

Kieron's Story  
The Second Phase  
At Bassetlaw SCBU

*Dedication*

*To Kieron*

*Mummy and Daddy's special "Little Man"; a fighter and a hero.*

*To Our Families and Friends*

*Thanks for everything we wouldn't have finished this part of the journey without you.*

*To the nurses and doctors at the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, Jessops Hospital for Women, Sheffield and Special Baby Care Unit, Bassetlaw Hospital, Worksop*

*Thank you for all you did for Kieron without you we would never have celebrated the day in September 2000 when Kieron came home.*

## Foreword

On April 20<sup>th</sup> 2000 Andrew's (my husband) and my life was turned upside down. Due to complications with my pregnancy at week 24 our son Kieron was born, our lives and that of our families would never be the same again.

Despite being very ill myself, I started to write a diary that took the form of a mothers (and fathers) thoughts and feelings. It was set out as if I was talking to Kieron, which I often did, I told him how he was doing and what was happening around him

The first 6 months of Kieron's life was spent in hospital, this is his story of those days; it contains times of pain and despair but even more times of happiness and hope. For those of you who have or are going through this we hope what follows lets you know you're not alone; for the rest of you all we can say is this is what it was like to be the proud parents of a very premature baby.

Sharon,  
Kieron's Mummy

# **Diary of a Little Man**

## **PART 2 SCBU**

### **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> July**

Today you were moved to Bassetlaw. Mummy and daddy were so proud of you. We came up to see you about 4.30pm you'd been there for an hour or more because Jessops SCBU forgot to ring us.

You were in incubator oxygen and doing very well. We were allowed to feed you and turn you over.

It's a very small SCBU, your named nurse is called Steph and there's a doctor on all night.

You looked lovely in your incubator and you opened your eyes wide when you realised mummy and daddy were there.

You sleep well tonight little man mummy's going to come and see you for most of the day tomorrow. Be a good boy.

Mummy and daddy love you.

See you tomorrow love M&D

### **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> July**

Well little man you'd had a good first night in Bassetlaw except the staff are realising that you are a wriggler.

Mummy got up to see you around 11ish you were having some blood taken when I arrived; you also had an x-ray so that your consultant can get to know you. I fed you, you are now on 2 hourly feeds for 20mls we give you 10mls and then wind you, mummy loves doing this.

We were going to hold you today but your oxygen saturations were not too good. You're settling in so well we'll let you off.

So you be a good boy and try not to wriggle too much. Mummy and daddy love it when you open your eyes to look at us.

Daddy arrived about 4.45pm and he fed you your 6pm feed.

You're now washed every morning which is wonderful.

I'll see you tomorrow about the same time.

### **Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> July**

You've had a better night's sleep last night; the nursing staff think you've settled in now. Well today you're 11 weeks old. Mummy came up about 11ish and you're doing really well, that after lunch you went up to 3 hourly feeds of 30mls and you're coping really well with it. Well done little chap.

You had your incubator oxygen as low as 30% too. So well done again.

Mummy had you out to hold, you did really well considering it was your first time out without low flow and just with a oxygen mask.

Grandpa Norton came to see you and was surprised when I sat you up to wind you, you sat there with big wide eyes looking around and showing off with your oxygen saturations.

When daddy arrived you opened your eyes to say hello and daddy fed you and mummy winded you. We came to get you ready for bed about 7.30pm. Daddy dressed you in your babygrow; we fed you and then left you to sleep.

See you tomorrow little man. Sleep tight! Remember the cherubs are with you.

### **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> July**

You slept well again last night and you're tolerating your feeds wonderfully.

Mummy arrived around 10.30am and fed you at 11am, your came out for a hold, but you couldn't cope with being fed and your oxygen cone over you.

So you weren't happy and it took a while to settle you down.

Auntie Denise came to see you and she couldn't believe how much you had changed. Mummy went to have lunch with Auntie Denise and left you to sleep. You seemed to settle down fine.

You had a lot of visitors today Granddad Whybray, Auntie Naomi and great grandma came to see you they were amazed how you turned your head over from side to side. Auntie Emma came you did open your eyes a little and smiled, but that was only wind.

When daddy arrived you were asleep and daddy decided to nip home and change.

Auntie Denise and Uncle Paul arrived they thought you were wonderful. We got you ready for bed and while you were waiting for your milk you sucked on daddy's finger.

You drank your first lot of milk really quickly because you got the hiccups. You wouldn't settle after your feed, but as soon as you got your dummy you closed your eyes and you were fast asleep.

See you tomorrow little man. Keep it up!

## **Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> July**

You had a good night last night you were down to 31% oxygen.

Mummy and daddy came up this morning ready for your 11.30am feed. You were very good, but when mummy and daddy went for a cup of tea you would drop your oxygen saturation levels because you wanted us to come back and hold you.

We fed you and settled you down on your tummy which was better.

We came back later in the evening, grandma Whybray was there she said you'd been grinning with wind. Sue the nurse said you'd not handled well at your care and she'd put your babygrow on because you were getting really agitated.

We fed and winded you and you had difficulty settling but then you sneezed and that seemed to dislodge a huge bogey from your nose and you then settled straight away.

We now know why you were so grumpy.

See you tomorrow little man.

Sleep well!

## **Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> July**

You slept well last night, down to 31% oxygen again and settled.

You opened your eyes when we arrived and we checked your nappy and in the end had to change you completely, so mummy brought 3 babygrows and 3 vests home to wash, mummy loves doing it though.

We fed you and you looked around when mummy winded you. You are such a cutey.

You let your saturation levels drop if mummy and daddy go for a cup of tea it's because you want the attention.

When we came back about 5ish we left you to sleep and you opened your eyes and smiled at us. We then got to hold you, daddy first you did really well with the oxygen funnel even if you were being grumpy because it was feed time.

Daddy and mummy were so proud of you. Mummy will see you about 7.30ish tomorrow morning and daddy will see you about 4.30ish in the afternoon.

So sleep well little fellow.

Love You.

## **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July**

You had a good night not a peep from you.

Mummy was up really early to see you 7.30am and she was dressed in a suit, because she's going to auntie Naomi's graduation ceremony (I'll explain what that is when you're older)Mummy had a hold of you for an hour and you behaved really well, you relaxed and went to sleep. When you went back in your incubator you stayed asleep even when Doctor Malenga your consultant was checking you.

