

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
Queensland Regional Coordinator**

Sandra Keir

Bilateral Cochlear Implant Recipient

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Cochlear Awareness Network



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Sandra's Story

Born deaf

"Thanks to Professor Graeme Clark for inventing the Cochlear Implant, I can now hear more than I have ever heard in my life"

Cochlear Awareness Network

Hear now. And always



Meet Sandra

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

I was born with a moderate hearing loss to hearing parents. This was noted when I was 18 months old.



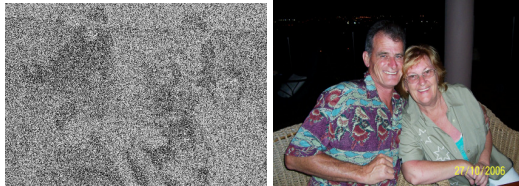
Me at 18 months they found I was deaf. How did they know – I was signing to them that I swallowed my bracelet – pointing at my wrist and my mouth. That's when my Mum took me to the Children's Hospital – it was then they found I was deaf.

My father had rubella on the Islands in Borneo back in 1945 when he was in the WW11. My father also had the Cochlear Implant in 1984 with an earlier model of the Nucleus processor.

I was fitted with a hearing aid at the age of two and half years, and had intensive speech therapy until I was five years old.

At the age of 35 after having given birth to two

girls, my hearing loss was at significantly low levels. We discovered it was common to lose some hearing giving birth to children.



Left: me in the front – A group of us in the Music Room at Glendonald School for the deaf - to "hear", we feel the vibrations on the floor. Right: my husband Alan & I both have bilateral implants.

In 2000 I met and married my husband Alan, who, since 1996, had a cochlear implant. Through him I met many more implantees and saw how successful they were in their journey back to hearing. In 2002 I underwent an assessment to determine if I was suitable for implantation and the results came back positive.

After the operation and the following "switch on", I was able to hear immediately. This was due in large to a great deal of support I received from my husband and family. The enjoyment of discovering new sounds each day was exciting and fun, and the learning continues to this day.

In 2007 I went Bilateral – having two cochlear

implants is better than one as it lets you know where the directional sounds are coming from.

I am involved in many Deaf and Hearing Impaired organisations, including the Cochlear Awareness Network, a volunteer organisation of cochlear implant recipients who tell people their story of their journey back to sound.

I had the pleasure of meeting Professor Graeme Clark and have thanked him for inventing the Cochlear Implant in which I now can hear more than I ever heard in my whole life.

I love giving talks about Cochlear Implants and also supporting people who have chosen to have one.



Above: CAN members with Professor Graeme Clark

Left: I demonstrate First Aid to a child with a cochlear implant.

"I love the sound of the waves crashing on the rocks"