

Quotes from case studies of **Cochlear implant users:**



**Diana Green, a 78-year-old former secondary school teacher from Cleethorpes, was fitted with an implant just over two and a half years ago, a year after her husband died:** “It has been like a miracle...My world has opened up again since being fitted with a Cochlear implant a year after my husband died.”

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**Molly Berry, a 63-year-old lipreading tutor, who lives in a narrowboat on the Grand Union Canal in Hertfordshire, had her implant fitted six years ago:** “Being ‘switched on’ was wonderful. I could hear sounds I’d forgotten. The ticking of a clock, my cat lapping her milk, footsteps, the birds. I felt like I could truly engage with the world again.”

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**Nigel Williams, a 59-year-old senior procurement manager in the NHS in Wales and from Cardiff, had his implant fitted in 1994, 22 years after he went deaf after suffering from meningitis:** “To say that the first thing I do each day is to put on my implant doesn’t convey the feeling of exhilaration I have each and every time, as I marvel at how lucky I am to have this ability to hear restored, there are simply no waking moments that I do not have my implant switched on if possible.”

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**Valerie James, aged 74, a grandmother from Wimbledon had her implant fitted in October 2014 and can now hear the music when she dances at her ballroom classes:** “It is as if I have never had a cochlear implant operation – it feels as though it has always been there. Having my cochlear implant is more than a gift - it is life changing even at my age.”

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**Carol Cook, 70, from Benson, Oxfordshire cut off from her social life and had to rely on her husband as her carer, before having her Cochlear implant in January 2015:** “It is a real life changer. I found out I could have had it at least three years earlier and I wish I had done so. I have got my independence back and it has given me a confidence boost. It has made such a difference to my life that I would like others to know that deafness can be overcome with an implant and they can start living again.”  
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**Margaret Messham, 74, from Sunninghill, Ascot, relied on her dogs barking to alert her to sounds, before having her implant in September 2014:** “It was like a miracle. Although the sounds are quite robotic at first, you get used to it quite quickly. And the good news is the technology doesn’t deteriorate like natural hearing does, so I will still be able to hear even if I reach the age of 100.”  
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**Liz Arendt, 71, from St Albans, Hertfordshire was profoundly deaf in both ears. She had her first implant on the NHS in May 2004, and the second she funded herself, in May 2006:** “Because of the cochlear implants, I can lead a normal life again like a normal fully hearing person. If anyone gets the chance to do this, I would say go for it.”