

## Julieann Wallace

Julieann's Meniere's disease started in 1995. From that time until 2004, she tried many non-invasive medical treatments at the advice of her ENT as well as alternative treatments to stop the debilitating attacks of vertigo, tinnitus and hearing loss. She also conducted her own research of Meniere's treatments on the internet, and took that research to her ENT, who was supportive in trialling those treatments.

When no treatment or medication worked to ease the severe, disabling symptoms of Meniere's disease, Julieann opted for gentamicin to be injected into her middle ear through her grommet to stop the violent vertigo. It was a success. She had no more vertigo, however, tinnitus hearing loss and imbalance remained. In 2020, Julieann regained her hearing via a cochlear implant.

Besides being a teacher for 34 years, Julieann is a published author and artist. Her 7<sup>th</sup> novel with a main character with Meniere's disease, was long listed to be made into a movie by Screen Queensland. Julieann actively supports people in Meniere's communities, and is thrilled to be able to offer her Meniere's lived experience and insights to Meniere's disease researchers. She believes that a successful treatment is within reach and can't wait for the day when doctors will say, 'Meniere's disease? Here's the treatment that will work for you!'

Julieann donates proceeds from the titles of the published books, pictured below, to Meniere's research. They all have content or characters with Meniere's disease. Julieann has a passion for creativity, loves music and art, and tries not to scare her cat with her terrible cello playing.

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