Mummy left you asleep at 9.15am.Daddy came in after work about 4.30ish and because you were asleep he left you. You opened your eyes to check who was there then went back to sleep.

Daddy then came home for some wee tea and came back up later you woke up naturally looking at your hand and the mattress until daddy explained it was best to have your head on one side.

Daddy left about 8ish and you were awake but settled down to sleep.

See you tomorrow little man.

## **Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July**

You had a good nights sleep and were very settled all night.

Mummy arrived about 10.30ish to find you were moving rooms. So mummy fed you and changed you. Boy! What a smelly one! Then you were moved next door still in your incubator. You then slept in my arms for an hour it was lovely to hold you and Granddad Whybray was there to see it too.

Louisa Lewis's mum took a photo of us.

Daddy arrived about 1ish and we did your next feed and then the health visitor came to visit you. Daddy sat with you while you slept.

We then stayed because Grandma Whybray was coming to see you and we did your next feed and changed your nappy and clothes ready for bed.

We forgot we mustn't have the doors open too long and you seemed to take a while to settle one of the nurses told us not to keep the doors open too long.

Once you were settled we left you and came home.

## **Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July**

You had a settled night, but your oxygen levels have gone up, and your haemoglobin was low so you needed a blood transfusion.

You were a little shattered this morning, but you slept. You had your blood set to going about 3ish and from 4ish you didn't stop crying, you got your self in a right state.

When Auntie Sarah and Uncle Shaun came you were still crying. You must have been able to see the blood going in because once your blood had stopped and you'd been fed you settled down and went to sleep.

You've got to go in an ambulance again to Leeds to let them look at your duct they may decide to do a little operation to close it off this is on Friday. This will help you breath easily.

Mummy will see you tomorrow morning goodnight little fellow.

### **Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July**

You had a good night, but your arm is swollen and bruised where some of the blood from your drip leaked into your tissue.

You are 12 weeks old today. Mummy was up to see you about 10ish your hand is bruised but the doctor informed and ensures me it will go down. Your oxygen levels are down as well to 42-39% excellent! You're still going on your journey tomorrow a nurse and doctor are going with you. You're going to be assessed about your duct as to whether you need the operation or not. You may not have it tomorrow you may have to go up again for it.

We're all praying that if it's needed they will do it tomorrow. You looked so cute when we left you this evening; you were fighting sleep but cuddling Tigger to keep your arm up.

Be a big brave boy tomorrow, mummy and daddy love you.

See you about 7.30ish tomorrow.

### **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July**

You had a good night. Today is your Grandma Norton's birthday.

Mummy arrived about 7.30am to see you before you went off on your ambulance ride to Leeds. Mummy fed you at 8am and then Granddad Whybray arrived. Bryony one of the chaplains came round to see me. I gave you a kiss as they put you in the incubator. Then Sister Jo said that you were going to have a police escort through Leeds. I said what a lucky man you were

and how I'd never been in an ambulance with a police escort. The ambulance man must have heard me because they said I could go with you as there was room in the ambulance. So mummy double checked with Sister Jo and she smiled and said I only wanted to go because of the police escort.

So mummy came with you which was lovely because it put daddy's mind at rest knowing I was with you.

Your ambulance had flashing lights all the way and sirens when needed and you slept all the way through it. Mummy will explain to you when you're bigger.

When we got to the Leeds junction of the motorway 3 police motorcycles took us through Leeds to the hospital, stopping the traffic to let through a very special person. (That was you) When we arrived we had to wait in the waiting area, so we plugged your incubator in.

Mummy came with you when you had the scan and Praise the Lord the doctor said that your duct was small and it wasn't affecting your heart and that if you did have the operation you would most likely end up back on a ventilator, which we didn't want. But at the end of September you'll be checked at Bassetlaw and if it still needs closing up they can do it in key hole surgery.

Coming home you were a little hungry as you'd missed your 11am feed and you were rooting round on your blanket. Once we got back you were given something to eat and you ate it really fast, you then settled down and your oxygen levels were down to 35% amazing.

Daddy came in he's so proud of his little man. He fed you but you couldn't cope with the 4 hourly amounts of 44mls. Your little stomach just got full at 36mls. So you're going back to 3 hourly feeds of 33mls.

Mummy and daddy then went over to Jessops to give the nurses their thank you presents for looking after you. They said next time if you're out to take you with us. Mummy and daddy then

surprised you about 8.45pm with a visit and gave you a Kanga and Roo that's as big as you and that's for being mummy and daddy's brave little boy. It's in your hammock. You were getting a littler grumpy probably ready for your feed. So mummy and daddy left you still hugging Tigger. See you in the morning little fellow, Sleep well and keep up your oxygen at that level.

Mummy and daddy are so proud of you. **Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> July**

Well you had a good night you'd absorbed all your milk.

Mummy and daddy were up to do your morning feed, they're keeping you on 4 hourly feeds because you're tolerating it.

Well, you now weigh 3lb 7ozs and on 46mls of milk every 4 hours.

You were dressed in a little romper suit which daddy said made you look like a girl. We left you about 12ish sleeping. We came back about 6ish with Grandma and Grandpa Norton and Auntie Emma came and they were all there to see you fed.

We settled you down to sleep and left.

**Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> July**

We were there for your 10am feed today. Sister Jo said we could hold you today, we fed you then daddy held you first you lay looking at him and grinning then you relaxed right down enjoying your cuddle and went to sleep. Mummy held you too and you continued to sleep in my arms and when you went back in your incubator you went straight to sleep. Mummy and daddy went to Mothercare to get you some new clothes. Grandma and Granddad Whybray came to see you tonight and we put one of your babygrows on to go to sleep in. It had Winnie the Pooh on. We had another hold of you tonight and it really helped you to settle down to sleep. We left you hugging Tigger.

See you tomorrow little fellow.

## **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July**

Well done Kieron you took almost half of your feed from the bottle last night.

Today mummy arrived around 9ish to do your 10am feed. We tried to have you out for the feed Marion held your milk while I held you funnel and you behaved yourself very well, but then you wouldn't settle on me, so then you had to go back into your incubator where you went straight to sleep.

This afternoon mummy and daddy went shopping for you and got a carpet for your room and a Moses basket.

We came back about 4.30pm to see you. You were in your babygrow Sister Jo said your new outfit was a bit to hot for the incubator.

