



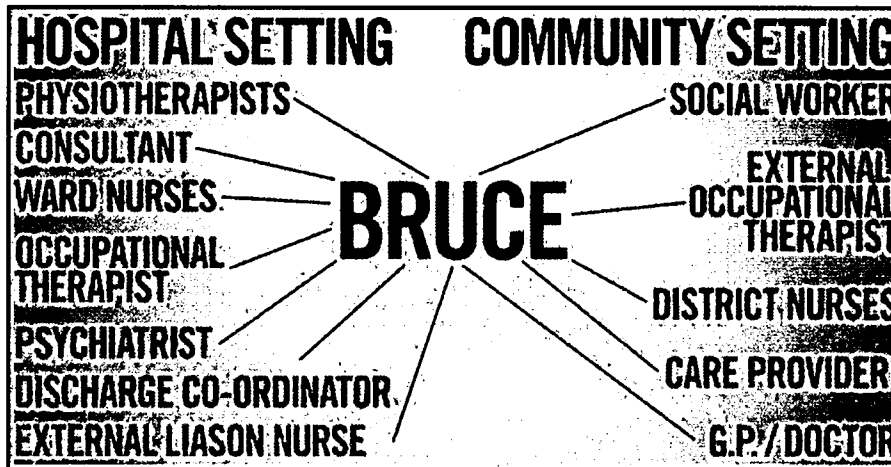
Bruce's story

Bruce is a 49 year old man, who broke his neck while on holiday in September 2016. He spent two weeks in hospital in Portugal then two weeks in intensive care when he returned to the UK , during which time he was ventilated. He spent a further 7 months in hospital working through a programme of rehabilitation and recovery.

Bruce lives with his partner Louise, and their 3 teenage children. Both Bruce and Louise worked from home. Bruce worked as a successful and well paid project manager before his spinal injury and Louise ran a small business. Despite the trauma of his accident Bruce was keen to be active and independent as quickly as possible and was particularly eager to return to work. Louise did not work following Bruce's accident in September 2016. She saw the opportunity to start this back up once the adaptations had been completed to the house and when Bruce's support was well established.

Bruce's view is that health and social work have worked really well together to make life much easier than it could otherwise have been.

Bruce found it really helpful to work with staff to set monthly goals to work towards which helped him see improvement and motivated him through his rehabilitation. Bruce was told that he would not walk again.



A whole range of staff have worked with Bruce in hospital and in the community. Adaptations were undertaken in his home and an individual budget empowered him to organise the support that was right for him. Bruce was discharged in April 2017.

What Bruce has achieved:

- He returned to work in July 2017
- Through exercise and getting back into an active life Bruce gets stronger all the time
- He has taken his first steps
- He chooses the support that he needs and changes this to suit what he and his family are doing
- He and Louise got engaged whilst Bruce was in hospital and married this month.