

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 Wishart

Bilateral Cochlear Implant Recipient

Tel: 08 8264 8468

Mob: 0402 864 530

Email: jwishart@bigpond.net.au

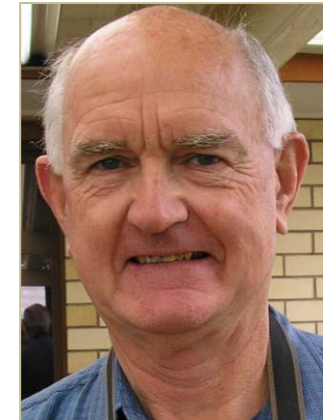
www.c-a-network.com



Cochlear Awareness Network



Cochlear Awareness Network



Jeff's story

Hereditary Deafness

Returned to the hearing world again via a Cochlear Implant.



Meet Jeff

I would like to share with you my journey through life being hearing impaired and now my new life as a recipient of Bilateral Freedom Cochlear Implants.

My hearing impairment is hereditary. My maternal Grandfather had 12 brothers and sisters and hearing impairment is rife through those siblings and their descendants. Currently there are 16 Cochlear Implantee's (3 bilateral) in the family tree. Plus there are many, many more with hearing impairment who would benefit from an implant.

I first became aware I had a hearing loss in my early twenties although I later realised my hearing, in the high frequencies in particular, had been deteriorating when I was a teenager.

Around 1964/5 I began over 30 years of wearing hearing aids. Initially I coped fairly well but by the mid 1970's I had much greater deterioration of my high frequencies and was really struggling to communicate effectively. My loss had reached the profound stage and social contact

was so difficult I became a virtual recluse.

Having major difficulties in obtaining employment during the early 1990's I began to see a Cochlear Implant as a possibility to enable me to function successfully in society again. My hearing aid provider had told me there was nothing more he could do to improve my hearing because I had the most powerful hearing aids available at that time.

In May 1998, I had my left ear implanted with the Nucleus 24 by Dr Robert Morrissey at the Flinders Medical Centre in South Australia. The sound quality after switch on initially was not all that good. But I could understand speech much better than I did with hearing aids and was more aware of environmental sounds, many of which I had not heard for many years.

Sound quality gradually improved and the Cochlear Implant enabled me to interact with society in a meaningful fashion again. I grew much more confident in group settings.

Having read many good reports of bilateral

implants I had my right ear implanted, again by Dr Morrissey, with the Freedom Implant in May 2007. The difference in sound quality was immediately noticeable, sounds were centralised and seemed to be "fuller" or rounded out. To me it was comparable to changing from Black and White to Colour television.

Now, after being profoundly deaf 10 years ago and avoiding social contact, I regularly talk to prospective cochlear implantees, attend morning teas and other functions and generally support implantees through our local CICADA SA, and Cochlear Awareness Network support groups. I spend many hours in a voluntary capacity at the local Cricket Club and promote Cochlear through the CAN network. I use the telephone successfully, listen to radio, and TV and enjoy environmental sounds such as birds - things I once could only dream about.

"An amazing invention that has dramatically improved my quality of life."