## Andrew Stewart's Libby Harricks **Achievement Award 2015**

Richard Brading

I first met Andrew Stewart a few weeks after my hearing loss. At the time, I was still coming to accept the fact that it was permanent and that my life would have to change. Andrew was an inspiration to me in his positive approach, and his belief that hearing-impaired people could live happy and normal lives. Andrew remains a strong advocate of technology, particularly assistive listening devices. This was a value that I found very helpful in finding my own path to rehabilitation. Born with a progressive hearing loss, Andrew Stewart has always strived to make the most of his disability. As a parent of hearing-impaired children, Andrew was active in supporting other parents. Determined to help others, he has become one of Australia's leading experts in hearing-assistive technology. He has represented the hearing impaired and Deaf in committees and written numerous submissions to Telcos and government bodies. He has volunteered countless hours of his time to support meetings of hearing-impaired organisations. Andrew's encouraging words, both practical and challenging, have helped many hearing-impaired people towards overcoming their disability.



