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

Harry Kimble

Cochlear Implant Recipient

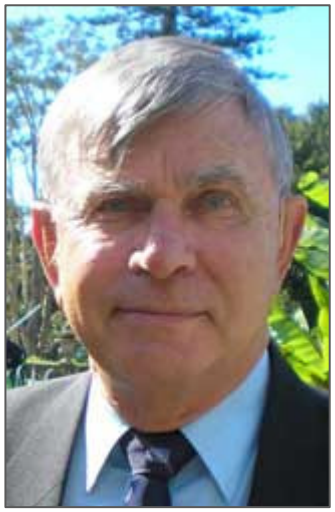
Tel: 02 9716 7102

Email: harron@exemail.com.au

www.c-a-network.com

Cochlear Awareness Network

Cochlear Awareness Network



Harry's story

Gradual Deafness

"I want to tell my story so others know the benefits of a Cochlear Implant."

Hear now. And always

Cochlear™

Meet Harry

I was 15 and undertaking a routine medical check at my school when my hearing loss was discovered.

The following year, my parents were asked to allow me to trial a new treatment. So I went to the hospital to take part. Swabs containing cocaine were inserted into my nose to deaden my senses then tubes containing either radon or radium were inserted in place of the cocaine. It was thought the radio-activity would somehow make my eardrums and ear nerves work properly. Of course they did not and I still don't know if the treatment did me any harm.

However, my hearing stabilised and in 1960 I was accepted into the Navy. After I left the Navy in 1965 I had a fast loss of hearing in my right ear. The only solution was a hearing aid.

Gradually, over the next 20 years, I lost all hearing in my left ear. Since I am left handed I held the phone to my right ear and could use my left hand to take messages, so was not particularly handicapped, was able to work normally as an accountant and played cricket and Rugby. After retiring I still managed with just a hearing aid in one ear and became a referee and administrator.

But the crunch came in 1999 when overnight I lost all hearing in my right ear. I thought my aid had broken but tests proved otherwise. I went to a hearing specialist who immediately prescribed steroids. When these did not work he sent me for a Cochlear Implant evaluation.

At first Professor Gibson believed he could help me with a stapedectomy on my right ear. It worked to a certain degree and allowed me to once again hear with a hearing aid. He waited six months and then performed another stapedectomy, this time on my left ear. Again this was partially successful and I could hear reasonably well with an aid in each ear.

However, in 2006, the hearing in my right ear declined rapidly until I was completely deaf on that side. After much deliberation and concern, Professor Gibson finally decided I should have a Cochlear Implant.

From the moment of switch-on I could hear sounds but not fully understand words. After time I have been able to pick-up and understand speech. I still wear a hearing aid in my left ear and tests show that with either my hearing aid or implant alone I only understand 30% of speech but with both I get around 90%.

This new hearing has allowed me to rejoin society. I have joined Probus, the Historical Society, a Camera Club, National Seniors and I assist Cochlear in testing new systems.

It is for this reason I have joined the Cochlear Awareness Network to pass on my story and let potential recipients know what benefits they can expect when they get a Cochlear Implant.

"I want others to know the benefits in store for them with a Cochlear Implant."