

### WWW.takeHeartmercymission.com

IN ASSOCIATION WITH:

Gillingham Football Club, Evelina London Children's Hospital and The Elliott Scally Trust



EVELINA LONDON CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL





Making a big difference to Little Hearts in SRI Lanka







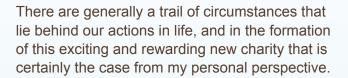
# Making a big Difference to Little Hearts in SRI Lanka





## Paul D. P. Scally

#### Chairman



The tragic death of my son Elliott from heart disease in 2003 was the catalyst for my actions today, in my involvement with Take Heart Mercy Mission, and I am honoured and consider myself privileged to have been asked by Conal and John to become involved with their missions to Sri Lanka, to act as Chairman of the trust, and to be given the opportunity to help others less fortunate than ourselves.

I have found the work carried out by the volunteer team of medics to be overwhelmingly unbelievable and my experiences of working alongside them in their world have been truly humbling. I thank each and every one of them for allowing me that opportunity, as indeed I would like to thank all those that have supported the Charity thus far, enabling these missions to take place.

As Chairman, I will work hard to ensure the Charity expands and fulfills its potential, we will deliver the support mechanism through Gillingham Football Club, and I look forward to welcoming and working alongside our new friends, sponsors and associates, all of whom will recognize and share the values of what we are trying to achieve.











# Paediatric Cardiothoracic Surgeon & Trustee

It gives me enormous satisfaction to be able to report that we have been extremely successful in continuing with our cardiac surgical missions to Sri Lanka with our new charity "Take Heart Mercy Mission" which has been instigated and developed by Paul Scally.

John Simpson and I decided in 2002 that we would commit to assisting development of cardiology and cardiac surgery for young children in Sri Lanka with annual missions.

Following the death of our coordinator Mr Jai Lameer in 2011 we both feared that our charitable work would lose momentum and wither. However in early 2012 after a meeting with Paul, whom we have known for a number of years, we all decided to start the charity with new drive, ambition, focus and indeed a new name.

In September 2012 with Paul acting as co-ordinator, we went back to Sri Lanka where we added another 17 operations to give us a ten year total of 141 paediatric operations performed by our team. With your financial help I will feel YOUR presence in the operating theatre as we fix and repair heart defects transforming the children's health and the fortunes of their families.

Many thanks for your support.

### JOHN SIMPSON MD FRCP

# Paediatric Cardiologist & Trustee

I am a specialist in the diagnosis and treatment of heart disease in children and trained in this speciality at Guy's and St Thomas' Hospitals.

For the past 13 years I have been a Consultant at the Evelina London Children's Hospital in Central London where it is a privilege to be part of the team delivering world class care to children from all parts of the United Kingdom and abroad.

In some parts of the world access to high level care for children with heart disease is far more limited than the UK. I believe that the opportunity to work in Sri Lanka allows us to share our knowledge and expertise more widely, and to give children in another Country the best possible chance for a cure for their heart condition.

The "Take Heart Mercy Mission" charity sets out to both deliver direct assistance in Sri Lanka and also promote education and improvement in children's cardiac services in that country. It will also deliver educational information to children in the UK based on healthy hearts and addressing challenges such as obesity, diet, smoking, alcohol abuse and drugs etc.

I hope we can count on you to help us in our efforts to deliver these initiatives.

Many thanks for your support.

### the start....

A chance meeting between Jai Lameer, a London resident originally from Sri Lanka undergoing coronary artery bypass surgery under the care of Conal, led to the start of missions to Galle, Sri Lanka in 2002.

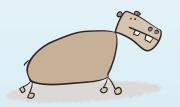
Take Heart Mercy Mission was developed in 2012 after the death of Jai in 2011, and encompasses the great work carried out by a group of volunteer medics from the Evelina London Children's Hospital, led by Conal Austin and John Simpson. The first mission under this new charity made a successful trip to Sri Lanka in 2012, whereby a further 17 operations were performed.



Across nine missions 117 children have been operated on and the mission team have scanned over a thousand children since 2002.

# "WHEN WE HAD NO HOPE, A YOU CAME AND SAVED US."

Mrs Samanthika Fernando, whose 11 month old daughter was given weeks to live before a hole in her heart was repaired in 2002.





### toDay....



#### Aims and Objectives:

- Provide an expert team of paediatric cardiac surgeons, cardio specialists and medics to travel to Galle in Sri Lanka on an annual basis.
- Perform heart scanning procedures on young children with congenital heart disease, diagnose and determine suitability for cardiac surgery and perform that surgery should this be the correct course to follow.
- Manage the post-operative intensive care unit until the children are fit and stable enough to be discharged to the general wards.
- Procure and fund essential cardiac scanning and theatre equipment, and to fund the training of local medics on the use of such equipment.
- Fund maintenance and operational costs of theatre and cardiological equipment to ensure the sustainability of such items.
- To fund educational and training programmes in cardiac surgery and after care in Sri Lanka.
- Promote educational initiatives and programmes to schools and colleges in the UK addressing all heart issues.

"THIS team Have been so kind to come back and Handle some of the complex cases. This is good for the surgeons, anaesthetists, theatre nurses, Perfusionists and the Junior Staff.

THIS IS LIKE A TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY!"

Dr. Amarasena of Sri Lanka.

### 2012 MISSION

A team of 14 volunteer medics travelled to the Karapitaya Hospital in Galle in September, dedicating their own time to perform heart surgery on young children with serious heart defects to help save the lives of these youngsters. These children would be unlikely to survive without the surgery they received from this dedicated team.

Also travelling with the team was an interpreter, a logistics advisor and an administrator.



