

# Mary sees benefit of breakthrough eye surgery

by Kirshy Ellery

REVOLUTIONARY eye surgery has created a brighter world for Heaton Moor resident Mary Earley who went ahead with the operation after feeling helpless when her husband got into trouble in a swimming pool.

The 59-year-old had struggled for years with poor distance vision and imperfect close sight.

For several years she had thought about corrective laser surgery but the crunch came when she was on holiday in Spain with her 63-year-old husband Bob earlier this year.

She said: "We were by the swimming pool. Bob was in the water and he got into difficulties in the deep end. I was on the side but without my contact lenses I couldn't see him wanting to attract attention.

"In the end, a couple of other holiday makers dived in to rescue him. I felt really helpless just because I couldn't see."

Disaster was averted but when she returned to Stockport, Mary decided it was time for decisive action on her eyes.

The daily difficulties of dealing with gritty contact lenses are now a problem of the past, thanks to ground-breaking surgery at the new Face and Eye Clinic in Northenden.

And the mother of two, who also has three stepsons and four step grandchildren, is delighted she can now knit clothes for her grandchildren and watch television, all at the

same time.

The only down side is that she says she can see her living room more clearly and has decided they definitely need to redecorate!

She added: "We went walking around Reddish Vale near where we live and I could see the little birds on the trees.

"It was really marvellous. When I first went back to work, everywhere was so bright I almost needed my sunglasses on."

## Surgery

Mary (*pictured right*) has been fitted with two Restor lenses, pioneered and manufactured by world-leading eye care company Alcon, Consultant ophthalmic surgeon, Khalid Ikram, who had discovered she had early signs of cataracts, performed the strablotward surgery.

He said: "This lens is a really exciting medical breakthrough and has the potential to help millions of cataract patients by giving them back high quality near and distance vision.

"If Mrs Earley had undergone more routine laser surgery she would still have needed reading spectacles. The Restor lenses mean she is completely free from wearing contact lenses or glasses."

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