

Hi my name is Lee Jenkins. I am 49 yrs old 140 kgs with high blood pressure and sore joints. I have struggled most of my adult life with being over weight and had tried every diet there is and had no success. I would lose weight then slowly but surely put it all back on and some.

I decided it was time to do something about it

(a) I didn't want to be this size any more and wanted change before I turned 50

(b) Before I developed Heart Disease/Diabetes, so I spoke with my GP about having my stomach stapled and asked her to refer me to a surgeon, I had read lots about this procedure in magazines and watched several TV programs, all with great results.

My GP referred me to Dr Rob Fris at the Northridge Clinic. I first met with the team at Northridge in December 2005. We discussed my reason for wanting this procedure, including my eating habits, then finally in January 2006 I met with Dr Fris to discuss what type of surgery I would have, there were three procedures to choose from: a Lapband, Gastric Bypass and a new procedure called a Gastric Sleeve. I discussed all three procedures with Dr Fris and decided the best option for me was the Gastric Sleeve. The reason for this was due to the Lapband needed to be adjusted from time to time and I wanted something more permanent.

There had only been a few of these procedures performed at this time but I felt this was the right one for me so on the 27<sup>th</sup> February 2006 I went in for my surgery. I can say I have never looked back. Now 5½ mths later I'm 107 kgs feeling and looking fantastic. I am off all blood pressure medication and the joint pain is getting better by the day.

Please if you are thinking about having this done all I can say is just DO IT, the support I received from Rob and the Team at Northridge Clinic has been wonderful. The before and after support is ongoing and I know I can contact them and they will be there with all the guidance and support I need.

I would like to say a big thank you to Rob and his Team for giving me a new life.