... Led by conal Austin and John Simpson, the team were met by families who had travelled from all over the country carrying their young ones in their arms ...

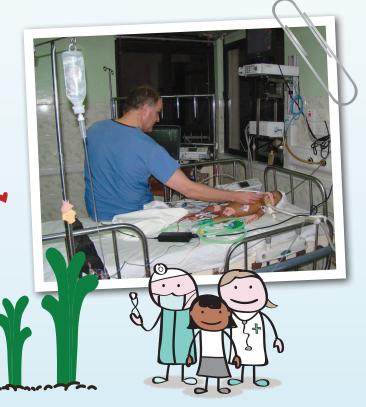
The highly skilled team managed to perform a total of seventeen difficult heart operations on critically ill children over a six day operating period. Fifteen surgeries were successful with those children given the gift to live normal healthy lives. Depicting how critical these missions are, sadly two children did not survive despite the extraordinary efforts being made by the team.



Led by Conal Austin and John Simpson, the team were met by families who had travelled from all over the country, carrying their young ones in their arms. 137 were assessed by our team of cardiologists, with 17 children proceeding to theatre for open heart surgery.

Some had complicated valves; others narrow arteries and 'holes' in the heart.

A number of the children seen had received surgery on previous missions and were returning for their annual check-ups by the UK team.



### 9FC COMMITMENT





With Gillingham Football Club adopting Take Heart Mercy Mission as the chosen club charity we hope to raise funds from personal benefactors, sponsors and

companies willing to donate and highlight the charity to their employees, and the continued help and support from the GFC fans.

Gillingham Football Club is now committed to the entire management of the charity, providing administrative, marketing, operational, logistics and promotional support, but most importantly a force behind the fund raising activity.

... GFC IS DEVELOPING a HEALTHY Heart educational Package, Derivering information on How to 100K after the Heart . . .



### the challenge

GFC want to raise enough money to fund additional future missions per year, not only taking a full cardiac team from Evelina London Children's Hospital, but supplying the cardiac screening equipment much needed in the Karapitaya Teaching Hospital where the missions are carried out.



GFC is developing a Healthy Heart educational package, delivering information on how to look after the heart. With a determination to increase awareness of the impact drug, alcohol abuse, smoking and obesity can have, and how a healthy diet and good exercise regime can go towards protecting the heart.

With presentations delivered in local schools and in the UK, we can educate our children throughout Kent and pair schools with Sri Lankan families where they can sponsor a penpal and follow the success of each mission, the operations the team carry out, and the difference these make.

If you would like more information on our education programmes please contact us: Tel: 01634 350118 or Email: info@takeheartmercymission.com

We ask you to help us by introducing your children, friends and colleagues to Take Heart Mercy Mission.

Ambassador and Young Ambassador introduction cards can be obtained from Gillingham Football Club or downloaded at www.takeheartmercymission.com

### HOW YOU CAN HELP

#### Why work with us?

We work with you to establish the best approach to meet your individual business needs. We have a personal charity manager on hand to guide and support you through your choices in giving.

#### How your company can help

There are many ways you and your company can partner with Take Heart Mercy Mission

- employee events Fun events and collections in the work place.
- ◀ donations adopting us as your chosen charity.
- ✓ product partnership dedicate a fixed amount each time a particular item is sold. We can assist in helping you build customer loyalty, promote your product and therefore attract new customers through recognition on the Take Heart Mercy Mission and GFC websites.

Your support is needed to enable us to make a difference.



### **Employee or Individual Giving**

Your Payroll Gift is an easy tax-effective way to donate monthly, costing you less to give more.

Visit www.hmrc.gov.uk for information.

#### **Participation Events**

Everybody has a bucket list, a thing to do before a milestone birthday or for bragging rights. If your's is to run the London Marathon, jump out of a plane, or ride a bike around the countryside, we can assist in securing you a place, in return for you wearing our colours and raising funds for our charity.



#### Have fun

Here are just some suggestions on fundraising, events you can hold at your place of work, with a group of friends or family.

Bake a cake day - individual cakes and slices can be sold with all proceeds being donated, or start a competition on 'guess the weight' charging for each guess. The winner gets the cake...

**Mobile phone recycling** - Arrange an old mobile phone drive, and we can exchange them for charity funds.

**Charity giving day** - Choose a theme, a fancy dress style or an event and raise funds through donations and sponsorships.

**Give up something you like** - and have your friends and family sponsor you to see how long you can last...

**Quiz night** - Organise a quiz night in your local pub/hall or club, and charge a team entrance fee. **Ebay** - Dig out your unwanted items, clothes and goodies, pop them on ebay or your favourite selling website and donate your profits.

#### Collections

- ➡ Host a collection box which we will supply to pubs, clubs and public locations.
- ➡ Become an Ambassador or Young Ambassador of Take Heart Mercy Mission and we will send you a fun family collection box.

### What your money can do......

£1,500 pays for one child to receive life saving surgery with the best possible chance of a cure for their heart condition

£30,000 enables one entire mission and allows between 15 and 20 young children the chance of life saving open heart surgery

£100,000 is the cost of a cardiac heart unit scanner used to diagnose children's heart conditions and determine their treatment

If you need any fundraising materials, would like a chat to discuss anything you have read or have any fundraising ideas you would like to support us with, please contact **Kerryjane Craigie** at **kcraigie@takeheartmercymission.com** or call **01634 350118**.





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Take Heart Mercy Mission

Priestfield Stadium | Redfern Avenue | Medway

Kent | ME7 4DD | UK

Tel +44 1634 350 118 | Fax +44 1634 850 986



