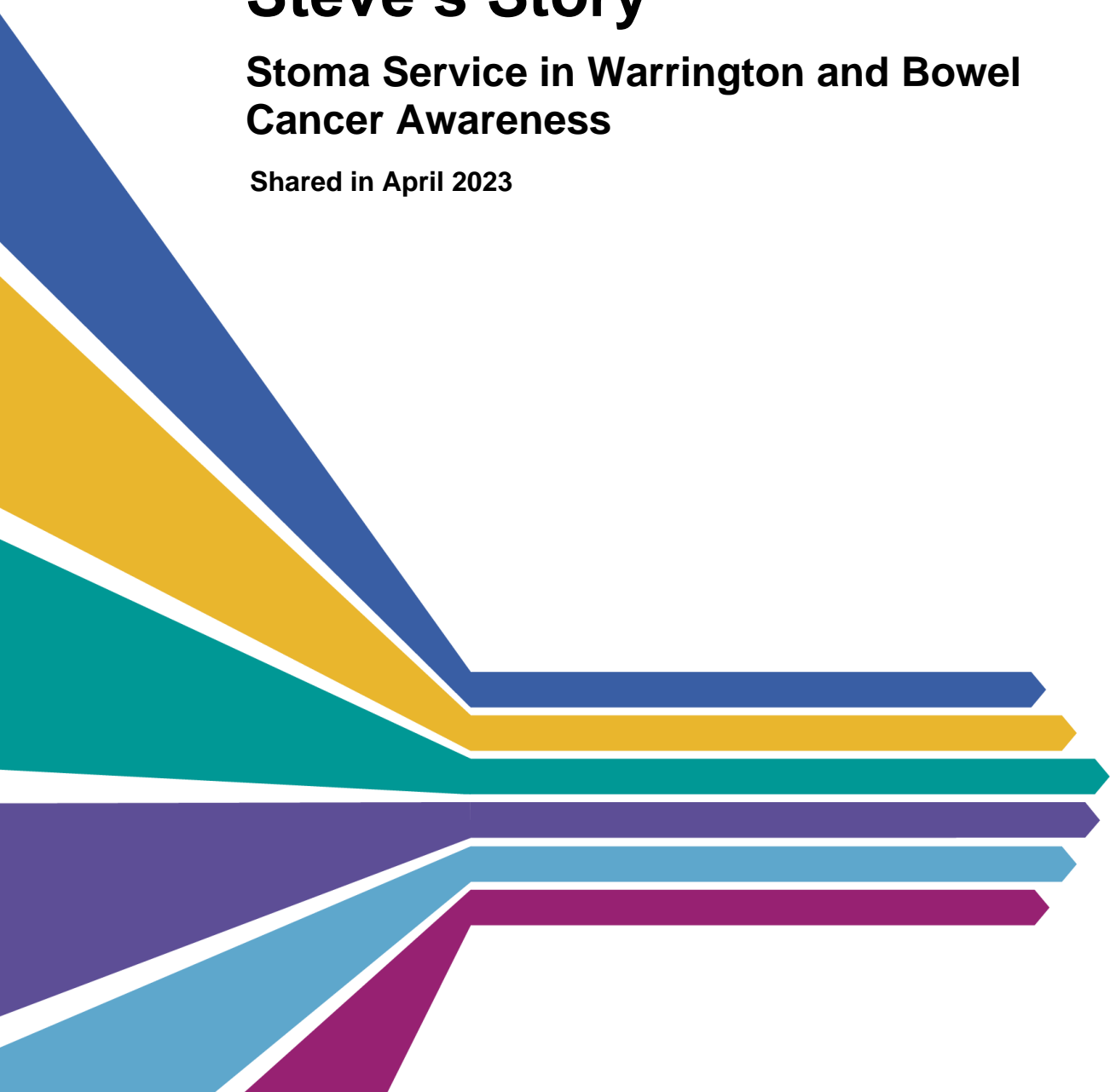


Steve's Story

Stoma Service in Warrington and Bowel Cancer Awareness

Shared in April 2023



Steve was diagnosed with Bowel Cancer, despite having no symptoms, after using a free NHS home screening kit. These kits are sent to people aged 60 to 74 years but, as part of a trial to expand the scheme to people under 60, Steve received one too.



Following his diagnosis, he had surgery and a stoma fitted, followed by a three-month course of chemotherapy. He is hoping to have a stoma reversal after the chemotherapy is finished.

Steve explained that Bridgewater's Stoma Nurses who supported him were very knowledgeable, friendly and approachable; no matter what his questions were, they were only a phone call away and were quick to respond.

Steve is now encouraging everyone to complete their bowel cancer screening test as soon as they receive it and has created his own version of Elton John's 'Your song' to help raise awareness. You can watch Steve's [inspirational video on YouTube](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bY11fXP1g_U) (www.youtube.com/watch?v=bY11fXP1g_U).

Steve says that the NHS home screening kit saved his life, describing it as a "winning lottery ticket".