



Rosalie Turnbull

Wheel Talk Presenter Profile

INTRODUCTION



Date of Birth:	17 February 1954
Sport:	Wheelchair Tennis, Swimming, Snow Skiing
Disability:	Paraplegia
How acquired:	Horse-riding accident
Residence:	Melbourne, Victoria
Occupation:	Wheel Talk Presenter

BIOGRAPHY

Sporting Career Highlights:	Gold Medal, Team 2007 Arafura Games, Darwin Silver Medal, Wheelchair Tennis, 2007 Arafura Games, Darwin International Tennis Tournament tour in Europe, Asia and America
Personal Honours/Awards:	Bachelor of Arts, Melbourne University

Rosalie is the sole female presenter of the successful Wheel Talk Disability Awareness Program. Her inspiration to become a presenter was fuelled by the desire to give something back to Wheelchair Sports Victoria and to feel she was making a positive contribution through talking to students about Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) and its prevention. Rosalie brings to the role an honest and uplifting attitude that assists in reaching out to young people and changing their attitudes towards risk taking behaviours and people with disabilities.

Rosalie has always had a love of horses and it was on the 16th of October, 1993 that her life changed forever. Riding her horse that day, she was bucked off and sustained a SCI in addition to broken bones in her spine, pelvis and sacrum. Her disability acquired in adulthood has not prevented her from continuing to partake in the hobbies she loved prior to her accident, such as travelling the world and most recently, engaging in adrenalin inducing activities such as parasailing on her trip to Fiji.

Rosalie is a committed tennis player and rates her proudest moment in sport as playing doubles against the number one team in the world and sustaining a long rally against the world's best female wheelchair tennis player, Esther Vergeer. A further highlight has been travelling overseas to play in International tennis tournaments in Europe, Asia and America, and in the process, getting to hone her French skills which she describes as "bad but passable" and at least enough to be understood!

While sport is a major part of her life, Rosalie is equally as proud of the birth of her children as of her achievements and rallies on the tennis court. She is inspired by other people who are coping with disabilities far greater than hers and it is with this refreshing and upbeat attitude, that she is a tremendous asset to the Wheel Talk Program.

Favourite Quote: *"You can laugh or you can cry, but you might as well laugh, because crying hurts more"*