

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

John Harris

Baha Recipient

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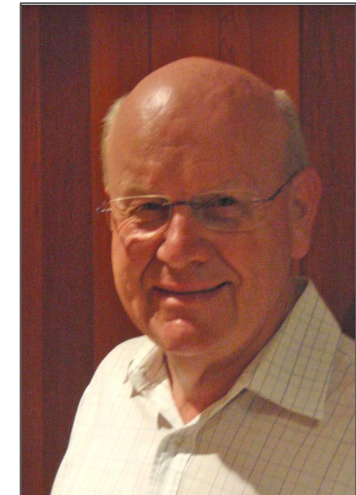
www.c-a-network.com



Cochlear Awareness Network



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John's story

Acoustic Neuroma resulting in single sided deafness

"My Baha is now just part of my life."

Hear now. And always



Cochlear™

Meet John

My name is John Harris. About three years ago in early 2006 I was diagnosed with Acoustic Neuroma, a rare benign tumour in the hearing nerve which usually causes deafness on the affected side. If untreated in the worst case scenario it can threaten life. So while this surgery could be said to have saved my life, it left me totally deaf in my right ear - or with single sided deafness.

This was a bit of a shock as I had been used to full hearing and, in the nine months following my surgery, found it quite difficult to get used to hearing with just one ear. My quality of life was affected and work became harder. I found conversations tricky when people were not in close proximity or when not face to face.

I was looking for a solution and discussed options with my Surgeon Dr Ben Panizza as well as David Rothwell, the audiologist on the team.

My single sided deafness could not be 'treated' with a traditional air conducted hearing aid because I no longer had an intact middle ear

and the sound vibrations could not get past this.

After talking with the professionals, I researched Baha on the internet and viewed a Baha video. I was pleased I could trial a Baha as well as a Wi-Fi Cross Aid hearing system. I found that each did help me to hear on my right side, however, tests in a controlled environment showed that my speech understanding was better with the Baha Divino. The cross aid hearing system was like having just one aid but across two ears. I would have to turn it off to use the phone and then turn it back on later. With the Baha I had my normal hearing in my left ear plus the Baha for my right ear and this meant it was more convenient for times when I needed a phone.

After the trials I was assessed as suitable for a Baha and had the operation in early 2007. It took a few months before I could hear because the abutment had to heal. When I was 'switched on' for the first time I could instantly hear normal sounds on my right, including my audiologist

speaking quietly from that side. This was absolutely amazing.

My Baha has returned some of my hearing on my right side and has made participation in meetings so much better because I can tell where sound is coming from. At home my family finds it is easier to get my attention because I know when someone is talking to me. It is also easier to hear other conversations around me as long as the background noise level isn't too high.

Not long after I received my Baha one of my work colleagues told me, unprompted, that he found no difference in working with me now than before the operation to remove the Acoustic Neuroma. This confirms how good the Baha has been for me. If for some reason I do not have my Baha processor on I miss it. The improved hearing I get is so much better than just hearing with one ear alone. The abutment is easy to care for and I have had no problems.

"The Baha is simply the way I hear now and has become part of my life."