

Lynne Rowe was born with no arms or legs nearly 50 years ago. Doctors said let her die but her parents refused and took their tiny gumnut baby home. They have loved her every day since



SAVING LYNNY

THE ULTIMATE LOVE STORY



ANDREW RULE

WENDY Rowe can't remember much about the birth except the dead silence in the delivery room and the look on the doctor's face.

He had delivered her baby. Now, as stricken nurses avoided Wendy's gaze, he braced himself to deliver the bad news.

Her daughter had no arms and no legs.

Wendy looked at him calmly and said: "We'll just have to look after her very carefully then, won't we?"

With those words, the 26-year-old mother of three began the first hour of the first day of the rest of her life. Her little family had been struck by lightning.

It was March 2, 1962. A Friday.

A lifetime later, Wendy Rowe admits she can't remember what she said to the doctor that day because they sedated her later and everything became a blur. But the doctor never forgot her grace under pressure.

Dr Ron Dickinson is in his 80s now and long retired, but when a stranger recently came to ask him about delivering Lynette Rowe in 1962, he recalled it clearly.

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Thalidomide bottle pictured has been digitally altered

SPECIAL INVESTIGATION: THE THALIDOMIDE SCANDAL