona will go a bit later. We have elderly mums and need to spend some

time with them.

We lost two of our good Nepali surgeons last year when one went off to run a private clinic and the other went to the USA! Annoying but can easily happen here. We have three new surgeons and I am working to upgrade them; they are doing well.

We also appointed 5 paramedicals and have trained them to do simple diagnosis and treatment of ear conditions. We see many needy people daily and some are really serious with severe infections of the mastoid or almost no hearing.

We have now done over 1300 operations at the Ear Centre (based at Green Pastures Hospital) and are seeing around 10,000 outpatients a year. Our audiology department is also really busy with testing and fitting aids. But we lose our New Zealand audiologist soon, back to NZ, and he has trained his two Nepali staff so well that they won scholarships and are now off to India for 3 years! So there are constant challenges.

We really value your prayers, and in particular I do need to slow down and find local staff with the motivation and caring hearts to take over in the coming months and years. God bless you for all your help and care for us.

Mike and Fiona

www.inf.org

www.earaidnepal.org

Mike kindly sent us the following story for Hearing Eye Ease in living after surgery

Prakriti Khadgi (10 years, name changed for anonymity), is a resident of Tanahau district in Western Nepal. She lives in a small family with her father, mother and a brother. Her father does unskilled work and her mother is a housewife.

One year ago, suddenly she had a swelling in the outer part of her right ear and there was puss discharge and severe pain in her ear. The condition of Prakriti did not improve and her parents took her to one of the reputed hospitals in Kaski district. For 4-5 weeks doctors continuously called them and analysed the

case. At first the doctor said that he will conduct the surgery there but at the last moment denied the surgery saying the hospital didn't have enough technology to conduct the surgery. The parents were really disheartened as they had lost time and money in one of the reputed hospitals in western Nepal.

Suddenly, one of the patients in that hospital suggested them to go and visit Green Pastures Hospital. In Green Pastures doctors, after diagnosing the case, conducted surgery within one month. Before the surgery only cleaning of the ear and general medication had been done. Now, Prakriti is in good condition and her parents are very happy.

Prakriti's mother is also happy that the hospital subsidised 30% of the total cost. She is very grateful towards the hospital for the financial support and hospitality.

Thanks to Mary Bucknall



For your information

In the Spring Hearing Eye we welcomed Anthea Owen and Rev Gill Nicholls to the Committee. We are delighted that Anthea is now a full Trustee and we are already greatly valuing her input. Very sadly, Rev Gill Nicholls has had to step down from being an Associate Committee Member because of family circumstances. We thank Gill for her interest in our work and ongoing prayer support.

Now on a light note, here's a lovely, fun poem from Gill Brodie

The Weather

Dear Father God, thank you for weather,
For breezes as light as a feather.
It's good to wake up in the morning
And, after we've finished our yawning,
To see the blue sky and bright sunshine –
To believe that today will be fine.
So we dress in our sandals and t shirt,
We're so happy it makes our hearts burst!
We no sooner get out of the door
Than the rain starts to pour and to pour.
Lord, is this your idea of a joke?
Do you think that we need a good soak?
So we find our umbrellas and macs
But we soon feel the sun on our backs!
Our weather is just so contrary
You 'd think we would learn to be wary.
But just think, if it were not so
Would we know what to talk about? No!
So Father God, thank you for weather
And that is the end of my blather.



To let you know.....

Because of a new big writing project that is due by mid-January, I will not be able to do the next two editions of Hearing Eye, The Autumn edition, due late October and the Winter edition, due mid-January will need a different editor and I am delighted to let you know that our newest trustee, Anthea Owen, has kindly offered to undertake both of them for us. I am sure that Anthea will do a wonderful job as she is gifted with ideas and creativity so I am looking forward to receiving them once produced. Remember though that Anthea, as much as me will need your contributions – your stories, poems, tips, funny anecdotes, favourite books, shows, places to visit, humorous misquotes on subtitles. It's all of these that really bring Hearing Eye alive, so please continue to send to Chris either by email or by post and then she will pass them on to Anthea and then to me once I start up again.. **Tracy Williamson**

Fast Approaching...

**Our Autumn conference break at Torch Holiday
& Retreat Centre**

Speaker – Tracy Williamson

11th – 13th Oct 2019



Photo used with permission.

Cost £150 full board for single room or £100 to share (twin beds). Booking form enclosed.

