

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

Ingrid Turner

Cochlear Implant Recipient

Mob: 040 717 7451

Email: ingridturner@iig.com.au

www.c-a-network.com



Cochlear Awareness Network



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Ingrid's story

Degenerative hearing loss

"My implant has given me back the joy of teaching."

Cochlear Awareness Network

Hear now. And always



Meet Ingrid

I graduated from university in 1987 and worked in schools as a mainstream Science and Maths teacher. But my hearing loss made it impossible for me to continue teaching after just five years.

In the early 2000s, due to the changes in technology, I started using hearing aids which increased my hearing. This meant I could return to university and I studied special education. I have now worked in special education/learning support for three years.

My hearing loss is degenerative. This means I went slowly deaf over a period of 20 years. Last year I was clinically assessed as profoundly deaf in my left ear and severely deaf in the right.

I was really afraid of the isolation my deafness caused and was finding I couldn't share my family experiences so this prompted me to go ahead with a cochlear implant.

Living in northern Queensland meant the

assessment process, subsequent implantation and programming sessions were not always easy due to the travel involved. But it has been worth the effort.

My boys named the implant adaptation process "*Mum's Cyborg Evolution*" and it has truly been an exciting time learning to hear again. By the time I had been implanted 7 weeks I was recognising sounds I hadn't heard in decades.

- Did you know the sound of cutting a tomato is just like the sound 'Sh' in speech?
- I discovered our car beeps if we leave the lights on.
- The birds outside the kitchen window sing to me each morning and I can even hear them above the road noise.
- To my husband's joy I am now able to watch television without subtitles.

At first I'm sure my brain was totally confused about where to put all the new or forgotten information and I often wondered, in these early days, how people who had no memory of

hearing manage this process.

Once I returned to work I really noticed how much easier it was to understand my students – especially those with a speech impediment. My two sons go to St Andrews school and through their enrolment I became part of the St Andrews teaching team.

There are huge benefits in my life from being able to hear again.

This year I am back teaching – half time in mainstream education and half in Learning support. Best of all I'm back teaching Physics and Maths A, which I had missed, and I have also picked up senior Visual Arts.

There are not many people who would say that they love teenagers but I do and I had missed the special relationship that teaching offers.

With my implant I have got this back.

"My cochlear implant has given me back the joys of teaching in mainstream schools."