
Incoming Speakers

Andrea Walton – New Member Profile

Forthcoming Events

28.09.2008 2008 Australian University Games – Volunteer help is required now. Refer Peter Angwin and Geoff Heeps for details.

For District News, please go to: clarice@rotarydistrict9800.org.au

	<u>25.08.08</u>	<u>01.09.08</u>	<u>08.09.08</u>	<u>15.09.08</u>
House Committee Duty 12.00 Midday start	C Southall	J Mahon	P Angwin	R Liebmann
Bulletin:	P Peters	P Peters	P Peters	P Peters



Club Directory changes to:
Pike.peters@bibstillwell.com.au
Subscriptions overdue! \$295 to treasurer

Bulletin

Rotary Club of Prahran



Meets Monday
Mt Erica Hotel
Corner High Street and Williams
Prahran
12.45 for 1PM Luncheon

Website: www.rotaryprahran.org

Email: prahran@districtrotary9800.org

Prahran Chartered 27th December 1955

President	Peter Schneider
Vice President	Graeme Newton
Secretary	Helen Robbins
Treasurer	John Harris
Bulletin Editor	Pike Peters

No. 2327 Monday 18th August
New Members Profile:
Andrea Walton

Mount Erica Hotel
12.45pm for 1.00 pm

Reception: Lewis Woolf, Peter Angwin
Cashiers: Peter Betros, John Plowright

Subscriptions overdue! \$295 to treasurer

Previous Meeting

Sergeant Michael Morrison was back! A very lucrative session was enjoyed by all – and the enjoyment doesn't come cheap!

Jim Smith encouraged all of us to support one of the most important **INTERNATIONAL** projects in our district – **Donations in Kind**. Hands on volunteers are needed:

- Saturday Morning 9 AM to Midday
- Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

**Woolshed 37 – 400 Somerville Road, West Footscray
Melway 41 E7**

John Harris reported that just over half of subscriptions are in – **get the money in folks!**

The Bridge Club of the Rotary Club of Prahran will kick off on **Tuesday 14th October** at St John's Church, Toorak. All members are advised that the success of this fundraising activity depends on your support – especially during your rostered sessions.

New Club Roster

President Peter announced that the current roster is not really working. **One member must arrive at midday** to assist with setting up and running reception for the meetings. When Geoff Heeps is away on leave we will roster **two** members.

This week: **Chris Southall**

From deafness to hearing with a bionic ear.

Jo Nerin.

Jo Nerin – was in the Army in his native Switzerland and exposed to an explosion which caused a profound loss of hearing in his left ear

Jo emigrated to Australia 40 years ago. He never dreamed that he could have his hearing restored in his damaged left ear.

Then 7 years ago Jo caught the flu and lost hearing in his remaining right ear.

The first specialist he visited said, 'this happens with age'. Jo was not impressed.

He went to have an MRI and had to wait 2 months for the scan – all the while without hearing.

He was then referred to best specialist in Melbourne, who in contrast said, 'The day you can't use telephone – I will implant a bionic ear'.

First testing at Cochlear Implant Institute to determine the suitability to respond to the treatment. The patient needs some function to make the implant viable.

In Jo's case, the flu killed the hair cells in the cochlear area. His new ear would replace the function of the hairs. Jo underwent the two hour operation.

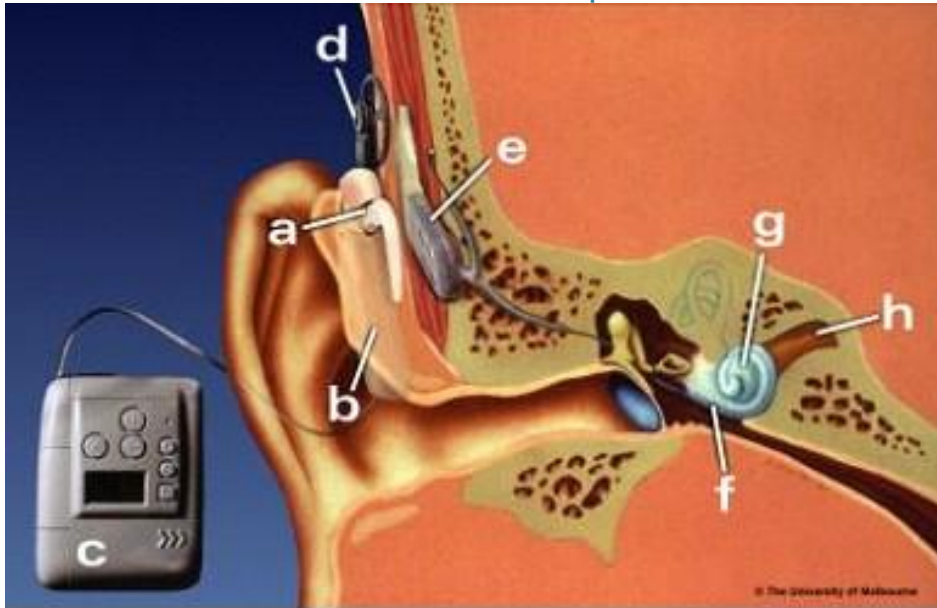


Figure 3. The hearing process using a cochlear implant

The next day the doctor put a band aid on it and sent him home. The procedure sees the insertion of a wire with 22 electrodes into the cochlear area of the ear. The implanted disk that is smaller than a thumbnail.



Figure 1. The internal component of the cochlear implant

The swelling subsided, the doctor hooked up the amplifier. To start, Jo's new ear was put through 22 beep tests – making certain that the electrodes function.

With the switching on of the microphone, Jo could hear perfectly. The sensation was uncomfortable for the first few days. Jo went in every day for a week or so to adjust the device.

Now Jo can talk to both grandchildren. In many ways her has regained life. The technology is incredible; there is a microprocessor that controls the hearing aid transmitter disk outside, a receiver disk inside that transmits directly to the hearing nerve and to brain. The components of the device are held together with magnets.

Surprisingly the ear damaged 40 years ago, the one Jo was told he would never hear with again was also restored. As Jo says he now experiencing the world in 'stereo'.

The institute developed the bionic ear in 1978. Graham Clark and his team develop this remarkable device in Melbourne. The first man implanted with the bionic ear had to have a headband and a BIG box. Over timeThe device was refined and developed to recreate more and more sound reception.

Jo is now an ambassador and a research volunteer, assisting with solving probles, such as background noise and music appreciation. The nature of the sound reproduction means that Jo can't enjoy music. Jo is working with Institute's researches to assist with this refinement.

The institute's next work is on the bionic eye. They are also working with epilepsy patients who can anticipate a seizure. An implant will work back on the electrical impulses.

The cost of the bionic ear is \$26,000. 100,000 people around the world have implants – 80% are Australian made.



*Please ensure
that your annual
subscription of
\$295 is paid to
John Harris.*