



**Let's Hear**  
FOUNDATION  
SOUTH AFRICA



**Let's Hear**  
FOUNDATION  
SWITZERLAND

Compiled by Bruce McKay

# ABOUT US...

## **Who We Are?**

The founder of the Let's Hear Foundation, Bruce McKay has a long history of hearing impediments and also suffers from menière's disease. During February of 2014 Bruce realised that there just was not enough been done to assist persons with hearing impediments so after consulting various specialists and getting a great team of advisors together, the Let's Hear Foundation was formed during March 2014.

## **What We Do?**

Our aim is to assist persons with hearing impediments no matter the age or cultural backgrounds, and no matter the hearing impediment, including fund raising events where necessary for cochlear implants and bone anchored hearing aids. We currently supply hearing aids to any person who meets our criteria for selection at absolutely no cost wherever possible.

## **What We Want To Achieve?**

We would like to be the number one foundation for creating awareness to the general public about hearing loss through communication and information. We would like to see all persons with hearing impediments, no matter how serious they are to be treated with respect and acknowledged for the role they play in our society.

# CRITERIA & SELECTION PROCESS 1...

The criteria below is used when assessing the recipient's hearing loss needs:

- No racial and/or gender discrimination will be exercised with application for assistance
- Applications without medical insurance will get preference
- No discrimination in type of hearing loss will be administered
- Applicants are to provide an audiogram from a registered audiologist for verification of hearing loss
- Applicants must be financially secure enough to be able to purchase batteries for the aids and attend follow up visits to check the hearing aids – the foundation does however assist where possible
- Hearing aid availability is not guaranteed and will be on a first come first serve basis
- Contractual agreement must be accepted and signed

## CRITERIA & SELECTION PROCESS 2...

- Once the hearing loss has been identified by one of our assisting audiologists, a list of available hearing aids are sent to them for identification and matching criteria to the said hearing loss
- This hearing aid is then packed by the foundation and sent to the relative audiologist for fitting
- Once the hearing aid/s have been fitted, the contractual agreement is signed and sent back to the foundation
- A photograph and short letter of thanks is then requested from the hearing aid/s recipient and sent to the foundation
- Follow up emails and telecons are done to check on the recipient's progress
- Should the recipient of a hearing aid/s need an upgrade due to possibly further hearing loss over time, then a re-application can be made

## CURRENT PARTNERS...

- Round Table Southern Africa – social and charitable association – select clubs
- 41'ers Association of Southern Africa – social and charitable association – select clubs
- 41 Club Switzerland – social and charitable association
- 41 Club Austria – social and charitable association
- Several Government Hospitals around South Africa
- Various Audiologists around the country
- MacDesigns South Africa – Graphic Design Company
- Neuroth Switzerland – Hearing Aid Manufacturers

## UPCOMING PARTNERS...

- Our foundation has been registered as a Non-Profit Company, see documents attached. We are now awaiting the finalization from SARS so that we can give invoices for contributions made
- The Switzerland affiliation for the Let's Hear Foundation Switzerland was formed and a Non-Profit Organization was formed there by our associates Beat & Esther Berger
- We have furthermore established a new working relationship with the Cochlear Implant Centre in the Eastern Cape, and their affiliates in Nigeria
- 41 Club Kenya – social and charitable association
- 41 Club Zambia – social and charitable association
- Corporate South Africa
- Individual contributions through debit orders

## SOME OF OUR RECIPIENTS...



Morning Bruce ,  
the hearing aid for  
Mr Kriel is “working  
like a dream”, I will  
meet up with him  
and get a picture  
for you. What was  
the value of the  
hearing aid he got?  
Regards , Kevin



Kevin Taylor is most grateful for his  
hearing aids.  
Got them fitted today and makes a  
huge difference. Thank you Kev  
and to all the Round Tablers who  
made this possible. Really  
appreciate all that you buggers do  
for so many people. Please pass on  
my appreciation to all concerned.



Hi Kevin, Photo of my Mom Julie Malyon and  
Heidi! She is an amazing Audiologist! Once  
Again a BIG Thank you to everyone concerned,  
who made this happen! I cannot tell you how  
happy and grateful Mom is, to be able to hear  
so much better and to be able to hear when  
people speak to her! I am so so grateful, and  
words can't express how Thankful we are as a  
Family! Thank you for making a Difference!

