

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

Kevin FitzRoy

Cochlear Implant Recipient

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www.c-a-network.com



Cochlear Awareness Network



Cochlear Awareness Network



Kevin's story

Industrial Deafness

"I would never like to be without my Cochlear Implant."

Cochlear Awareness Network

Hear now. And always



Cochlear™

Meet Kevin

When I was 8 years old I remember hearing the white ants chewing away on the timber in my grandparents' house. This was probably the peak of my natural hearing.

I was conscripted into the army at 18 and like all good soldiers, I did what I was trained to do – shoot guns. Not once did anyone ever suggest that hearing protection should be worn.

After leaving the army I continued in my trade as a carpenter and by this time there were many labour saving, but noisy, devices to help me in my work. Again, hearing protection was not available.

By the time I was in my 40's I noticed I had a hearing loss. I went to the specialists who said they couldn't help me. I just had to learn to live with it - and for the next 15 years I did just that.

By now my loss was so bad it affected the quality of my life. I started wearing Hearing Aids – with the promise of almost fully restored hearing, but in reality they only helped for a few

months before my hearing slid downhill again.

After almost 20 years and 5 hearing aids I was so frustrated and my family and friends were frustrated with how hard it was to talk to me too. I learned lip reading, bought a TV with subtitles and a DVD player so I could watch movies. My wife became a relay service for phone calls writing down messages. I bought a TTY phone but few people took the time to use it because it is a very clumsy system (for hearing people). It became too hard to socialise and I withdrew. I had fewer hassles, wasn't tired from lip reading and it was just easier.

Through the Deafness Forum I heard about and met a number of Cochlear Implant recipients. I was determined to check whether this would be a hearing solution for me. After tests I was given the go ahead and had my implant in 2005.

Immediately I was switched on I could understand some words even if they did sound strange. One good thing was I was able to

monitor my own voice so I didn't talk so loud. Identifying sounds I hadn't heard in a long time was my first step to hearing. On the train I thought I heard a cat being tortured – only to find out it was a baby crying in the next carriage.

For the first time in years I had conversations without the need for lip reading. I heard the crickets chittering, disconnected the TTY phone and returned it. I enjoy music and am able to drive the local community bus again.

Tests show that where I had 8% comprehension before my implant I now have 94% comprehension – how amazing is that!

My implant has given a new life, not just to me but also to my wife. Family and friends find it easier to communicate and they don't have to listen to my loud voice. I hate to think what my life would be without my Cochlear implant.

*"My speech processor
is one of my most prized possessions."*