

RHONDA G.



Rhonda went to the Oral and Maxillofacial Unit when she was 20 years old because of persistent pain in her jaw joints caused by her upper and lower teeth not meeting. The problem lay in the faulty relationship of her upper and lower jaws. The lower jaw was skewed to the right, while the upper jaw and nose were skewed to the left. Her upper jaw and face also looked sunken back and hollow compared to the lower jaw. She was disturbed by her facial appearance although the initial reason that she came for treatment was the pain in her jaw joint. She said that her facial appearance was similar to that of the rest of her family until she was about 11 years old when she started to notice a developing asymmetry.

Following an eighteen-month period of orthodontics she underwent surgery in which her lower jaw was fractured in three places and her upper jaw and nasal bones were also fractured. Her upper jaw was brought forward and fixed in place with titanium metal plates. Her nose was straightened and her lower jaw was then fixed in its new position in relation to the upper jaw so that the teeth met properly.

Rhonda describes the transformation in her life as fantastic. She was not only cured of her jaw joint pain but she now feels she looks like the rest of her family. Rhonda studied flower arranging and now has her own florist business. She and her husband Russell have a daughter Molly.