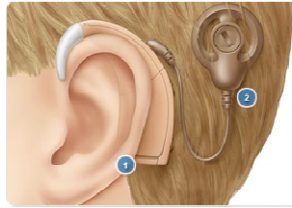


Cochlear Hearing Solutions

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

Richard Sutcliffe

Bi-lateral Cochlear Implant Recipient

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www.c-a-network.com



Cochlear Awareness Network



Cochlear Awareness Network



Dick's story

Hereditary Adult Deafness

"The implants have been nothing short of marvellous."

Hear now. And always



Meet Dick

My deafness is hereditary. I expected it because my older sister, mother and some of her relatives, had experienced deafness around 40 years of age.

When my deafness started, hearing aids served me well for about 20 years but as I became more deaf, my job as a specialist anaesthetist was becoming impossible. I could not hear the surgeons and didn't want to put my patients at risk. So in January 2001, I had a left cochlear implantation with no problems, and this allowed me to continue working. It was a huge relief not to be forced to retire prematurely.

While I could hear well in my left ear with my Cochlear Implant, my deafness progressed in my right ear with hearing dropping from 80% of normal to 2% by the time I was 69. That is not much and I knew that having an implant was likely to destroy even that small amount.

Because my first implant had been so successful I decided to have my right ear implanted. With only 2% hearing I felt I didn't have much to lose. In December 2007, I had my

second cochlear implantation, again without any problems. I did suffer some tinnitus for a short time but the day the dramatic bandage was removed and replaced with a humble band aid some of this went away and has not returned. However, I did find it rather daunting to sit in total silence when I had my processor off. It was something I hadn't fully experienced before.

I underwent the usual programming and mapping for my right ear and could hear voices clearly on my right side although at that time everyone sounded like Jerry Lewis.

I also hadn't realized how much I had learnt to favour my left ear and it was and still is a learning experience and conscious choice to listen with my right ear instead of turning my left ear towards a speaker. At first my right processor brought in a lot of background noise, which I am sensitive to, but my audiologists worked to adjust this for me.

A major benefit for my family is that I no longer speak so loudly and since I get so much more feedback, if I do raise my voice I can notice it and modulate my own voice negating the need

to be prompted to stop shouting.



My implants are nothing less than wonderful. They remove the awful isolation of severe deafness. I am pleasantly surprised and relieved not to have hearing aids stuck in either ear. Hearing aids are hot and uncomfortable and always gave me a plugged up feeling.

Although music remains impossible for me to enjoy, I bless the cochlear invention and staff every time I turn my processors on. I believe current developments being undertaken particularly in new software strategies may yet enable me to enjoy music in the not too distant future.

Overall, at this stage of my new hearing I am thrilled with my progress.

"My implants are nothing less than wonderful."