



Supporters Newsletter

Merry Christmas and thank you for supporting us this year.

They say it takes a whole village to raise a child. The same goes for our project. It takes so much support from our schools and community.



Another member of our community have come on board to help. Dubbo City Toyota and Gilgandra Toyota. In November they officially took over looking after our Ear Bus. They are our new local Major Sponsor and we will be working with them to have their logo placed on the bus over the school holidays.

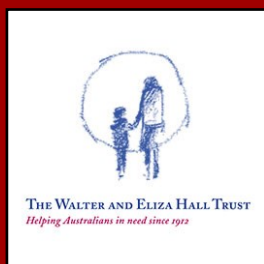
As you know they have been paying for our fuel since 2017, and now they have committed to maintaining, cleaning, servicing, rego, insurance and secure parking for our bus. We are thrilled about our new partnership with them. Their Marketing and Media staff member Shannon Starr has been very busy this month putting together a promotional video about our new partnership. St Laurence's Primary Dubbo hosted the filming and it will be released in January.

Pictured below is Dubbo City Toyota and Gilgandra Toyota Dealer Principal Ben Thompson meeting for the first time. our bus, Manager Virginia, and Volunteer Directors Donna and Rachel.

A project of Dubbo District Deaf Club; helping children to hear and achieve.

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 Dubbo City Toyota & Gilgandra Toyota

 [join our group +](#)



Dubbo City Toyota & Gilgandra Toyota

Dubbo Chamber of Commerce annual Rhino Awards

This year the Hear Our Heart Ear Bus Project were invited to attend the Dubbo Rhino Awards. Volunteer committee members Emily and Amber were able to represent us at the finalists night where we were announced as a finalist. The staff and volunteers then attended the Gala Rhino Award night on October 21st. Unfortunately we didn't win however it was a great night to get involved and an amazing opportunity to raise awareness for the project within the Dubbo community. Pictured below are Emily and Amber (left). At the Gala awards are staff (Amy, Virginia and Mitra) and volunteer committee members.



Farewell Terry and Kathy Green

At the beginning of this month we had a lovely dinner to farewell Terry and Kathy Green. They have sold their business, Sainsbury Automotive and are moving on to spend time with their children and grandchildren. In 2016, they donated our beautiful ear bus to us. Once it was built and ready to go they serviced and looked after it for us up until the sale of Sainsbury Automotive late this year.

Kathy, with her infectious laugh, worked for us 2015-19 and was instrumental in setting up our successful hearing testing program as well as delivering healthy ears lessons in schools. Meanwhile behind the scenes Terry was quietly supporting us with business and sponsorship advice and paying for the upkeep of our bus. We don't think they realise the enormity of what they have done for kids in our communities, so every time you see our bus take a minute to stop and be thankful for Terry and Kathy.

We presented them with a gift and in the card wrote something that has been said to us by many times by mums and dads across the west. *"Thank you just doesn't seem enough for all that you have done for us"*



Helping out at Dubbo Stampede



In September our volunteer committee were given the opportunity to help with the running of the annual Dubbo Stampede. We were involved with collecting and storing competitors belongings and returning them when the competitor finished.



We met a range of people that competed and raised awareness about hearing loss and the Hear Our Heart Ear Bus Project. The Dubbo Stampede committee allowed us to take donation tins and we raised \$300.

Acknowledging those that help behind the scenes



One stop shop for all your audiological needs.



So much goes on behind the scenes with projects like ours that often goes unnoticed. Since 2014, we have had a wonderful partnership with Sonic Equipment in QLD. They supply our hearing testing equipment. Werner Schwendener, pictured right, is their General Manager and has been very active in supporting us. Enjoy reading this feel good story.

Sonic Equipment is part of the Demant Group, one of the largest providers of hearing health care globally. Demant is based in Denmark and employs more than 16,000 people worldwide. Sonic Equipment is one of the largest distributors of audiological equipment in Australia, including AABRs to Newborn Hearing Screening Programs, and the supply of equipment to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. The main focus of their work is to help people hear better.

Werner says of his support "Every once in a while we receive requests from charities and other non profit organisations to support their work in some way. We consider each of these requests carefully with a view to helping where we can. We are proud to support Hear our Heart. It makes us feel good and hopefully our support puts smiles on faces where our support is felt."

Our volunteer Directors Rachel and Donna speak fondly of the ongoing partnership with Sonic. "In 2014 we received a \$60 000 grant from the Oticon Foundation (now called the William Demant Foundation). This is when our partnership with Sonic began as we purchased all of our testing gear through them. We have always received exemplary service from Sonic and we appreciate the in-kind support that we still receive. As a non-government funded charity, this is so important to us, as we know that Sonic supports us."

A reminder over the Christmas break to collect batteries for our fundraiser please

CAN YOU HELP?

RECYCLE YOUR OLD CAR, TRACTOR, BUS,
MOTOR BIKE OR MOWER BATTERY
AND
SUPPORT Hear Our Heart
TO
HELP CHILDREN HEAR & ACHIEVE

Drop off points in Dubbo are
Macdonald & Co Woolbrokers, Richardson Rd
Century Yuassa Batteries, Capital Drive