CLAIMS:

1. An electrically powered device including an insertion component for insertion into the ear cavity of a user, the device including at least one inductor operatively connected to a control circuit, the control circuit including an adjustment means operable by the user to provideing varying amounts of electrical energy to the at least one inductor wherein the insertion component includes the at least one inductor such that when in use, the at least one inductor is in sufficiently close proximity to the inner ear of the user to provide stimulation to the inner ear region of the user.

2. An electrically powered device according to claim 1 wherein the control circuit controls supply of electrical energy to the at least one inductor such that electrical energy is supplied in pulses.

~~3. An electrically powered device according to either claim 1 or claim 2 wherein the control circuit includes an adjustment means operable by a user, the adjustment means controlling the supply of electrical energy to the at least one inductor.~~

34. An electrically powered device according to claim 1 or claim 2~~3~~ wherein the adjustment means controls the amplitude of the electrical energy supplied to the at least one inductor.

45. An electrically powered device according to ~~either claim 3 or claim 4~~any one of the preceding claims wherein the adjustment means is operable to control the frequency of the supply of electrical energy to the at least one inductor.

5~~6~~. An electrically powered device according to any one of the preceding claims ~~3, 4 or 5~~, wherein the adjustment means is included in a remote control device and communicates control signals by infrared or radio frequency communication.

6~~7~~. An electrically powered device according to any one of the preceding claims including a micro-controller computing device operable to execute computer instruction code.

7~~8~~. An electrically powered device according to claim 6 ~~7 when dependent upon any one of claims 3 to 6~~, wherein the adjustment means is operable to select a pre-programmed profile for the supply of electrical energy to the at least one inductor, the pre-programmed profile residing in a stored computer instruction code.

8~~9~~. An electrically powered device according to claim 7 ~~8~~ wherein the pre-programmed profile residing in the stored computer instruction code includes ~~the necessary~~ details regarding the amplitude and/or frequency of the supply of electrical energy to the at least one inductor.

9~~10~~. An electrically powered device according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the control circuit is supplied with electrical energy from batteries.

10~~11~~. An electrically powered device according to claim 9 ~~10~~ wherein the batteries are rechargeable.

11~~12~~. An electrically powered device according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the insertion component includes an audio transducer for converting electrical energy into audible sound energy.

12~~13~~. An electrically powered device according to claim 11 ~~12~~ wherein the at least one inductor included in the insertion component and the audio transducer are electrically connected to a control circuit and an audio signal generating ~~the~~ circuit respectively by extended conducting leads.

~~14. A method of stimulating the inner ear region with an electrically powered device that includes at least one inductor operably connected to a control circuit, the method including the steps of :~~

~~locating the at least one inductor in close proximity to the inner ear region of the user; and~~

~~operating the control circuit to provide electrical energy from an electrical power source to the at least one inductor.~~

~~15. A method according to claim 14 wherein the control circuit is operated to adjust the amplitude and/or frequency of electrical energy provided to the at least one inductor.~~

~~16~~13. ~~Computer instruction code for execution in a~~An electrically powered device according to any one of claims ~~6~~7 to ~~9~~ 8, including computer instructions code which, when executed by the micro-controller computing device, ~~to~~ controls the supply of electrical energy to the at least one inductor.

~~17~~14. An electrically powered device according to claim 13 wherein the ~~C~~computer instruction code, ~~according to claim 16 wherein the instructions when~~ executed causes the micro-controller computing device to control the amplitude and/or frequency of electrical energy supplied to the at least one inductor.