Do consider coming with us to this event. The weekends and longer breaks are always such special times and we'd really like to encourage you to join us. I will be sharing inspiring thoughts about our partnership with God; Marilyn Baker will lead worship; there'll be lovely food and time to relax together and have fun and fellowship. Come and enjoy.

Changes in eligibility for cochlear implants



There is good news for people struggling with their hearing loss as the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) have announced a change to the guidelines on who is eligible for a cochlear implant. These changes are for people with hearing levels, without their hearing aids, equal to or poorer than 80 decibels (dB) rather than 90 dB which it has been,

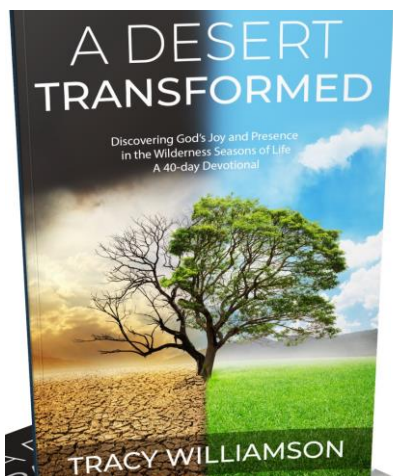
this means that many more people will be able to benefit from having a cochlear implant.

As someone who had an implant a year ago I can thoroughly recommend exploring the possibility of being suitable for one. Since receiving mine my life has changed enormously and is still continuing to improve. The encouragement and support I have received from the Auditory Implant Service (AIS) has been wonderful, nothing has been too much trouble for them and their support is ongoing with regular check-ups and helpful workshops. I will be for ever grateful to the AIS team and to the Lord for this miracle of hearing!

Christine Pitts

It was a very courageous step for Chris to start the process of finding out if she was eligible for a cochlear implant but as she says, it has changed her life completely. Sometimes we can live in a rut, struggling with our deafness for example but not daring to take the necessary steps to discover if there can be help. Could an implant be right for you? Be encouraged by this little article to consider if you might benefit from taking that step too. I am sure Chris will be more than happy to answer anyone's questions.

New Book Release!



I am excited that my new book, a 40 day devotional called “A Desert Transformed” has just been published. It is an easy book to read because its short daily readings and reflections looking at the things in the lives of Bible characters and in our own lives too that can make us feel like we’re in a desert...maybe feelings of loneliness or isolation, disappointment, burn out, fear, anger etc. But then the wonderful fact that God is always with us in all His amazing love and faithfulness. It is full of personal stories, Biblical insights and prophetic words from the Father. I believe it will be a great encouragement to many and also a lovely gift for birthdays and Christmas. You can order it from us at MBM info@mbm-ministries.org from Amazon/Eden or from your local Christian bookshop. I will also have them available at the OE conference in October.



For your encouragement I am including part of a day's reflection here which is looking at how important it is to treasure 'Today'.

Welcoming Today

Hebrews 3:7-8

"As the Holy Spirit says, 'Today if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts.'"

As I started today's reading I sensed that someone is in a wilderness of greyness. You feel dispirited and flat as if all colour and adventure has drained away. Today is just another hard day to get through as best you can and you can't imagine that ever changing. But the Lord is there with you in the midst of your weariness and is calling you to open your heart to the hope that He can transform your today as you walk in partnership with Him.

By nature I am a procrastinator and am always running away from today. If I can put something off to another day I will. But the other day I realised that I was waking up each morning with a feeling of dread about the day's tasks and aware that so many jobs were accumulating because of having put them off. Suddenly the Lord spoke into my heart, showing me that I was losing my sense of the wonder of each day being a gift from Him. An opportunity to enjoy His presence in a unique way, and also know His enabling. I was going through the days in a kind of "*I've got to get this done...*" mode, but He wanted me to be treasuring the day, listening for His voice and recognising that each day He gives special things to discover of His love and grace. The book of Hebrews quotes from Deuteronomy, where God tells the Israelites "*Today, if you hear His voice, do not harden your hearts.*" They hardened their hearts out of rebellion but that hardening can come about as much through having a negative, defeatist lack of joy as it can through actively rebelling against Him. As I thought about this and my attitude to 'Today' I wrote the following poem which I found helpful myself and maybe you will too?

