

# Enabling Technologies : Video 5

## Transcript

- When I was about 12 we got a telephone in our home and that made a whole lot of difference because my mother hadn't used one and, nor, my father, used one except probably at his work. But we weren't used to having a phone at home and the fact that you could ring up a doctor to come to you was something that was new to us. Portable radios came in and that was the most wonderful thing, to be able to carry a radio around with you. Yes, at first, turning on the television was simple and we could change channels quite easily. But now it's so involved, I just, hands off, I can't touch the thing I've seen computers introduced to places I was working in, But I didn't need to use it and I didn't learn or bother about them. Now they're everywhere. They're in people's homes for things and I can't use them there.
- It was actually, interestingly enough, it was when I left work because there was no one to do those things for me, anymore. So I figured then, I'd better, jolly well, learn. And that's when I learnt how to use the computer.
- When computers first came in, Barry started, got a computer, didn't have a clue what he was doing with it, but taught himself to do it. Which is wonderful. That's when they first came in. We were both amazed at the things that came off and things we could see.
- People use technology in photographs, taking photographs. Everything that they do, is technology. Although, I did drive a car before anything became too complicated
- What I find useful is, of course, my computer, my iPhone.
- Well, the radio is my life. if I haven't got a radio under my pillow, I couldn't go to sleep
- Most of my friends have got email addresses and things like that, and mobile phones. I'm not on me lonesome with it.
- He's just bought a new tablet and I've got my own tablet. I hope that I'll be able to do most things on that. But, see, they tend to think of you, when you walk into the store, as though, you know, who's going to look after this one? You know, because she's old.
- What I do find frustrating is this that there's no one on staff if you hit a problem, that can actually help you sort it out.
- Well, when I reached 70, I sort of, thought you don't need to get too knowledgeable about these things because you won't be here after a while
- I know that I've got friends, who're my age, and they're far behind me and I don't think they'll ever catch up. But I don't know what's going to happen in 10 years time because they won't be able to do the things that they have to do and you've only got to look at how little mail we get now. It's all online. It's making

older people just conform, when, probably, they're not ready. They're not ready to, and it's really not fair to have to ask some people if they don't think that way.

- I have friends that use email and I can't, so I can't communicate with them, when I want to.
- I don't ever want to have to use internet banking, if I don't have to. I don't see why we should have to be forced into it, but of course we won't be able to stop it.
- The talk is that money's going to be done away with. It'll all be card and banking on the net. Older people can't cope with that.
- Phones that's the size of your hand, isn't it? Some people's eyesight's gone. Sometimes, the lighting's poor. I go some places with my phone and it's the wrong colors and I can't see it properly. Even so, the writing's small and you try and deal with that when your eyesight's failing. And I've worked as a volunteer, with the council, within aged care and the senior's festivals and things like that and what we're trying to do, as I'm working as a volunteer, we're trying to encourage many of the older people to not worry about getting a computer. To try and get a tablet and do everything they can on a tablet.
- The common thing that's happening, is that, phones are also, now, doing what computers can do.
- That's how I'm feeling now, a bit sorry that I didn't take it up.
- A lot of older folk, don't have the understanding of the resources they can go to, to get the help that they need.
- This pendant around my neck, it's a simple piece of technology, that enables me to keep living on my own. I only have to push the button, if I need help and I'm connected by phone to someone who can send assistance. I'm sure, in the future, technology will enable older people to keep active, independent and engaged with the world in ways that might be hard to imagine now.