Jo showed us how to feed you with the bottle you took 15mls well done!Grandma and Granddad Norton came to see you and we let them touch you. They were very moved we then had you out for a hold and you settled straight off to sleep and mummy and daddy left you. See you tomorrow little fellow.

## **Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> July**

Well you had another good night.

Mummy arrived for your 10am feed and she had a hold of you. You fell asleep and stayed out for a long time.

When it came to your 2pm feed you were taking it from the syringe then all of sudden you became aggravated and sent a lot back up your tube. You were rooting around so Sue suggested using the bottle which you gulped down and then settled straight off to sleep.

Grandma Whybray came to see you and had a touch of your hand.We met a new doctor who said really you've got to grow and then your lungs will develop.

Mummy fed you 10mls from your bottle at your 6pm feed then the rest of it though your tube. We left when we had fed you,

because we needed some tea as well. Sleep well little man see you tomorrow.

### **Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July**

Well you had a good night. Mummy didn't come up until 2pm for your feed. You hadn't got your blood it's coming later. You kept setting your bleeper off every time mummy sat down.

You had your blood put in at 5 o'clock you were a good boy and there were no problems this time. We came back with a visitor Emma a friend of ours. She thought you were wonderful and she decided you could wear your Winnie the Pooh babygrow. We didn't stay for your 10pm feed, mummy and daddy needed their sleep. Sleep well little fellow.

See you in the morning.

### **Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> July**

Today you are 13 weeks old. Mummy and Granddad Whybray came about 10ish to do your feed. After mummy had fed you, you settled down really nicely and went to sleep your oxygen levels went down to 35% after your 2pm feed which took a while to do. You couldn't settle and you ended up saturating really low that your oxygen was put back up to as far as 50%. Sue checked your temperature, your probe then when we checked your nose we saw it was blocked, once the blockage was removed you settled down really well.

When daddy arrived you were sound asleep. Daddy changed you tonight and fed you, you took a long time to have your milk that grandma and Granddad Norton went home and daddy went home to make his sandwiches and then came back. You did take a long time tonight to get through it. See you tomorrow little man.

Sleep well.

### **Friday 21<sup>st</sup> July**

You were very restless last night using up all your energy. The nurses ended up suctioning you.

Mummy arrived at hospital around 10.30ish. You were having your equalizer and then you stayed on your back and mummy sat down next to you to read her book. You laid there awake watching me forcing myself to stay awake. Eventually you gave in and went to sleep.

Daddy came about 1ish and surprised mummy; he was having the afternoon off. Mummy fed you at 2pm then she tried to sit down and read her book while you slept and I waited for daddy. You kept setting your saturation bleeper off and mummy never read more than a paragraph. Only when mummy stood up and watched you did you stop. By the time daddy arrived you were sound asleep. I think you just want some attention and when mummy is reading you are not getting it.

We came back in the evening with grandma and Granddad Whybray. You can't have been in a deep sleep because you opened your eyes a little and grinned at everyone. You then dozed back off into a deep sleep and as your nose had been suctioned it was probably lovely and clear.

Sleep well little man. Glad to see that your haemoglobin levels are up after your transfusion. See you tomorrow goodnight.

## **Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> July**

You had a good night. That was all the nurse said to daddy.

Mummy and daddy were up for your 10am feed. Mummy changed your nappy and daddy fed you with the bottle you took 10mls and the rest you had through your tube. You're now 4lbs 2ozs and on 55mls of milk every 4 hours. You then went to sleep after your feed. You need to have some antibiotics because your oxygen levels have gone up and because your nose is blocked and your now suctioned which you don't like. Mummy came in this morning and held you. We then left you to sleep. We came back about 5.30pm and you had visitors, Uncle Andrew and Auntie Emma. We didn't stat for your 6pm feed, but we changed your nappy. You're just staying in a vest tonight because your arm is in a splint and a cannular which is so the nurses can put your antibiotics that your may need for 3-5 days.

Auntie Emma and Uncle Andrew came round this evening with a present for you. A bath set with classic Winnie the Pooh on and a baby bouncer. So mummy will have to write a letter from you saying thank you.

See you tomorrow Kieron.

Sleep well!!

## **Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> July**

Well you'd had a goodnight. Mummy and daddy arrived about 10ish in order to do your 10.30am feed.

We changed you around 10.15am and you were weighed and measured. What a big boy you are 4lb 5ozs you've put on 3ozs since yesterday. Your length has gone up by a couple of centimetres and your head is bigger. Your oxygen was down by about 2%. Well done little man! We fed you eventually at 11.00am you took a long time to take it. 57mls took you about an hour and a quarter. Then you threw up the last few millilitres.

Mummy must remember to look at you first then the monitor, but the nurses are giving me different information saying if he bleeps below 80% call us, others say check you first and if we're still worried then shout for a nurse. It's very difficult sometimes Kieron to know what to do. After Jo had unblocked one of your nostrils you went back to sleep and became really settled. Well done.

Mummy and daddy came up later around 3.30pm to see you with Granddad and Grandma Norton. Granddad seems to have a very good way of settling you, because you started saturating at 99%-100% and once mummy had changed your nappy you were much more comfortable. You don't like to have a dirty nappy, which is good because you tell mummy and daddy this by crying or saturating your oxygen levels low because you're upset or wriggling your feet around.

We left you to sleep and came home. Sleep well little man. Granddad and Grandma Norton may come and see you again before Granddad Norton goes away to Nigeria and Ghana for a

month, they're countries that are a long way away from here. One day granddad will show you on a map where they all are. So sleep well tonight little man. See you tomorrow.

## **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July**

You had, had another good night and no problems.

Mummy arrived to do you 10.45am feed you drank it really quickly and then you were able to come out for a hold. You fell asleep in my arms. I can't wait till you are on low flow because I can hold you closer to me without worrying about a funnel getting in the way.

*"Please Lord let your cherubs blow into Kieron's lungs and help him to breathe and take his oxygen down to 30% then he can go on low flow once again."*

When you went back in your incubator you settled down to sleep and mummy had her dinner. At 2.45pm feed we decided to try you with a bottle, mummy was ever so impressed with you because although you drank it really fast you remembered to breathe in between and your heart rate didn't drop as fast. Once you got tired your heart rate started to drop fast we stopped and gave you the rest though your tube, you lay there with your eyes wide open watching me all the time.

