

Susan Baillely

Born in Edinburgh, Scotland, graduated from St. Andrew's University 1989 with a BSc [Hons] in Chemistry. Employed by The Procter and Gamble Co. in 1989. Started working at the Newcastle Technical Center, North East England as a manager in Fabric & Home Care Research & Development. Current position is 'Perfumer' working in the North American Fabric and Home Care division.

My employer offered an opportunity to transfer to the US in September 2000 with my family. One of my key concerns at the time was I was a non-driver due to my low vision (reduced visual acuity). I had no knowledge that a special driving program was in place for people with *certain* types of low vision in the US. It was during a session to identify visual aid equipment for my office at The Cincinnati Association for the Blind, that I first heard about BiOptic Driving technology. I immediately started to pursue obtaining my license using BiOptic glasses working with The Vision Center of Central Ohio. It was a long and thorough process, which took 10 months. In November 2001 I obtained my Ohio drivers license.

This experience of never driving and then being able to drive at 35 years old using BiOptics was *so life changing* for me I was compelled to share the BiOptic technology internationally (in the UK most had not heard of or seen a BiOptic). This resulted in being actively involved in the formation of BiOptic Driving Network Inc, which started as a small Yahoo group in July 2001.