

My Dental Experience

Following various comments on Facebook as well as the stigma about dentures, I felt the need to share my own positive personal experience with you.

I was diagnosed with AED as a baby and due to my lack of teeth I had my first top and bottom dentures at the age of 2. Followed by many more throughout my childhood, I would often think to myself how lucky I was not to go through the pain and discomfort as soon as the word 'dentist appointment' was mentioned by my Mum, unlike most of my friends as mine always included a whole day off School and (from Kent) a day trip to Guys Hospital in London, where I would always have a pain free appointment with my same old friendly dentist on the 26th Floor overlooking the London skyline, and after a little sightseeing, followed by a chocolate éclair from my favourite coffee shop! So a dentist appointment was always quite a special day out for me.



Teenage years weren't as bad as I first thought, I slowly realised that no one really paid attention to my teeth, after all they looked better than most. I suddenly realised, that if I didn't tell anyone about my dentures, nobody actually knew! Friends had the most terrible braces at school, which seemed to be there most of our school life and sometimes caused so many problems. However, I have been lucky enough to have fantastic dental treatment all my life, that enabled my teeth to grow with me from a teenager and into an adult, very discreetly, building my confidence with each new set that I had, and making me think less and less that I was really different from anyone else, just special.

I had always been against the option of having teeth implanted into my gums. My main reason was it would involve too many uncomfortable procedures including the grafting of bone tissue due to the lack of gums, being on a liquid diet and also the long term maintenance issues.

I am now 40 years old and after having the same dentures for at least the last 15 years and front crowns for around 20 years, I now after 18 months of regular dental appointments have a great new set of white healthy looking teeth, the best I've ever had! The two main reasons for having new dentures were due to wear and tear and I also wanted to look my best for my wedding day which was a couple of months ago. I couldn't have been more pleased. And of course, due to having AED, it didn't cost me anything!

My husband and I are now planning our 2 year honeymoon trip around the world which I can do with confidence, thanks to my wonderful dentist and my new smile.

So from my long denture wearing experience, I feel quite lucky for a number of reasons...