



# INTRODUCING

## Paul



At the age of 16 I lived a carefree life that revolved around having fun. One of the things I enjoyed the most was riding BMX. It was a BMX jump gone wrong however that resulted in me becoming a quadriplegic, just four weeks after my 16th birthday.

My life was turned upside down. Instead of having fun with mates, going to parties and riding bikes, I was now hospitalised and having to confront the new reality of living life as a quadriplegic. It was an incredibly hard transition. I questioned whether I could go on. But with the fantastic support of my family, friends and community I made the commitment to keep living. My goals were to have fun and to make something of myself.

After my accident I returned to school and finished my VCE. Eventually I moved out of home and I went to University, graduating with a bachelor degree and graduate diploma. I'm now more than five years into my career and I've bought my own place. I have travelled, and seen many of the wonders of Australia. Most importantly, I've had fun.

My past life of being able bodied is just that, the past. I look forward to the future. A future where I continue to have fun and to make something of myself.