

My Story

By

Mark Herbert



Early days

- I was born in Ormskirk in 1973 and lived there until the age of 9
- I have 2 brothers and 1 sister
- We moved to Much Hoole in 1982
- I went to Penwortham Priory Highschool

Life Before ABI

- I was an HGV lorry driver
- I really enjoyed the job and loved driving
- This was my truck



How it happened

- In March 2020, I had a seizure in my sleep
- Woke up with paramedics in the bedroom
- I went to Royal Preston Hospital and was referred to Neurology
- My blood sugar was high and learned I had Type 2 diabetes
- In May 2020, I had a second seizure and started fitting in my sleep. They thought I had had a stroke but a scan revealed it was a tumour.

Treatment

- In December 2020 I underwent surgery to remove the tumour. It was a Grade 2 astrocytoma.
- On New Year's Day I was re-admitted to hospital with an abscess on the brain.
- I then had a craniotomy to remove the abscess



After surgery

- I had difficulty writing
- I had some speech impairment
- I was very unsteady on my feet
- An occupational therapist helped with my co-ordination (even had to practice making a cup of tea!)
- It was during the Covid lockdowns so having Tracey at home helped so much.

Life after ABI

- Treatment lasted for 3 months
- I had to have IV antibiotics for 6 weeks in 2021
- I had to undergo radiotherapy and chemotherapy in June 2022 and completed it in March 2023!



My Wedding Day

- Because of Covid lockdowns we had to put back our Wedding Day three times - but we finally made it in August 2021!



Turning 50 in May

A day I wasn't sure I'd reach.....

We raised £1,000 at my Birthday Party with a raffle and bingo. This was split between Rosemere and Macmillans

50!



Where I am now

- I worked for a short time on a farm and I'm hoping to find some kind of work in the near future.
- The scans are looking good – I have a check up in October.
- I'm waiting for my driving licence to be returned which my GP has approved.
- Joining Headway had really helped me make new friends and gain confidence.
- I attend the weekly exercise class at Heartbeat and hoping to get fitter.
- Special thanks to my wife, Tracey, who has been by my side all through this journey.

THANK YOU FOR LISTENING



ANY QUESTIONS?