## SOME MORE RECIPIENTS...

### Successful recipients:

Below are some comments from various recipients

To Sani Round Table 152

Dear Tian,

I am sorry to have taken so long to write this letter. I would like to thank Sani 152 (and Kev Fraser ) most gratefully for organising and donating a set of hearing aids to me. You won't understand how much it means to me, especially when you are retired with limited income. I know the cost of them is exorbitant and without your help I would never have been able to afford them. What it has done to me is amazing. Firstly, my marriage will last a lot longer as the wife does not have to shout and repeat herself all the time. To hear a Robin singing in the morning once again is a blessing to one's ears'

Once again, I would like to thank you and Sani Round Table very much for this kind donation.

May Sani 152 continue being such a great and generous organisation and continue growing from strength to strength

Thank You and Regards, Andre Veenstra

Morning Bruce, I've just received this message from Jason, nephew of the Dorringtons

Hi Jason,

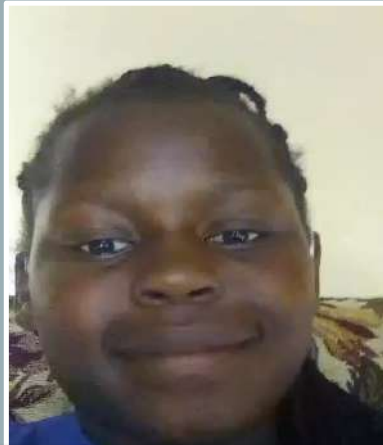
Thanks to you and to the Round Table for my and Norman's Widex hearing aids. The people at Hearing Aid Labs were very excited to be fitting them, as they say they are wonderful hearing aids.

Norman (Widex D-FS330) is hearing beautifully with his, very impressed and happy! There were a few issues, bit of corrosion, etc but a service and a clean sorted that out. He also needed a new receiver in the one, which they ordered and fitted today.

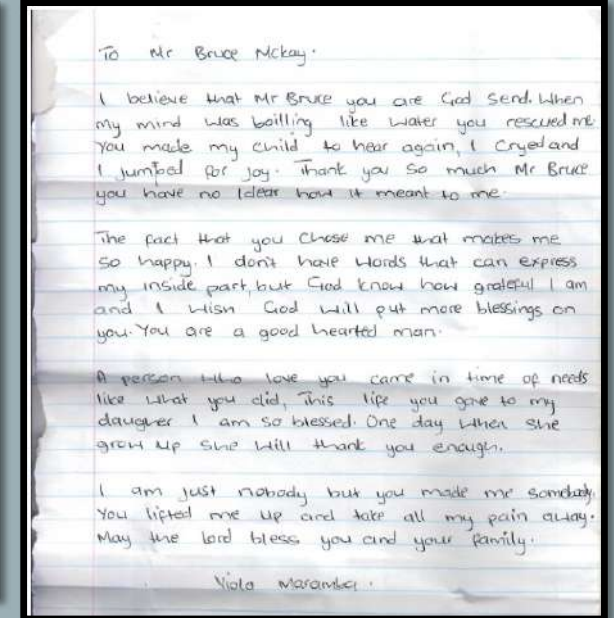
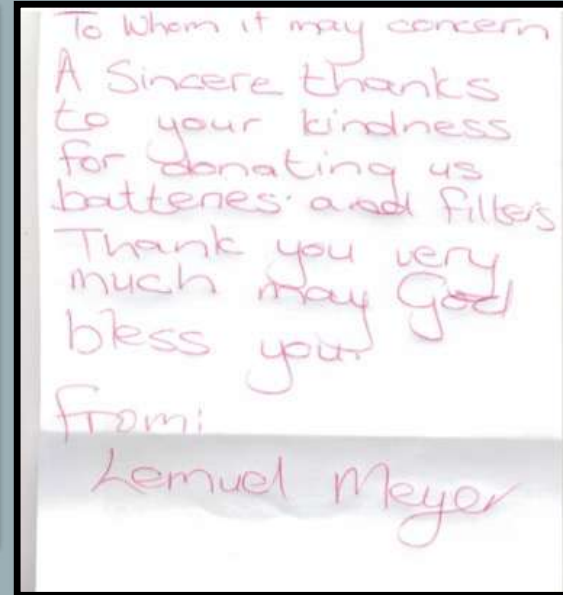
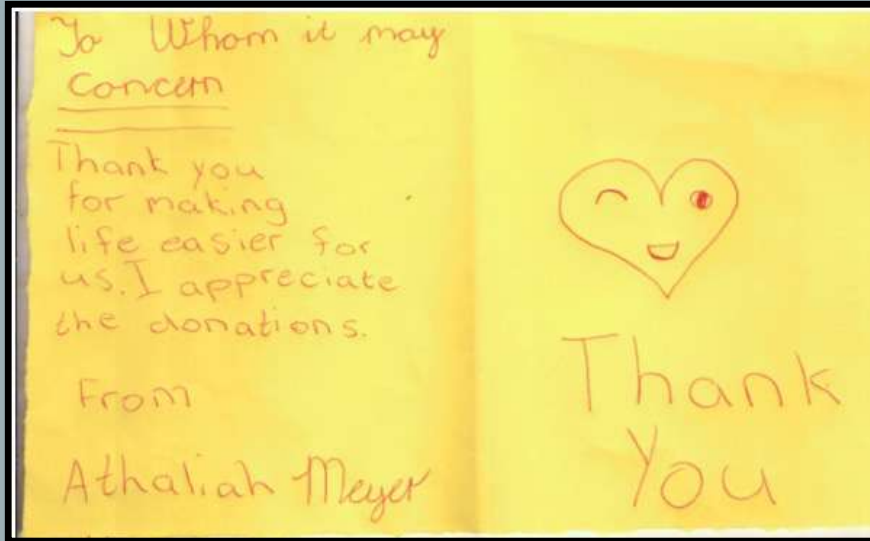


