

Brain Injury Unit

A selection of stories from the Wall of Fame in the Brain Injury Unit at the Royal Rehabilitation Centre Sydney



Neil Donnelly

I am a very experienced researcher with degrees in Psychology, Public Health and a Doctor of Philosophy. In early September 2008, I had a major brain haemorrhage. I was very lucky to experience a wide range of the Brain Injury Unit's services...these services improved my physical abilities, linguistic and other mental skills and also the ability to function in a range of social settings. I also regained my driver's licence through a course conducted by the Driving Assessment Centre at Royal Rehab. In January 2010, I successfully applied for a full time job as a Senior Research Officer.



Arabella Horton

On November 17th 2007 I was out with friends....and was hit by a car. My life was turned upside-down in a second and Royal Rehab was there to help me climb back to the person I used to be. With the help of the Brain Injury Community Rehabilitation Team, outpatient team and driving school I have successfully resumed my life. I'm currently studying at University, working and driving with confidence. The whole experience has given me an outlook on life that few if any of my friends have.



Rosanna Robertson

October 17th 2007, my life changed. A gun was put to the back of my head and I was shot. I kept real calm and knew my little boy would need his mummy and also I was only 25 so I decided I was too young to die. I am a qualified yoga teacher and have an 8 year-old son. We also have a lovely white cat named "Shanti". Every day I am grateful to be living.....



James Poole

Hi, my name is James Poole, I am 25 and from Birmingham, England. I am currently resuming my studies and completing a Post Graduate Certificate in teaching. The recovery from my near fatal incident in February 2007 on the Anzac Bridge is still in progress. As a pedestrian I got hit by a car....resulting in two weeks in a coma. My hopes for the future include returning back to competitive sport, to continue with my teaching work and to return back to Royal Rehab to visit staff that worked with me and to be a participant in the Brain Injury Unit's Wall of Fame. My hopes for the future include returning back to competitive sport, to continue with my teaching work and to return back to royal rehab to visit staff that worked with me and to be a participant in this year's Wall of Fame.



Robert Gallagher

The moments in life that shape who you are. I had a serious accident in January 2004 which resulted in me sustaining brain and spinal injuries. This is the hand that I have been dealtI found strength in myself that I didn't know existed. There is not much in a wheelchair that isn't possible. No matter what adversity you face in life, anything is possible. There is no such word as can'tit is just a matter of having belief.