

Cochlear Hearing Solutions

Cochlear Implants

Captures sound using an external speech processor and sends it to the inner ear via an internal implant placed in the cochlea.



- ① Behind the ear processor
- ② Cable & Coil

Bone Conduction Implants

Re-routes sound via bone conduction, sending it directly to the cochlea, bypassing the middle ear.



For more recipient stories

www.c-a-network.com

For more information on Cochlear solutions

1800 620 929 (Toll free in Australia)

0800 444 819 (Toll free in New Zealand)

customerservice@cochlear.com

www.cochlear.com

Cochlear Awareness Network (CAN)

CAN is a team of volunteers who are recipients of Cochlear hearing solutions, or parents of recipients. They proactively educate the community and health professionals on how Cochlear hearing solutions can dramatically improve the communication ability and quality of life for people impacted by a significant hearing loss.

Cochlear Awareness Network Volunteer

Jeff Flood

Bi-lateral Cochlear Implant Recipient

Tel: 08 9535 8394

Mob: 0417 174 744

Email: jeffgerd@bigpond.com

www.c-a-network.com



Cochlear Awareness Network



Cochlear Awareness Network



Jeff's story

Deafness caused by Otosclerosis

"Do it! The rewards are worth going for."

Hear now. And always



Meet Jeff

My hearing loss started when I was in my late 20's due to bone growth (otosclerosis) and continued when the nerves in my cochlea began to die.

I was born in 1944 in Perth WA and did all the usual things that one does during the childhood and teenage years to my mid-twenties and I had no noticeable hearing problems in that time.

There are two things which probably contributed to my hearing loss.

- (1) As most others growing up in my era, I listened to loud music in my teen years,
- (2) but I also worked in printing, a very noisy environment.

As my hearing loss increased I managed using lip reading more and more until by the time I was in my thirties I was struggling in a hearing world and had to do something about it.

A series of tests were conducted which led to me having a stapedectomy. Having this operation in both ears brought me back into the hearing world and I probably got 3 to 4 more good years worth of hearing.

But one day I sneezed and blew my nose and suddenly one ear went totally deaf. I had a third operation to find out what had gone wrong. This showed that my stapes were in the correct position but all the fluid had gone. At this time hearing aids were large (behind the ear). They worked ok for me but as my hearing loss continued I had to upgrade them every two years or so.

By 2000 I was over 55 and my hearing loss had become dramatic. I could only use one hearing aid, a big beautiful cumbersome gadget which helped for about 18 months.

It is amazing just how quickly my social life deteriorated. I made so many mistakes in conversation. After a while I knocked invitations back because I hated making a fool of myself.

In April 2005, it took just 3 hours for me to go from a little hearing to absolutely nothing. When this happened I simply couldn't lip read enough to carry on a normal conversation and my poor wife spent her waking hours writing, writing and writing. She hated it. It was frustration personified for the both of us.

I knew of cochlear implants from radio and

television but I had never seen one and no one ever suggested to me that I should be going down that path. I was put in contact with CICADA in WA. My GP referred me to the Lions Hearing Institute and Professor Marcus Atlas who was fully conversant with cochlear implants.

It only took six weeks from my first consultation to my first implant. WOW!! I'd been deaf for over 12 months and switch-on day was just magic. Sound!! Some of it not nice, but I was told it just gets better and it did. No more writing for my wife. Was she relieved. I could hardly wait to get my left ear implanted. This was even better than my right ear as all electrodes were able to be inserted and activated.

This has been one great emotional experience and worth the whole trip. People who have lost one of their senses and then had that sense restored find it hard to explain in words just how wonderful it is.

Anyone contemplating a cochlear implant should do their sums and get to it as soon as possible.

"Do it! The rewards are worth going for."