# SOME MORE RECIPIENTS...

Successful recipients from the funds donated by Monika Hänggi



# A FEW THANK YOU LETTERS...



Goeie more Mnr Môre McKay,

Ek weet nie hoe om dankie te sê nie. Ek is is sprakeloos, ek is sommer baie bly oor die battery en sal altyd wil dankie sê. Dit gaan my baie help! Ek hou daarvan om te gaan stap en om buite te wees. Ek speel ook graag rekenaar speletjies saam met my vriende online. Ek hou ook baie daarvan om te gaan fliek. Sommer elke dag 'n duisend dankies.

BJ van Eeden (gehelp met 'n nuwe battery)

# A FEW THANK YOU LETTERS...

Dear Mr Bruce

My Name is Nathan Mainin and I would like to say a very big Thank you for your kind assistance in having my processor repaired. It means alot to me and I am very grateful for people like you that has a good heart and intentions to help patients like me and many others.

May you continue to be that generous human being that goes the extra mile to make a difference in the deaf communities lives.

A VERY BIG THANK YOU, ONCE AGAIN MR BRUCE!

Respect  
Nathan Mainin

😊

15 IK Odigie street  
Off Airport roads,  
Benin City,  
Edo state.  
18<sup>th</sup> December, 2022.


TOSAP Industries and,  
Let's Hear,  
South Africa.  
Dear Sir/Ma.

APPRECIATION FOR THE GIFT OF FREE HEARING AID.

My name is Ogiomwan O. Joy 15 years old and a student. I reside in Benin City Edo state, Nigeria. I am writing this letter to appreciate TOSAP Industries and Let's Hear South Africa, for the free hearing aid I recieved during the outreach they organized at the University of Benin Teaching Hospital, Benin City.

I can now hear properly and it is so helpful both at home and in school. I am very grateful. God bless you all.

Yours Faithfully  
Ogiomwan O. Joy


 **UNIVERSITY OF BENIN TEACHING HOSPITAL**

**CHAIRMAN BOARD OF MANAGEMENT**  
Bashorun Adedaja Adewolu  
MFR, PHAN

**CHIEF MEDICAL DIRECTOR**  
Prof. Darlington E. Obovicki  
MBChB, FRCGS, FRCR, FRCR (S), FRCR (C)  
cmsoffice@ubth.org

**CHAIRMAN MEDICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
Dr. Stanley U. Okugbo  
MBBS, FRCGS, FRCR (S), FRCR (C)  
cmsoffice@ubth.org

**DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION**  
Mr. M. O. Jimoh-Kadiri  
BSHONS, PHMGS, Dip. The. Admin  
daooffice@ubth.org



"50 years of providing quality health care solutions"

19/12/2022

Mr. Bruce McKay,  
Let's Hear South Africa,  
Johannesburg,  
South Africa.


