

## My Daughter

My daughter came back into my life in Dec 2003. I put my name on the Register in 1990 hoping that one day she would come looking for me. And she did - I received a letter from Bondi and thought "...who would be sending me mail from Bondi?" When I opened up the letter I cried - I was at the hairdressers at the time. It was a Saturday so I had to wait until the following week to tell the Counsellor at Bondi to give my daughter all the information she wanted.

It was early Dec when I got my first letter from my daughter, and again I cried with joy. You see I had told my husband and my other daughter that I had a child whom I gave up for adoption, so they were happy for me that I had made contact after all those years.

We kept writing letters and in March 2004 I met her and her family. I now have 3 more beautiful grandchildren. The joy I feel is just too hard to describe.

I do not feel guilty for giving her up for adoption as I feel I made the right decision at the time, and she has not judged me nor holds any anger towards me. She knows I did what I had to do at the time.

I know that there are women out there who gave their children up for adoption and have found it hard to agree to meet them. But we need to realise that these children are still our responsibilities even though we gave them up for adoption, and in the back of our minds we know that for some reason they need to know who their mother is.

Yes I am one of the lucky ones who get on so well with their children. My daughter calls me Mum - I could have said 'no', that I did not want to make contact but it was not her fault that she was given up for adoption. Please mothers, just give your child a fair hearing. They may bring joy, they may bring sadness but that is another price we pay when we give our children up for adoption.

R