You settled down to sleep really well once mummy had unblocked your nose.

You had visitors this afternoon grandma and Granddad Whybray and auntie Emma, you didn't open your eyes that much, but you only just settled down to sleep so I didn't expect you too.

Daddy arrived and spent half an hour with you he came to say hello to you but as you were fast asleep he didn't want to disturb you.

See you tomorrow little man. Sleep well; try not to set your bleepers off to much.

## **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> July**

You had another good night. Well done.

Mummy came up for your 11am feed and you took 25mls from a bottle, well done, then you lay there eyes wide open while mummy put the rest down your tube. Mummy then went to Grandma Whybray's for lunch and came back for your 3pm feed. Grandma and Auntie Emma came hoping to see you awake, but you slept through the whole feed. When daddy arrived you opened your eyes smiled and pulled some funny faces.

Daddy came up later and you were not in a happy mood. Daddy had a hold of you and you settled for a while looking up at him and then you became restless once you were back in your incubator you settled again.

See you tomorrow afternoon little man.

## **Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> July**

You had, had a good night you took 39mls from your bottle. Well done little man!

Today mummy came up after lunch to do your afternoon feed. You've put on weight too you're now 4lb 11ozs. After you'd been fed you came out for a hold, mummy laid a pillow on her lap and we laid you in your snugly flat on the pillow, mummy had one leg up on a foot stool so that you weren't completely flat. You really liked this and you looked at me for a while and then dozed off. I think I've sussed you out, I'll tell daddy when I get home. You did very well with your feed you had 25mls.

You had to go back in your incubator after 3 quarters of an hour, because mummy had to go home for some dinner. Daddy and mummy came back to do your 7pm feed you took 10mls from the bottle and you remembered to breath, you're getting better at that well done.

Daddy then had a hold of you and we tried you in the same position as mummy had you earlier and you settled right down,

your daddy couldn't believe that it was the same boy as last night. Mummy gave you a few kisses on your head then you went back to sleep.

Grandma and Granddad Norton came to see you earlier they thought you looked cute in your outfit.

See you tomorrow for your 11am feed. Sleep well little fellow.

### **Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> July**

You had a good night, no change. You are 14 weeks old today.

Mummy came up about 9.30am, but you had only just settled down. So mummy went into the parent's room with a cup of tea until your care was due.

I had you out for a hold and we tried to feed you out which you didn't enjoy. I think you prefer to come out after your feed. Veronica one of the nurses suggested that she finish your feed while I go to Meadowhall with Auntie Emma. You be a good boy and have a sleep.

Mummy came back and was in time for your 3pm feed, you took it really well and you settled down nicely on your stomach and went to sleep. When daddy arrived you were still asleep so he came to say hello then we left you to sleep. See you in the afternoon tomorrow little fellow. Daddy and mummy love you. Let's see if we can get those oxygen levels down, then you can come home.

Love you little fellow.

### **Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July**

You had a good night you took 35mls from the bottle, well done.

Mummy came up this afternoon when I arrived you were asleep and saturating at 95%, so I left you to rest.

When it got to 2.45pm mummy changed your nappy then you fed you 65 mls through your tube, you weren't bothered about your bottle. You had taken 70mls of milk from your bottle at your 11am feed.

I didn't mind and you're putting on weight really fast your 4lb 12ozs already.

Mummy had you out for a hold after you'd had your milk and you lay on the pillow and went to sleep.

Daddy came in and was wondering if he could have a hold, but I'd already had you out for an hour and you were getting restless. Debbie put you back in your incubator. You kept opening your eyes and looking at us and grinning. Daddy will have a hold of you tomorrow.

Love you loads.

Daddy got a lovely photo of you smiling.

Love you little man.

## **Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> July**

Well you had a good night again.

It's your 100<sup>th</sup> day birthday today. Mummy and daddy arrived about 10.25ish and you were laying there with your eyes open looking around. You grinned at us a couple of times. You took 45mls of milk from your bottle; you drank it as if you'd not been fed. You drank it that fast that you also forgot to breathe. You must slow down and remember to breathe. You had the other 20mls down your tube which had had to be replaced because you'd nearly flicked the sticky stuff off your cheek.

Mummy and daddy left you to sleep and went out visiting this afternoon. When we rang about 8ish you'd been a good boy and taken 70mls of milk at your 7pm feed and you had remembered to breathe. Can you please try that with me tomorrow? So come on little man get this breathing sorted out then you can come home.

See you tomorrow.

Love you lots mummy and daddy.

## Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> July

You had a good night. We came up to do your 11am feed. We changed you into your dungaree outfit and then fed you. You took 35mls from the bottle and all in 37% oxygen.

After you were fed we were told we could have you out to hold you. You'd just been placed on your daddy's knee by Anthea when you were sick, so we sat you up but you brought up some more. Then the colour just drained from you and your saturations and heart rate dropped. Helen the staff nurse took you off daddy and put you back in the incubator and tried to get you to come back up with the funnel of oxygen, that didn't work so she started to bag you with a mask and a bag which she kept pressing to get breath into you.

Mark the doctor was called and at this point mummy and Granddad Whybray and Auntie Naomi arrived and were told what was happening and told it was best to leave. We went into the staff room while they were sorting you out. Sue came in to tell us that you were alright. Mummy just sobbed with relief.

Jim, another doctor, came to explain to us what had happened. You'd been sick and it had come back up the tube down to your lungs. The valve had closed off to stop the milk from going that way, which caused you not to breathe for a while. Jim said you probably would have brought yourself out of it if there had been no one around and it was a fail save mechanism that kicked in. We had done nothing wrong at all, which was a relief to mummy and daddy.

We went back to see you and Helen the nurse said it was alright to hold your hand and that this wouldn't stop us having a hold of you. We just left you for 30 minutes to an hour after your feed before we held you.

We came home for some lunch and then came back up to see if you were ok. Mummy gave you your feed through the tube; I think your having every other feed by the bottle. Daddy came home and mummy stopped with you and Grandma and

Granddad Whybray came back to see you and then brought me home.

You gave us quite a panic there, but I'll never forget your little face afterwards it was a little pale, but your look said it all. "I'm Sorry" and then you grinned at us both.

Be a good boy tonight and mummy will be up most of the day tomorrow just to reassure herself that you are alright.

Sleep well little fellow love mummy and daddy.