**LETTER OF APPRECIATION**

On behalf of the management of the University of Benin Teaching Hospital, Benin City Nigeria, we congratulate our collaborators, TOSAP Industries and Let's Hear South Africa on a most successful hearing screening and hearing aid fitting outreach which occurred on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> December 2022 at the Department of ENT Head and Neck Surgery, UBTH.

This indeed has brought succor to many of our clients with hearing loss.

We are indeed grateful and look forward to future partnership with you.

Accept the assurances of our best regards.

Yours faithfully,  
  
Dr. A.L. Okhaku  
Head of Department

P.M.B 1111, Benin City, Nigeria  
Tel./Fax 052-876220  
website:www.ubth.org

social media:@ubthng/#ubthng  
08147772992, 08032935801  
Email:info@ubth.org

# MEDIA & ACHIEVEMENTS...

## Carel du Toit School for the Deaf – East London

- We assisted this school with more than 60 hearing aids completely free of charge
- We repaired the interior of their school
- We assisted them in obtaining new computers
- We assisted them with acquiring security monitoring
- We assisted them with carpets for some of the tiled floors within their school
- We have ongoing communication with them pertaining to their needs



# MEDIA & ACHIEVEMENTS...

## Awards

The foundation was fortunate enough to be nominated as a 'Local Hero' by the Regional Newspaper in the Eastern Cape, The Daily Dispatch for assisting with various donations and charitable cases relating to hearing impediments



# GENERAL COMMENTS...

## Hearing Aids

- Phonak
- Widex
- Oticon
- Siemans

The above are the most used hearing aids and seem to be preferred by most audiologists because their longevity seems to be better and the technology is freely available for setups, etc.

We are not able to use the inner ear hearing aids for cost reasons. The hearing aid behind the ear is by far the better option, as the new shapes are not as expensive to manufacture.

The biggest problem in Africa is the cost of health insurance and the actual hearing aid itself. There are many people who simply cannot afford the luxury of a hearing aid, and this is where the foundation comes in. We need to bridge the gap as much as possible and try to ensure that everyone can experience a good quality of life.

# GENERAL COMMENTS...

## Hearing Aids Continued

Once we receive the hearing aids, they are sorted, cleaned (if necessary) and then catalogued by brand, etc., see photos below and sample list attached.

- The next step is to ensure that the hearing aids are correctly included in a list, which is then readily available when applying for support.
- That list shall be updated as soon as a hearing aid has been sent to an applicant.



# GENERAL COMMENTS...

## What does the future hold?

- We hope that once we have been successfully registered as a non-profit organization in South Africa, we can begin to raise much-needed funds to support applicants with bone-anchored hearing aids and cochlear implants where possible..
- As mentioned in the report, this year we will be looking at the goal of penetrating the rest of Africa, with a focus on Kenya, Botswana, Namibia and Zambia with the support of the 41 clubs of that country.
- We will also focus on establishing contacts with at least 1 audiologist in every major city in South Africa, allowing us to help more people.
- Due to financial constraints, we are currently unable to market the foundation locally, but will do our best to improve our social media presence, especially through Facebook.
- From the end of March 2023, we will also start our first monthly clinic in Bloemfontein and depending on how successful this is, we would like to branch out to our major cities in South Africa.



# GENERAL COMMENTS...

## In Closing

- I believe that during 2023 the Foundation will gain momentum with Tanja, who will help to disseminate the information and actively participate in the management and marketing of the Foundation.
- We are very grateful to our Swiss subsidiaries Beat & Esther Berger and 41 Club Switzerland, who support us in every respect.
- We are also grateful to Neuroth for supporting us with the hearing aids



THANK YOU FOR LISTENING AND I LEAVE YOU WITH THIS  
GREAT MESSAGE FROM ONE OF OUR RECIPIENTS



**Let's Hear**  
FOUNDATION  
SOUTH AFRICA



**Let's Hear**  
FOUNDATION  
SWITZERLAND