

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

Barry Pratt

Cochlear Implant Recipient

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Cochlear Awareness Network



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Barry's story

My mother had severe toxemia in pregnancy

"Patience and perseverance are the keys to success".

Hear now. And always



Cochlear™

Meet Barry

I was born in 1954 at Lismore NSW with a moderate hearing loss and I am the only one in my family with a hearing loss because my mother suffered severe toxemia while she was pregnant with me.

It wasn't until I was 2½ that my hearing loss was discovered when I failed to start talking at the same time as others my age. Even then only at 4½ years of age did I receive my first hearing aid and was given one for my right ear.

Sound wasn't something that came naturally to me and my mother, who was a primary school teacher, spent hundreds of hours teaching me to speak and lip-read.

There were few opportunities for Deaf education in the country, but I managed to gain the School Certificate at age 16 years always attending mainstream local public schools and finishing at Richmond River High School.

All through my education I found it extremely difficult because I missed much of what was

said in the classrooms where all instruction was aural. There was no help for a Deaf child and I just had to struggle doing the best I could. Some of the students and even some of the teachers persecuted me because I was different.

In 1970 after I finished school, I got a job in a Builders Hardware store and was able to hold it for 9 years. But I found it harder and harder to use a phone and shifted back to the country where I got a part-time job in the library – a job I love and still hold 25 years later.

By 1996 I had several infections in my left ear which caused a drop in residual hearing to just 6%. I was fitted with a hearing aid in the left ear at 35, but really it was too late. A professional Audiologist, after testing, put me forward as a candidate for a Cochlear Implant. My operation was on the 27th June 2007 and switch on was the 9th and 10th July 2007.

I found I had to work very hard with rehabilitation exercises and persevere to get to a reasonable standard of sound – as I now have. With my implant I heard sounds I had never heard before and had to learn to interpret what they are.

In the past my right ear had done all the work and I still tried to use my right ear for the phone but was trying to learn to listen with my left ear and my new Cochlear Implant.



My case is unique. I didn't learn to speak naturally as a child and my left ear missed out on early stimulation. My speech is very clear for a hearing impaired person and people don't realise I am as deaf as I am.

I am pleased with my implant and am a Cochlear Awareness Network advocate regularly talking to groups about my experience.

"Patience and perseverance are the keys to success".