

Case study:

Ollie Storey





Meet Ollie

Ollie Storey, 21, needed a cornea transplant for his left eye when he was 19, because of keratoconus.

Keratoconus is an eye condition which results in progressive thinning of the cornea; the transparent, dome-shaped window at the front of the eye.

Ollie's problems began at the age of 17 when he started to get halo shapes in his vision. Things then deteriorated until he was legally blind, as his left eye could only perceive light.

This had a massive impact on his life. He would often misjudge steps or trip up in front of everyone. One day a security guard followed him around a shop because he looked suspicious. He started to stay inside a lot more and stopped going to music venues because the light and dark hurt his eyes.

Ollie's career as a sound engineer was just beginning to take off, but his failing eyesight made it really hard for him to work with computers.

But now, thanks to a donor, Ollie has a new cornea and his eyesight has improved.

Ollie's feeling much more positive about his future and he's got a message for the donor: "I am so incredibly grateful to the donor. I am just so happy that someone and their family agreed to donation. I consider myself incredibly lucky."

Ollie still has keratoconus in his right eye although it has now been stabilised with surgery.

To learn more about Ollie's story watch the film at nhsbt.nhs.uk/teaching-resources

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