## **Monday 31<sup>st</sup> July**

Another good night well done!

Today mummy came up for your 10.15am feed and stopped all day after your shock yesterday. You were fine you took 30mls from your bottle and the rest through your tube and then you just went to sleep. At your 2.15pm feed you did the same then you just went to sleep and allowed mummy to read her book.

Auntie Emma and Auntie Naomi came to visit you this morning and you actually opened your eyes and grinned at them both.

When daddy arrived you were asleep. Grandma Norton came and brought you some cardigans she had knitted. We changed you about 5.30pm then you became upset. Once mummy put you back on your back you sucked your dummy and stared up at daddy with those cute little eyes and daddy ended up staying until you were due your next feed but we left and let Pam feed you.

Sleep well little fellow.

See you tomorrow.

## **Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> August**

You'd had a good night last night.

Mummy came to see you about 12.45pm for half an hour then she went to have lunch with Lewis's mum.

You were asleep so I didn't disturb you. I came back about 3pm and your dungarees had been taken off because you were too hot and your incubator is at its lowest setting for heat.

Grandma Whybray and a friend Dorothy came to see you at 4pm you were showing off with your saturations at 100%. By the time daddy arrived you were down to 29% oxygen. We were amazed even the nursing staff.

Well done keep it up and you'll be on low flow and in a cot before you know it.

Mummy and daddy are so proud of you. See you tomorrow afternoon buddy!

### **Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August**

This is your official birthday because this is the day you were due.

Mummy arrived in time for your 2.30pm feed. You took 50mls from a bottle and you remembered to breathe well done.

Jo said "Your nebulizer you have your pulmicort makes your oxygen levels go up after you've had it" She's going to ask if you can have some other steroid in a different form.

You then went to sleep for a while. When daddy arrived you kept turning your head and eating the sheet. We left you having a little crying paddy.

We came back up to see you about 7.30pm you managed to open your eyes a little and look at us. By the way they're now brown eyes. You were tired out you'd taken 40mls from the bottle at your 6.30pm feed.

I had you out for a hold and Jo turned your oxygen down coming though the funnel, because you kept saturating at 100%.

You're getting there little man keep going and you'll soon be home.

## **Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> August**

Mummy came up to do your afternoon feed. When Jo and Pam came on they kept saying they were going to do something that would please mummy and daddy and hopefully you'd enjoy it.

Well when daddy arrived they were sorted out a clean incubator for you. Then we noticed the low flow pipe on top of the incubator. Sister Jo said not to get too excited because if the air going up your nose was too high you would be put back on incubator oxygen.

Then they undressed you and Pam started to fill the baby bath. Guess what you had your first bath in 15 weeks and you really enjoyed it. Once you were dressed daddy had a hold of you and it's a lot easier to hold you on low flow.

Once you were settled in your incubator we left you to rest.

## **Friday 4<sup>th</sup> August**

You're still on low flow. Well done!

The night staff said you slept better with low flow you didn't beep as much.

Mummy went up for your 10.30am feed and had you out to feed you, this didn't really work. You fell asleep in my arms which was wonderful. I had you out for just under 2 hours and you were fine. I think you enjoyed the contact.

Your eyes were looked at because you were on oxygen; Mr Burton who looked at them couldn't believe how good they were considering how much oxygen you've had blowing around your eyes.

At your 2.30pm feed mummy fed you in the incubator which is a better idea. When daddy came he had you out to hold and you just went to sleep on him.

Mummy and daddy came back up about 8.15pm you were restless and trying to settle and you liked human touch when daddy was stroking your hair.

See you tomorrow little man. Keep going on low flow, then tomorrow mummy can have a hold and a cuddle.

## **Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> August**

Today daddy went to London to look at some trains. So he didn't see you today.

Mummy came up to do your 10.15am feed. You came out and sat on my knee while you had your nebulizer, then you went back in your incubator for your nappy to be changed, you took 30mls of milk from your bottle and then when we put the rest down your tube you became irritable. So we took you out and mummy held you and you relaxed right down, you just wanted to be held. You then settled down on mummy and went to sleep

Mummy left you about 12ish and you just carried on sleeping. Mummy and grandma Whybray came to see you about 5ish and by 5.30pm you were getting irritable that is probably because you were hot with a vest and babygrow on. Mummy lifted you up in the incubator and you loved it and you relaxed right down.

Mummy left one of the nurses Veronica feeding you; you looked at me as if to say why aren't you feeding me?

I had to get back Auntie Naomi was cooking dinner. I hope you forgive me.

See you tomorrow little fellow.

Sleep well.

## **Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> August**

You had another good night.

We came up about 2.30pm with Auntie Naomi and finished your feed which Andrea was giving you. You weigh 5lb 3ozs and measure 42cms long.

You started to cry after your feed, you were hot, so Andrea turned your incubator off.

You then came out for a cuddle with daddy, you couldn't settle so mummy put you on her shoulder and you rested your head on

my shoulder and went to sleep for about 30 minutes then you became irritable again.

So we decided to bath you, but you still weren't happy and you wouldn't settle in your incubator. We left you Andrea tried to settle you and Sue and in the end you were fed 30 minutes early and you settled down.

Mummy rang to see if you'd settled. Well done for being in air. No oxygen for 20 minutes. Clever boy keep it up and I hope it's not as hot tomorrow.

## **Monday 7<sup>th</sup> August**

Mummy arrived about 11.30am to find you in a cot. Jo had tried to settle you but you were having none of it. So mummy held you and you lay on her shoulder and went to sleep until the ward round. You had to go back in your cot for a while which you weren't impressed with.

So mummy held you and you were fed while leaning on mummy. You had an hour sleep in your cot and then you came and sat on mummy. I think you've sussed out that people can pick you up now quite easily when you cry.

You had your first immunisation around 20 to 5 after grandma and Granddad Whybray left. You weren't happy until mummy held you and relaxed you down so when daddy arrived you were relaxing on me.

I gave you to daddy but you couldn't get comfortable, so that when great nanna and Grandma Norton came you were asleep on me.

We left you to be fed by the nurses and came home, mummy rang up later and you were settled.

*“Lord I pray you'll watch over Kieron tonight, place your cherubs around him and protect him and if he does get a slight temperature that it will not affect his oxygen and that he will be able to stay on low flow. Thank you for watching over him so far and continue to do so. Amen”*

## **Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> August**

You were sound asleep when mummy arrived and it seemed a shame to wake you, but I had to for your feed. You then went to sleep in my arms.

