

Your questions - Accessories

- Tayseer** The implant has a remote control and I use it to switch from one programme to another. I also use the remote control to switch on the mini-mic, but apart from that I barely use it. In my daily routine I never need to change the implant. I just find that programme that I am happy with and just, you know, settle on that one.
- Juliet** On the Cochlear processor that I use, the [telecoil] loop system is an automatic feature, so if I go to an environment where there is a loop, it automatically switches on and the processor uses the loop. I can also adjust it with the little zapper that I have that controls the programme in my processor. I would use it to go to the theatre, or actually a lot of banks and shops and things that have loop systems, that if are switched on and working properly, then they are automatically accessed by the processor.
- Katherine** The T-loop system is something I need when I pick up the phone, so I automatically set it to loop. You don't have to just use it for the telephone, you can go into the bank, you can go into any institution, they should have the loop system for you. Depending on the situation, I choose to use it. As and when, it is up to you. It is there and it is good, but you don't have to use it if you don't want to.
- Tayseer** I have been to the cinema a couple of times and the experience of watching a movie I think it is quite natural – it is not too noisy and definitely it is much better than before the operation.
- Margaret** I have a mini microphone which I use because I belong to a flower club and we have demonstrators, and they seem to disappear behind their flowers when they are talking. So I ask them to put on the mini microphone, and I am able to hear what they are saying. I also have a remote control which I use for the loop system which is very good when I go to church, I can hear all of the harmonies.
- Juliet** The accessory that I have chosen is a little mini microphone that can either be handed to a speaker or can be connected to a microphone jack. I find it very useful for long distance travel, if I am on a aeroplane, because it can be plugged into a seat and I can hear the film sound which was always previously inaccessible to me. You can use that little microphone for listening to your iPod or plugging into television, any number of acoustic sources – so, it's a useful little adjunct to the sounds you are naturally hearing through your implant.
- Jean** Since I have had a cochlear implant, the conversations at work are a lot easier because I can hear better. One of the problems I had before was when we have meetings, when somebody addressed the whole group, I couldn't hear even sat at the front, whereas now I have a mini-mic. We have our boss come around quite often, and he wants to talk to a group of 50 or more, and he wears it on his tie – and I switch it on on the controller then I can hear straight into my head. I don't even need to be standing near the front.

- Stan Adaptations at home, the only thing I really use still is the subtitles on the television.
- Andrew I use sometimes subtitles, I don't really use it very often but if I am very tired – if I watch something interesting, films or something usually they come on late on tv, but I am gradually learning to not use them at all.
- Margaret I have to use subtitles when I am watching any programme where they have accents, such as the soaps. For normal programmes, news, documentaries, I can turn the subtitles off
- Britt-Marie I still use the subtitles on the television because when you see a programme the camera is not always on the face, so I have to use subtitles but again, after all these years it is second nature to you.
- Juliet I have availed myself of the Cochlear Travel Programme, which you sign up for and pay an annual fee, and they then guarantee that if your processor breaks down while you are on holiday or abroad that they will dispatch a processor hastily to you, and hopefully pretty well anywhere in the world it will reach you within 24 hours. I feel it's a bit like joining the AA which is an insurance policy which means the worst won't happen!