

I first started having problems with slow urine flow about 18 months before I had the Urolift procedure in November 2016. It was taking forever to go to the toilet to pass urine, even when I went I would walk away and get the urge to go again or I would dribble which was really embarrassing. It really affected me when I was out and about, not so much at home but in public places I could be stood for 10 minutes in front of the toilet with nothing happening. That's embarrassing, especially when people are waiting to use the toilet or if you're in someone's house.

I was referred to Aintree's Urology team in the Summer of 2015 and was seen within weeks. They started me on some medication and I was seen a few times after that, whenever I would go back to my GP with the symptoms, he would refer me back, because I was already in the system I was seen really quickly.

I was on different medications but they had side effects, some of which were worse than the original symptoms so the GP referred me back again and it was then that I saw Mr Lucky. He spoke to me about a new procedure, he discussed it with me in detail even bringing it up on the internet in the consultation room. He explained the risks but also what could happen if the operation was a success. He more than explained it to me in words and diagrams; the communication was brilliant. There was no in-between, it would either work or not. To me it seemed relatively simple, so I went ahead and had the camera to see if I was a suitable candidate for the surgery and Mr Lucky said I was. He was happy for me to stop taking the medication because actually it wasn't helping, just making me feel worse so I was happy to wait for the procedure. In the meantime he kept on monitoring me.

I came in for the procedure in November 2016. The operation was painless, I was in a bit of discomfort for a few days afterwards but only when passing urine, it felt hot. But each time it became less and less and by the end of the first week it was completely pain free.

Within 2 weeks it was a million times better, I couldn't believe it, I had a new lease of life. The operation was a resounding success and had an immediate impact on my life. Sometimes when I hear of other people having the same symptoms or I recognise it in others, I want to tell them about what happened to me, it's really unbelievable. I want to shout it from the rooftops! I've been

discharged now but Mr Lucky said I can go back if I ever need to but so far I've had fantastic results. I was so impressed when the discomfort subsided and being able to walk away from the toilet with confidence that I won't be dribbling or need to go again within minutes is a life changer.

The other thing; I can't believe the Urology Department is so good – I turn up for my appointment and I am rarely in the hospital for more than an hour. The nursing staff are brilliant too, if there are any delays they make a point of coming round and letting everyone know. I know how hard pressed these clinics are but I am well impressed with the system.

Even on the day of surgery I wasn't asked to come in and wait all day, I was asked to come in at 11.30am for surgery after lunch, which was great that I didn't have to hang around. The only thing I don't like is having to stay away from home but Mr Lucky reassured me that so long as there were no problems I would be able to go home the same day, and I did, I was home for tea time. A total of about 7 hours I was in and the difference in my life is just amazing.

Ends