

## Celia and Brian Bradley video transcript

Celia (C): I'm Celia Bradley.

Brian (B): I'm Brian Bradley.

B: I think we do a lot of things together and our interests are very very similar. We just don't like sitting around. We find it extremely boring. At least I find it extremely boring.

C: So do I!

B: If I have nothing to do for an hour, I have to find something to do.

C: Well, um, I think I'm the same as him! No wonder we get on. I like to be doing. I don't like to be sitting around doing nothing. I can't bear that.

B: So the kind of person I think I am is somebody who really cares about things, and I hope that other people think the same about me.

From the very first moment I met her, I knew she was a caring person, because at that time I was a smoker and we were sitting together, and I was holding a cigarette, and the ash was gradually growing on the end of the cigarette. And without saying anything she went and got me an ashtray. Brought it to me. And she's been the same ever since. And I don't smoke anymore, but she does things for me.

C: I still bring him ashtrays <laughs>

B: Without being asked. And that's, I think basically, that's our relationship. That we do things for each other without needing to be asked.

C: One time I had what's called Cauda Equina, which is a very major spinal problem. Actually, the disc was shattered in my, into the nerve canal. And um, I was rushed into hospital and they did an operation immediately, and took all these bits of disc out. And we didn't know whether I would make it or not, and if I did, whether I would be able to walk again or not. And Brian was amazing. He was incredible. He was running the home, going to work, looking after the boys (our daughter had just gone to university) and he used to come every day after school and stay 'til maybe midnight.

B: From my point of view, that um, it wasn't just me. There was an awful lot of fight in this lady as well. And she was trying her best to walk. And I remember her first step, which I cried.

C: So do I.

B: Um... [emotional gesture]

B: When Celia came out of hospital, um, she was in a wheelchair, so obviously she couldn't do very much, and I was still at work. I still had to go to work, obviously. Celia's aunt was here as well helping to look after her while she couldn't move, which was a great assistance to us. So this was the family sort of coming together and working together and helping each other. And we began picking up our life again as it was beforehand with limitations of her disability.

C: We do do a lot together. And we have a motorhome that we go out in a lot. We take it across to France if we can, and we travel to maybe spend four, five weeks stopping wherever we like and staying there.

B: We have an outside life as well as a home life, which adds fulfilment to the way we want to live our lives as well at this particular stage.

C: Everything makes us happy. We try, I think we're both the same. We don't...we're not negative. We like to look at the good side of things, and when things go wrong then we try to think, well, you know, this is life. It's ups and downs. But we'll cope, and there will be good times again.