Hello Today

Today has dawned
It's already several hours in,
And I am an important part of it.
My shadow will fall on the ground and the walls today.
And where I am, no one else can stand in that moment of time.
I often start each day full of inertia,

One day just like any other.
But today I want to befriend Today,
To discover what you look like
To see with your eyes and hear with your ears.
What does it feel like to be a day that slips by unnoticed?
When the reason for your existence is to be loved and enjoyed?
My destiny is that Today is part of my life.
I am destined to influence Today, and Today to influence me.
So hello Today, it's lovely to see you.
I am sorry for the times I've allowed my struggles to blind me to your
beauty.
I want to explore you today,
To see what wonders you have in store for me.
And even when things are hard, to see what
secret strengths
Of joy and faith you want me to discover in
myself.
So hello Today and welcome to my life.
I will never see you again after this day ends
So let's enjoy it together to the full.

Reflect God is with you today and wants to
bless you. As the Psalmist said, "This is the day
that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be
glad in it." (Psalm 118:24)



Spend some time thanking the Lord for the gift of today and asking Him how He wants to bless you in it. Listen for His voice. Is there any particular blessing He wants to give you today? Thank Him for it and start to look out for it as you go through the day.

© **Tracy Williamson**

**To make us smile
From a prayer during a church service**

**'Lord, please come and let your Spirit hover in this
place.'**

Susanne Willdig

Its Puzzle Time!

Start to Finish

Brain Teasers

DIRECTIONS: For each clue, find a corresponding word that starts and finishes with the same letter. There is one word for each letter of the alphabet except for i, j, q, u, v and z.

Spend time in front of the mirror.	PRIMP
Intuitive inkling.	
Pioneer in photocopying.	
Bitterly sarcastic.	
Gas in some signs.	
Eskimo canoe.	
Chinese medicinal root.	
Where a rubber duckie lives.	
Roll in the mud.	
Pleasure traveller.	
Temporary loss of memory.	
Deadly.	
Pizza herb.	
Very knowledgeable.	
Forty-eight hours before tomorrow.	
The most.	
Excessive.	
Feudal land.	
Trepidation	
Water storage area.	

Open Ears Holiday at Spring Harvest 13 to 17 April 2019 - Harrogate



It was a joy to be in Harrogate, Spring Harvest this April where we stayed at Crowne Plaza Hotel which was conveniently situated just a stone's throw away from the Conference Centre, where the daily celebration meetings took place in the main auditorium which holds 3000, with other workshops and seminars throughout the day in smaller rooms. The hotel was comfortable and the food delicious. We were served meals around one large table in our own dining room, about 16 of us altogether from both OE and Torch Trust.

Most of us went to the morning and evening talks in the main auditorium and sat at the front right aisle, where a few BSL interpreters signed the talks. Our own Susanne did a great job of STT, which we could read on a large screen on the stage from where musicians led the praise and worship before the speakers. (I found the loop was not working so relied on STT to follow, and at times the BSL interpreters).

The 3 morning Bible Teaching sessions (10am-11.15am) were based on the Lord's Prayer from Matt. Ch 6 broken down into sections for each day. It was helpful to digest this prayer which Jesus taught us, thinking through all the words, as it covers everything we need to pray about daily.

The evening talks, taken by different speakers, covered the following themes.

1. Prayer Unlimited 1 Kings v18
2. Unlimited Access: Esther 4 v15 – 5 v5
3. Unlimited Connections: Acts 4 v21-31
4. Unlimited Potential - Prayer celebration Nehemiah 1 v1 – 2 v6.
5. Final Morning – Unlimited Hope Ps 100 v1-5.

On Tuesday afternoon some of us heard Clive Calver and Graham Kendrick speak about the 40 years of Spring Harvest and the part they had played. In the late evening some of us went to a nostalgic Graham Kendrick concert where he sang his songs with us all joining in!

The talks were very thought provoking and challenging, as it seems fewer people in our society now acknowledge God as our creator, provider and worthy of all our thanks and praise. Secularism, love of money, immorality, selfishness, lack of respect, envy and idolising things of the world, rather

than God have filled the gap and brought about much suffering and problems. I felt the speakers were passionately trying to convey that we who follow Jesus can change this situation. We need to wake up in these last days before it is too late. We were challenged to feed on the Word of God daily, to pray and seek Him and obey His Word by serving and following Him daily. Through prayer and loving those with whom we come in contact in our communities, work place, social life, church, schools etc, doing the things that Christ taught us to do, caring for those in need and sharing His Word, revival will come to this land. Lives will be saved through our witness and many unbelievers will hear the Truth and recognise their need to turn to Christ and follow Him entering into inner peace and eternal life with Him forever. Amen.