You were woken up to have your blood taken, which you were not happy about. Mummy then held you and you fell asleep in her arms. Ian and Bryony friends of mummy and daddy came to see you too. You then went in your cot for a sleep and there you were when daddy arrived.

He brought your car seat in for you to sit in. Mummy changed your nappy and then started to bottle feed you. You are a clever little boy because you knew the first 20mls had medication in it, so you played with the teat and wouldn't suck it. As soon as mummy gave you the bottle with just milk in it you knocked back 50mls.

We then sat you in your car seat with a play gym in front of you, you went to sleep and saturated fine and stayed in low oxygen never going up or down, which showed you were contented.

Mummy and daddy sat on the floor and played with you.

When we left you opened your big eyes as if to say where are you going?

Jo said she was going to have a play with you, so we left you wide awake contented in looking around.

## **Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> August**

Mummy came up to do your feed at 9.20am, but you were that hungry that Jo had fed you at 9am.

Mummy held you and then played with you. We sat you in your seat and you weren't impressed, you ended up back in your cot and you went to sleep until your next feed.

Mummy and daddy left you to sleep and came home for lunch. When we came back at 4pm you wouldn't settle so mummy fed

you three quarters of an hour early you took 75mls from your bottle. Well done!

You wouldn't settle so I picked you up and just lay you against my shoulder looking around. You then became irritable again and your saturations dropped. We went to get Helen (one of the nurses) and she tried to settle you down and I came home.

### **Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> August**

Daddy and mummy came to see you this morning before going on holiday. We both had a hug off you. Grandma and Granddad Whybray and Auntie Naomi are coming to see you while we're away.

Well a lot happened to you while we were away. You're now taking all your feed from a bottle and you're in a baby cot which is a lot better for putting your car seat in, rather than it being on the floor.

You've also gone onto first baby milk Aptamil, which is the next one up from Preaptamil.

### **Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> August**

We came to see on the way back from holiday. You liked your new story book about Thomas the Tank Engine. You were asleep so we left you.

### **Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> August**

Daddy and mummy came up this morning; daddy stayed for a while and then came home. You woke up about 10.30am for your feed you took 95mls. Well Done!

You then fell asleep in mummy's arms.

We then left and came home for some lunch. Grandma Whybray and mummy came back up about 4ish, Andrea was having a hug with you.

You were crying and I thought you were hungry. By the time daddy had arrived about 5.30ish we decided to change you and give you a top up.

Your monitor was switched off so we watched your colour quite nerve racking, but we managed it. We then left you with Andrea who was giving you a hug.

## **Monday 14<sup>th</sup> August**

You had a good night.

When mummy came up about 11ish you were having a hug with Andrea who was trying to wind you. You took a while to settle you were an unhappy boy. You eventually went to sleep around 12ish and mummy put you in your cot at 12.30ish and you slept soundly until mummy came back from lunch. You then came out and slept on me.

Mummy fed you with the monitor off today. You had big boys milk Aptamil, you then went straight back to sleep. So that when Lewis came to see you, you slept and Lewis slept. You must have been really pleased to see one another.

Grandma and Granddad Whybray and Auntie Naomi came to see you and you slept on. When daddy arrived you went on his knee and went back to sleep, so we put you in your cot and you stayed asleep quite happily.

Love you loads Kieron

## **Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> August**

Mummy came up to see you about 10.30ish and you were laying awake in your cot. Mummy sat you in your car seat which you weren't happy about so I took you for a walk around the hospital grounds, mummy became quite emotional. We met Lewis and his mum Louisa and walked back with them.

You then wouldn't settle and you were fed at 12.30pm and you took 95mls, you then went to sleep and mummy was able to have some lunch.

You slept then in your cot until daddy arrived about 4.30ish.

We changed you into your bedtime gear and then daddy fed you and you took 85mls and then fell asleep. We put you in your cot

assuming you went to sleep, but you have this idea you won't go straight off so Maxine will have to give you a cuddle.

### **Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> August**

Mummy was up to see you at 10am because Auntie Emma and Uncle Andrew were coming to see you.

You were in your car seat when I arrived and you stayed asleep in it for a while then you started to cry. Nikki the nurse said that you probably had wind and so I took you out and put you on my shoulder and you went straight to sleep.

When Auntie Emma and Uncle Andrew arrived you were asleep, Emma stayed to watch you have a bath and be fed. So you actually had your eyes open. When Auntie Emma and Uncle Andrew went I put you in your car seat to sleep and went to have some lunch. When I came back you were still asleep so I sat next to you and read my book.

When you woke up we had a game of sitting on mummy's knee looking at each other and making funny noises. When you had, had enough of this you went to sleep and mummy dozed too.

When daddy arrived you were wide awake and ready to be fed, so daddy fed you 100mls of milk. Then Grandma and Granddad Norton had a hold of you which they really enjoyed.

We then left you being nursed by Jo because you were wide awake not ready to settle.

### **Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> August**

Today mummy was rung up at 9.30am to ask if she could come up because you couldn't wait for your food. So mummy gave you a bath and fed you. I've been asked to get some baby rice for you. So you can start being weaned onto it.

Once you were asleep on mummy we decided to take you for a walk around the grounds of the hospital. Once we got back mummy had her lunch while you sat in your pram and watched what was happening.

I then fed you again and grandma Whybray and Auntie Naomi came to see you. Grandma Whybray had a hold of you. You then settled to sleep in your cot and woke when daddy arrived and ready for your feed, where you had your first taste of baby rice and you loved it. Mummy and daddy bought you some flavoured ones. You seemed to settle in bed better when we left you.

## **Friday 18<sup>th</sup> August**

Today mummy was up for your 9.30am feed. The night staff had given you rice at 5.30am, so I couldn't give you your nice flavoured rice. You drank your milk then sat awake looking around.

You went off to sleep about 11.45am and mummy had her dinner, you slept through until 2pm and then had your feed.

Grandma and Granddad Whybray arrived you enjoyed your hold by them. You fell asleep on me and mummy put your apnoea monitor on and we both had a sleep together.

When daddy arrived you were asleep in your cot, you woke up for a bit and daddy had a hold of you and you went straight back to sleep. So we put you in your cot and left you to sleep and came home. I think you will have to be woken up for your 7pm feed.

