

## Bill Keith

QSO PhD MNZAS



Dr Bill Keith has been involved in the development of hearing services in New Zealand throughout his career. He has worked on such widely divergent projects as a sonar device for the blind, the establishment of government audiology clinics and audiology training programmes, through to developing on-board communication systems for Team New Zealand's Americas Cup yachts. He has carried out hearing research in New Zealand and in the United States where he received his PhD in audiology at Baylor College of Medicine.

Bill was employed for much of his career in the New Zealand Department of Health's National Audiology Centre, but has also been involved in establishing private practices, a health and safety company and a blindness and audiological equipment development company. He has also worked for a hearing instrument manufacturer. Among various charitable and professional commitments Bill until recently chaired one of New Zealand's two (northern and southern) cochlear implant programmes and is a member of the Expert Reference Group on Auditory Processing Disorder (APD) established by the Ministries of Health and Education. Bill chaired a Reference Group subcommittee writing NZ Guidelines on APD. He is engaged in APD research and is an Honorary Academic in the Discipline of Speech Science in the School of Psychology, the Centre for Brain Research, and the Eisdell Moore Hearing and Balance Research Centre at the University of Auckland.

Bill currently runs SoundSkills, a specialist multi-disciplinary clinic for children and adults with APD, which he has established to redress the lack of APD services in New Zealand. He has developed diagnostic and treatment software programs for APD.

Bill was awarded a QSO for public service and is the recipient of the 2011 American Academy of Audiology International Award in Hearing.