Cynthia Leeman

Thanks Cynthia, that was a very inspiring and challenging report

Join us for Spring Harvest 2020 - 14-18 April

We are delighted that OE will be attending Spring Harvest again in 2020 at the Harrogate venue and we'd love you to join us. The exciting theme title is 'Unleashed' and our lovely Susanne will be doing the STT for the main meetings, a service which blessed many in the audience, apart from our OE group.

Like this year we will be reserving a small number of rooms at the adjacent hotel, 'Crowne Plaza' at a special B&B rate. Please let Marylin Kilsby know as soon as possible if you are interested, by emailing Christine Pitts or calling Roy Spiller on the OE phone (contact details on back page).

You need to book the conference itself separately and personally. It's easiest to book this online – using this link: <https://springharvest.org/harrogate/> Please let us know if this will be a problem for you and we will help you. Hope to see you there!

Summertime Struggles?

Summer is now drawing to a close and while I hope you've had some lovely times enjoying the beauty of creation or going on holiday with family or friends, it can be a lonely time too. When I go into my garden I immediately smell the enticing fragrance of bbq cooking and hear the murmur of laughter and chatting from neighbours' gardens. All the emphasis in the media and even in our church groups seems to be on happy social



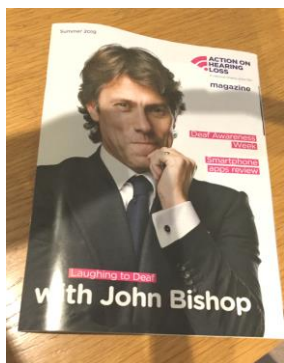
times. Conversations are full of holidays, fun times with children and grandchildren and the showing of beautiful photos... Lovely experiences to share and treasure but difficult for any who are alone in life, and uniquely difficult when you have a hearing loss as they exacerbate the feeling of loneliness. I am sure that like me, you've had the experience of being in the middle of a happy crowd without a clue of what's going on? Last year while away with my mum and sister, we visited an old friend of my mum's for over 6 hours. It was lovely for them to catch up and my sister enjoyed chatting too. Our hands were full of sandwiches and cups of tea so no one could jot notes or type on my Ipad. (My way of being included as I can't lipread.) And with social chitchat it's hard for people to do that anyway because conversation skips around so much.

On that occasion I tried smiling along and looking from person to person as they chatted, in the hope I was blending in at least. Sometimes I tried chipping in, but that always felt awkward not knowing what was being said. The hours went by until eventually I surreptitiously texted a lovely deaf friend and member of OE with an SOS text, asking her to pray that I'd be lifted up despite the situation. She replied immediately and her prayers were a real comfort as I felt much less alone then and knew God was helping me through my friend's understanding.

That situation is one we all face at times, some more successfully than others, but it got me thinking. Are there things we can do to help ourselves more at such times?

For those of us who like technology I was interested to see in the summer edition of Action on Hearing Loss Magazine that there was a feature about the various STT apps that are available for personal communication help.

Different ratings were given by a test group of hearing impaired people. I haven't yet used these apps myself as I tend to ask friends to type on my Ipad for me using a separate keyboard. But if I didn't have such help I would be eager to consider trying out an STT app. One that was highly recommended was called Hearing



Helper (only usable on Apple devices) which was particularly good for one to one conversations or taking notes, maybe in a lecture....its degree of interpretation accuracy seemed a lot better than some. Another article looked at various personal amplifiers like the Phonak Roger Select Wireless Microphone or the Bellman Sonido personal amplifier. They do not come cheap but for those of us whose comprehension is majorly improved through excellent

amplification, they may really be worth investing in. Do consider subscribing to the Action on Hearing Loss Magazine if you don't already as it has many interesting tips and articles plus their website where equipment like the Roger Amplifier can be bought direct.

Apart from gadgets, are there other ways we can break through the barrier of 'being there but not there?'

I believe it's really important to ask God to help us grow in the truth that we are His beloved children and as such have equal value in any group we feel isolated in. Once I felt full of self-pity whilst out for a meal but He encouraged me to stop staring at my plate but to look around at the other guests and listen for His voice of love for them. He showed me that I'd been acting as if I was nothing, but I was the daughter of the King! His words brought me such comfort and I started praying for the others and even joining in.