## **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> August**

Daddy and mummy arrived about 10.30am just in time for your feed, you had some banana rice which you loved and ate quickly.

Auntie Naomi came for a hold of you and brought you a present. We then let you sleep.

We came back about 4ish and Sister Jo said you were having a paddy. So we took you for 2 walks around the hospital grounds, once back in SCBU we left you asleep in the pushchair and went home.

See you in the morning little man.

## **Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> August**

Mummy and daddy got up to see you about 10.45am and you were already in your pram asleep. Jo suggested that we took you for a walk. When I said my dad was at the chapel service, Jo said "Why not go to the last bit of the service but sit at the back?" We did this and surprised Granddad Whybray completely. You enjoyed the hymn singing. We then took you for a walk around the hospital grounds, when we got back we left you to sleep and came home.

We came back up at 2pm for our course on resuscitation for an hour; you slept in your pram while we did this. Then some of mummy's friends from work came with their daughter Joanne and we all went for a walk around the hospital grounds.

Once we got back you started to gristle and daddy picked you up. After your visitors had gone you were fed which you really enjoyed.

When we lay you in your cot you lay there wide awake as if to say you're not leaving are you.

I can't wait to get you home. The sooner, the better.

## **Monday 21<sup>st</sup> August**

Today Auntie Emma brought me up about 10ish, it was lovely to see you.

You had a hug with Auntie Emma then we went for a walk around the hospital grounds and you slept. When we got back you woke up and you stayed awake until your feed. You then went to sleep in your car seat.

Mummy went to see Sister Jo to have a talk about your form filling in.

You woke up in time for daddy to feed you, leek rice and we left you with Steph holding you.

## **Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> August**

Today mummy, Auntie Naomi and Auntie Emma came about 11ish and you were asleep in your cot. You woke up though and had cuddles with everyone.

When your auntie's had left, Lewis and his mummy Louisa stayed to talk. Auntie Sarah and Bethanie came to see you too; Bethanie brought you one of her toys.

Mummy then sat and cuddled you this afternoon, it was lovely to do. You woke up and we gave you a bath and then left Debbie to feed you.

## **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> August**

Great Uncle Bill came to see you today he bought you a talking teddy bear.

Mummy came in about 1.30ish and you'd not slept all morning you had wanted lots of cuddles.

Did you miss mummy, little man? Don't worry I'll be here tomorrow morning.

Mummy held you and you went off to sleep in fact we both went to sleep, so I put your apnoea monitor on.

When daddy arrived you were having your orange flavoured rice yummy!

We left you dozing in your cot.

## **Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> August**

Mummy came to find you lying awake in your cot; I left you for a while then picked you up for a love. Once you were asleep I put you back in your cot, where you slept though to your next feed. You had leek rice which I don't think you are keen on.

Once you had gone back to sleep, mummy carried on with the form filling.

You woke up about 4.15pm for your feed. You had strawberry flavoured rice which you really enjoyed.

Daddy came and fed you your bottle and you were pooped at the end and went straight to sleep.

We put you in your cot and left.

## **Friday 25<sup>th</sup> August**

Mummy came up about 9.30ish and finished off feeding you, then held you until she thought you were asleep which you weren't. So I took you for a walk in the pram and this settled you off to sleep, but as soon as we were back in SCBU you woke up and wouldn't settle in the pram or the cot. I picked you up and you went straight off to sleep on me.

Once daddy arrived at midday you were sound asleep so we put you in your cot and left.

Mummy came back about 2.30pm, you had been fed so I rocked you off to sleep. When daddy arrived you were still asleep. You woke up about 4.30ish and we fed you then you lay in your cot wide awake and slowly dozing off.

See you tomorrow for your big adventure.

## **Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> August**

You brought me a lovely present a Tusker ornament of a mummy elephant hugging a baby elephant on her shoulder. Just like we do.

We came up for you about 2pm and took you out for the afternoon to Grandma and Granddad Whybray's house as they were in Italy and we couldn't take you home until the budgies had gone.

You couldn't understand where you were, it took you a while to settle down but the three of us really enjoyed it and it was a lovely birthday present for mummy.

You're coming out for the day tomorrow. I can't wait; all I want now is you home.

## **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August**

You came out for the day today. We picked you up about 11am and we took you to Grandma and Granddad Whybray's house. You were very good you slept in your car seat until feed time.

Uncle Andrew and Auntie Emma came past on the way back from church and were surprised to see the car, they didn't know we'd got you out for the day. Auntie Emma arrived at the right time, so she fed you your rice she does need more practise on where your mouth is. Daddy fed you your milk and after that you had a play on the floor looking at your toys. You then went to sleep on daddy.

We gave you your tea, got you ready for bed and took you back to SCBU.

Now mummy and daddy can't wait to have you home.

## **Monday 28<sup>th</sup> August**

We had you out for the afternoon and we took you to Grandma and Granddad Whybray's. You were not happy today and you wouldn't settle to sleep even though you were shattered.

So we took you for a walk up to the mill. When you got back you stayed asleep for a while in your pram then cried, so mummy put you on your stomach on her front and you slept quite happily for an hour. You then went and slept for half an hour on daddy. It was nearing your feed time and we didn't want to wake you, so we took you back to SCBU much to mummy's disappointment.

See you tomorrow little man for your big adventure into the big world.

## **Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> August**

Collected your new pram so we took you for a walk round Daneshill Lake near Ranskill and you loved it. We then took you back to Auntie Emma's where you played quite happily on the floor very contented you were.

You were very relaxed on Auntie Emma's knee so we decided that you needed feeding about 5.15ish, so Auntie Emma fed you your rice and daddy gave you your milk.

We then took you back to SCBU. Next Saturday we're going to keep you out longer. Sister Jo has set a date for you to come home in 10 days time, now I'm really excited.

### **Wednesday 30th August**

Today is your mummy and daddy's 4<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary. The nurses wrote an anniversary card from you for us which was lovely and it had a photo of you in there too.

You came out this afternoon and we went up to Grandma and Granddad Whybray's house this time they were in. We took you for a walk in your pram and you went to sleep, you then slept for one and a half hours in your pram which was fantastic.

We fed you both your feeds you really enjoyed yourself; I don't think grandma and granddad wanted you to go back.

We took you back to SCBU and grandma and granddad will see you on Saturday afternoon.

