



# Seeing is believing

BY CATHY BLACK

**A**rmagh man Cecil Dickson, 56, has been wearing glasses for the past four years, but it was only when his deteriorating eye condition started to affect his work that he decided to do something about it.

Now, thanks to Cathedral Eye Clinic, shortsighted Cecil is spectacle-free and feeling ten years younger.

"I never really had a grievance to wearing glasses as such", the accountant and part-time farmer explained.

"But it came to the point where my eyesight was really slowing me down. I would be reading spreadsheets or out on the field reading the labels on mineral packets and my eyesight would be so blurred I would have to stop what I was doing to go and hunt for a pair of glasses.

"My eyes had gotten to the stage where there was a blur or a glaze in front of them even when I was wearing my glasses. I also had a lazy eye."

But despite the implications his vision was having on his life, Cecil didn't take the decision to have corrective surgery lightly.

"The procedure was excellent, but one thing I would advise to anyone thinking of getting laser surgery is not to rush into it. I saw the advert for Cathedral Eye Clinic last Christmas, but it wasn't until the September that I actually went for it.

"It is important to give it a long hard think, you can't see it as a quick fix, because at the end of the day it is your health at stake.

"By the time I gave the clinic a call I was totally confident about my decision, and whenever it came to my consultation with Professor Moore we had a serious talk.

"I told him straight that I needed him to advise me on what was best for me, and he certainly did that. I didn't want to risk losing my sight altogether, but he listened to all my concerns and put me totally at ease."

Although the procedure was quick and ultimately painless, nothing could have prepared Cecil for the way his life was about to change.

"When I could see clearly for the first time it was a massive shock to the system, it just blew my mind. I remember when my

wife peeled back the eye patches for the first time it just happened to be a bright and sunny morning and I couldn't believe all the stuff I was seeing for the first time.

"Even just standing there in my kitchen I could see all these lines on the kitchen units that I had never known were there."

Since opening its doors in June 2008, the Cathedral Eye Clinic has become one of Northern Ireland's leading ophthalmic facilities, providing an extensive range of treatments and procedures. Cathedral Eye Clinic also boasts some of the most advanced technology, including the only Schwind Amaris total-tech laser in the UK and Ireland that can trace thousands of corneal points in the eye.

The clinic is headed by Professor Jonathan Moore, a specialist in treating difficult corneal and anterior segment problems,

who says the laser they use is so precise it can remove tissue from one spot on a strand of hair 16 times before it breaks through the hair.

Prof Moore added: "We are fortunate enough to be using some of the most advanced technology in the business. You need to trust the person who is ultimately responsible for your eyes and these tools give added faith.

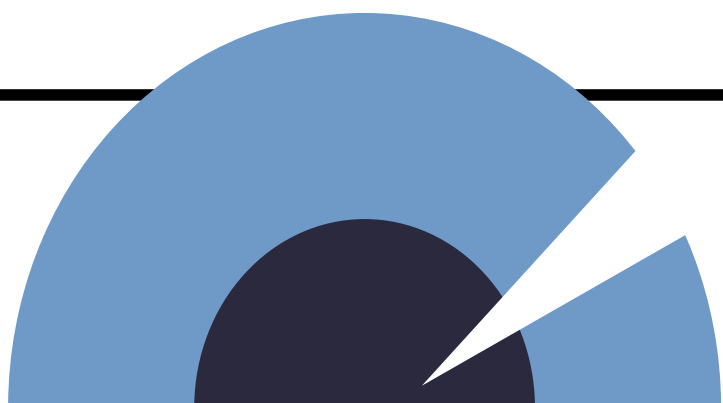
"The multi focal lens we use, Lentis MPlus, allows patients to be totally free of glasses – returning sight to that of a thirty year old with normal vision. That is what we did for Cecil."

And Cecil isn't Cathedral Eye Clinic's only happy customer. Michael Todd, the owner of MT Forklifts in Belfast said: "My life has been transformed since having laser eye correction surgery at the Cathedral Eye Clinic in Belfast.

"I am now able to drive, work and carry out complex repair jobs – quite often complex colour coded wiring jobs on forklift trucks with my staff.

"I couldn't believe that I could read and see perfectly as soon as I sat up after the procedure was complete."

And Cecil agrees: "I have absolutely no regrets, I am delighted. Having my vision corrected has made me focused, it has made me more alert, and it has made me more active. It has made me feel ten years younger. It has been a life changing episode, there are no two ways about it."



**CATHEDRAL EYE CLINIC**

**THE EYE CONSULTANTS**

**Tel: 028 9002 2058**

York Street, Belfast BT15 1ED

**REFRACTIVE SURGERY**

**LASER SURGERY**

**CATARACT SURGERY**

**DIABETIC EYE CARE**

**GLAUCOMA**

**MEDICAL & SURGICAL RETINA**

www.cathedraleye.com

Email: cathedraleye@gmail.com