Another important thing is to let people know of your struggle and how they can help. Admittedly they may not be able to help much for reasons shared earlier, but many do not realise how little a

hearing impaired person understands. With a smile and a laugh we can offer people a notebook or encourage them to face a bright light so we can see them to lipread; We can pray for them and we can try chipping in, maybe prefacing our words with a smile – “I’m sorry I haven’t heard what we’ve been talking about but I have this story....”

So, to summarise: Tips to get through the socialising barriers:

- Look into possible gadgets like personal amplifiers or STT apps
- Choose to see ourselves as God’s beloved children.
- Pray rather than fall into self-pity
- Be real about your difficulties and how others may help you.
- Have a prayer buddy that you can send an SOS text to!
And who can send one to you too!

Tracy Williamson

In the Spotlight



I thought it would be lovely if our Vice Chair, Mary Bucknall could be ‘In the Spotlight’ this edition and share with us about her life.

T: Can you tell us something about yourself? Where do you live and do you have family?

M: I now live in Dorset, near Sherborne. I moved here in 2017 from Kent to be nearer my mother and sister. Before this, I grew up mainly in rural West Sussex, in a clergy family.

T: Do you have a hearing loss? If so, how long have you had it and how severe is it? Is there a primary way it affects you?

M: I was born profoundly deaf and naturally I hear no sounds at all. With the benefit of a powerful body-worn Medresco hearing aid, I was able to hear some low frequency sounds using my minimal residual hearing in one ear (below the threshold of normal hearing) and so my auditory training started at the age of 18 months.

I learnt to speak and lip-read with support from my mother and peripatetic teachers of the deaf. Later on I also had speech therapy. I went

to hearing schools with small classes, some with a Partial Hearing Unit (PHU) attached, and sat at the front of the class in order to lip-read the teachers. Even now, with a digital behind-the-ear hearing aid, I still need to lip-read at all times.

T: Mary it is amazing how well you learnt to speak! What is the best way for people to communicate with you?

M: I prefer to communicate with people on a one-to-one basis, in good light. It does help enormously if the other person speaks clearly and slowly, facing me directly. I have learnt some BSL (Level 2) so I can follow sign language interpreters at church services and other events more easily.

T: Do you work Mary? If not now, what have you worked at in the past and what things do you enjoy doing now?

M: Since moving to Dorset, I have found it more difficult to find suitable employment locally as I cannot use a voice telephone or follow group conversations without communication support. Now I am an admin volunteer with the Friends of a local community hospital. I started work in the Civil Service as a computer programmer for several years in Worthing.

Then I decided to change course and go to Bible College to study theology for two years, at London School of Theology, in 2005. This time I was able to follow lectures with the help of interpreters and notetakers. This opened a door to deaf and disability ministry work in Kent, teaching Deaf awareness and organising BSL classes. I also worked for a deaf and hard of hearing charity part-time for a period of time.

T: That's so interesting Mary. How did you become a Christian and how important is your faith to you?

M: When I joined the Worthing Deaf Christian Fellowship (run by the late Alan Fullilove) I was still searching, and I decided I needed to study the Bible in greater depth and enrolled on a distance-learning theology course. However, knowing about Jesus is not the same as knowing Him. This knowing came at a time of great personal crisis in 1998 owing to a back injury and depression, when I had literally no-one else to turn to. A joy-filled moment of revelation is how I can best describe it. This has given me hope even when things look bleak as they sometimes do.

T: That's wonderful how Jesus met with you in your time of great need. So how long have you been part of Open Ears? What drew you to join?

M: In 1990 a friend showed me an advert for a "Young People's Holiday" run by the Hard of Hearing Christian Fellowship (HHCF) at High Wycombe, Buckinghamshire. I decided to go the following year, and it was

there I met Miriam Hodkinson, Don Mason and others. It felt like joining a “family” where communication was so much easier than ever before.

T: You are one of the trustees? Do you have any particular role?

M: I’m now Vice Chair so I have to chair committee meetings but only if Marilyn Kilsby is not there, as I do rely totally on the speech to text (STT) service kindly provided by Susanne “Flying Fingers” Willdig. I have also been working on some of the policy in partnership with Marilyn (e.g. safeguarding and DBS checks).

T: You are an inspiring person Mary because you have not let your deafness stop you in life. Can you tell us about your studies at Oxford and taking part in Mastermind?

