

Doing it for dad and Rehab

CYCLIST Steve Shaw, a 52-year-old father of two, has plenty to celebrate this Fathers Day.

After almost eight months at Royal Rehabilitation Centre at Ryde recovering from a head suffered when he fell off his bike, Mr Shaw will soon be heading home.

Mr Shaw is grateful for the progress he has made and his daughter Brianna will express the family's appreciation by walking 250km to Newcastle to raise money for the Rehab Centre's brain injury unit.

It all started on December 11, when Mr Shaw fell from his bike at a roundabout.

Although he was wearing a crash helmet, the impact sent a pressure shock wave to his brain.

After a month in hospital, he arrived at the brain injury unit to recover his speech and mobility,

particularly his ability to ride again.

Driven by his passion to be fit and active, Mr Shaw has graduated to the transition unit, the last stop before being discharged and returning home.

He hopes to be home well before Brianna sets out for her trek on the Great North Walk, a journey she has called "Doing It for Dad".

She said she was also doing it for the Royal Rehab Centre.

"Thanks to the efforts of Dr Clayton King and his team, dad has been able to regain his independence.," she said.

"Like many others I had not heard of the centre and had never considered what happened to patients after hospital. I believe the services offered by the Rehab Centre is greatly undervalued, hence my inspiration for this walk.

"Watching my dad start again from scratch has been the most incredible, heart-breaking and tough journey.

"The doctors and staff at the brain injury unit have given him life again. I cannot thank them enough for their whole-hearted efforts, their positive spirit and for never giving up.

"Please give what you can to this most worthy cause, to enable the continuing work of the Rehab Centre in the future." she said.

How to help

TO support Brianna in her walk to Newcastle, go to website www.everydayhero.com.au/doing_it_for_dad_



Brianna Shaw with her father Steve at Royal Rehabilitation Centre.