M: I was fortunate to have an excellent education and support from my headmistress, who encouraged me to apply for a place at Oxford (Somerville College) to study Modern History. The one-to-one tutorial system suited me down to the ground, and I copied lecture notes from other students.

I have always been interested in Queen Victoria’s Family and also genealogy and heraldry, so I entered in for BBC Mastermind in 2011-2012. I reached the semi-finals but was knocked out – it was a great experience however. The autocue system worked well, thanks to the production team on the programme, so I could read the questions at the same time as they were spoken.

As a result of watching Mastermind my headmistress contacted the BBC and wrote to me, so I was able to visit her at home in Scotland in 2015 – a happy reunion after 33 years!

T: Hearing what you’ve achieved is amazing Mary, so inspiring to us all! So, with Open Ears, what do you think is its greatest strength and how would you love to see it develop in the coming years?

M: I feel it is important for Open Ears to reach out to deaf and hard of hearing people like myself, who are lonely and struggle to fit into hearing society. The communication methods (i.e. induction loop, STT and BSL interpretation) employed at Open Ears events make everything fully accessible, which is a great joy.

T: How would you like to encourage others who have a hearing loss?

M: Despite the lack of hearing, or because of it, I have valued the opportunity for Christian worship and fellowship with deaf and hard of hearing people in a similar situation, so it is important not to feel isolated and alone – there is support out there.

Conversion of Open Ears to a CIO

In October 2017 the Open Ears Trustees resolved to take steps to change Open Ears' Charitable status from being an unincorporated association or trust, to being a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

This step will give the trustees personal protection from unlimited financial liability for the organisation. This change had to be authorised by an order of the Charity Commission, under Section 105 of the Charities Act 2011 and so the trustees applied for an S.105 Order to the Charity Commission to authorise it.

The charitable Objects have been redefined in the new CIO Constitution, namely "the advancement of the Christian religion among the hearing impaired", with the addition of a second Object permitting charitable gifts to other organisations for "the relief of need, hardship or sickness, particularly the relief of those with hearing impairments". These charitable gifts to, for instance, the Ear Centre in Pokhara (part of the Green Pastures Hospital) set up by the International Nepal Fellowship, will be made with proceeds from new donations to Open Ears and not from existing funds.

Open Ears have taken out membership of Thirtyone:eight (formerly CCPAS), a safeguarding and DBS organisation. A model Safeguarding Policy for Open Ears is now in place, and all the trustees, committee members and associate committee members have attended or are about to attend training courses on safeguarding of vulnerable adults. They have also renewed their Enhanced DBS certificates.

The names and signatures of new Trustees will no longer need to be included in the new CIO Constitution. Other provisions tighten up the recruitment of trustees and the management structure and governance of the new CIO, including new voting rules by proxy if required.

On 25 July 2019 Open Ears received S.105 approval from the Charity Commission to transfer the assets and liabilities from the existing charity (No. 284487) to the new CIO (No. 1181896). The intention is for the trustees to formally approve this at the next committee meeting on 21 September 2019, which will also be the

official date of transfer. Please let the Treasurer, Julia Chapman, know by this date if you have any concerns or objections to this transfer.

What does this change mean for you?

The following charity details will apply to Open Ears as a CIO, effective from 21 September 2019. Please use these as default after this date.

Charity Name:	Open Ears
Charity Number:	1181896
Bank:	HSBC
Sort Code:	40-38-04
Account Number:	55100550

If you currently donate regularly to Open Ears via Gift Aid, we will be contacting you directly over the next few weeks by post if you have not already received a letter from us. If you have any queries about these changes please contact the Treasurer, Julia Chapman.

**Hearing Eye is published by Open Ears
(formerly the Hard of Hearing Christian Fellowship)
'Open Ears' is a registered Charitable Incorporated
Organisation No. 1181896**

**Open Ears is led by a Committee formed of Trustees and
Committee Members who meet together quarterly.
Of the Trustees, Marilyn Kilsby is Chairperson; Christine Pitts
Is Administrator and Julia Chapman is Treasurer.**

**All correspondence and enquiries should be addressed
to the Administrator at:**

Open Ears, 11 York Avenue, New Milton, BH25 6BT.

Tel: (New No): 07396 236214 - voice or text

Email: openearsministry@hotmail.com

www.openears.org.uk

Hearing Eye is printed by Smith & Son, Printers of New Milton

Email: office@smithprinters.co.uk