Sleep well little man.

### **Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> August**

Today you are 19 weeks old and weighing 6lb 10ozs.

When mummy arrived about 11ish you were sound asleep, you slept until 1.30pm. Mummy had her lunch at 12.00. You ate all your rice at dinnertime plus 100mls of milk. You then lay on my chest and slept quite happily there. (After a little play with your dinosaur)

You slowly moved yourself down until your head was on my tummy.

When daddy came you woke up and daddy held you and tried to calm you down, but you were hungry and wanted feeding.

So you had all your rice and 50mls of milk. Grandma Norton came and you were wide awake ready to play.

So when we left you, you went into the staff room while Maxine and Marion were having their tea.

Hope you were a good boy. Love from mummy.

### **Friday 1st September**

When mummy arrived in SCBU you were having a real paddy. Your nappy was dirty so I changed you, you settled down for a while then you were hungry. So I fed you and tried to settle you to sleep, once you were asleep you slept for a good 4 hours.

When daddy arrived you'd just woken up. So he fed you your rice, which you loved.

You didn't want to settle to sleep, you'd burped but you still wouldn't settle, we changed your smelly nappy and you seemed to settle we hated leaving you.

Not long now little man, a week on Monday and you could be home.

### **Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> September**

We arrived about 11ish and brought you out for the day. You went to your own house today which you loved. You slept most of the morning, we then took you to see Auntie Naomi and Grandma and Granddad Whybray. You woke up as soon as we stopped the car.

So at grandma and granddad's we let you play on your rug. Then you became tired and we couldn't get you to sleep, we took you for a walk and fed you early but nothing would console you.

We took you back to SCBU and Jez the house doctor came to look at you, he thought it was your hernia. So he asked Nick the registrar to look at you. She agreed and they rang Sheffield Children's Hospital for advice, they suggested that we come over to the Neonatal surgical unit at the children's hospital.

Mummy came with you and Steph in yet another ambulance ride.

When we got there they started to examine you, you sobbed I think you were hungry, once you'd been given your milk and another doctor examined you, you were different again.

Mummy settled you down and went to bed just down the corridor, this was about 11.45pm.

Sleep well little fellow. Mummy will see you in the morning.

### **Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> September**

Doctor Walker came to see if she could find any sign of a hernia. She ended up ringing Bassetlaw to find out whether it was a hernia or not.

Daddy came across to see you. We took you out for a walk, but the oxygen level was 4 times the amount you were on as it was the only gauge they had. So we brought you back. Daddy stayed until about 3pm.

Doctor Walker came back to say she'd spoken to Bassetlaw and was going ahead and was going to numb you from the waist down, which daddy and mummy breathed a sigh of relief.

Mummy left you about 9.30pm after 2 hours of settling you to sleep. I wanted to make sure you were settled as you were in a strange place.

Sleep well Kieron.

### **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September**

Mummy came to see you about 8.30ish and you were a little unsettled, but mummy went for some breakfast and then came back.

I gave you a bath then dressed you in a littler operating gown and hat. You had 20mls of water because that was all you needed or could have to drink.

We then went down Wendy a nurse carried you; mummy went back to her room and waited.

When Wendy rang I was up to the unit expecting to find you tired, but not you Kieron wide awake as if to say feed me. You took

100mls of milk and then fell asleep in my arms. Auntie Emma and Grandma Whybray came to see you, they said you looked a lot more relaxed.

Mummy managed to settle you down for the night and you slept well. You're off back to Bassetlaw tomorrow Yippee!!

I wonder which nurse will come and collect you.

## **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> September**

Mummy didn't wake up until 9am. You were asleep when she arrived to see you so mummy went for some breakfast. You'd already been fed at 8am.

Mummy dressed you and then sat holding you waiting for one of the nurses from Bassetlaw SCBU to come and pick you up.

It was Nicki and it was lovely to see her. As soon as we got to Bassetlaw you had your lunch and daddy surprised us by having the afternoon off.

You settled alright and we left Maxine and Veronica to fight over who was going to feed you.

## **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> September**

Mummy didn't come up until midday; you hadn't slept at all in the morning. When mummy arrived you came and had a hug and went straight to sleep on me. After your lunch you took a while to settle and you weren't happy, mummy thinks your scar was hurting you. So Claire gave you some Paracetamol and you settled after that.

Grandma Whybray came to see you and you slept on her. Mummy then fed you your rice and we left Claire to feed you.

See you tomorrow little man, love mummy

Not long now and you'll be home.

## **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> September**

Mummy didn't get up to see you until 1.30pm because the engineer (Roger) came to fit your oxygen concentrator and your tubing.

Maxine was nursing you when I arrived, you gave me a very funny look when Maxine past you over to me. You settled down to sleep leaning on my shoulder.

When daddy arrived we fed you and you took a long while to settle once you were asleep though we left and when we rang you were still sleeping and settled.

You had your second lot of immunizations so your temperature was a bit up in the night.

## **Friday 8<sup>th</sup> September**

Mummy came up about 11ish. Debbie was holding you and trying to get you off to sleep, you fell asleep on me in the end. You wouldn't settle in your cot so we fed you and you still took ages to settle, Debbie played with you while mummy had some lunch.

You eventually went to sleep. Granddad Whybray arrived and your apnoea monitor alarm went off so we had to disturb you to stick it on.

You settled back down on granddad for a little while, then mummy fed you early and Auntie Emma gave you your milk you didn't seem interested.

We changed you into your bedtime wear and you took some more milk and then fell asleep on your dad.

When we put you down you opened your eye a little and then dozed off and we came home to sort out your nursery.

## **Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September**

We came to see you this morning and you hadn't settled, but you settled really well on daddy after having your photo taken.

We left you once you were asleep and you stayed asleep until 3ish, 6 hours brilliant. Once you were fed at 3pm it was then playtime.

You were looking around and being really nosey. You settled in your cot, whether you woke up or not we aren't sure.

So sleep well little man you're coming out for the after noon tomorrow.

See you then.

## **Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> September**

We came to pick you up about 1ish you were just finishing your meal. We gave you your bottle.

We then went over to see Grandma and Granddad Norton; you lay on your play gym and watched the grand prix on TV.

We took you for a walk round the back roads of Everton, you went to sleep but as soon as you got home you woke up.

We bought you back to SCBU for the last time because tomorrow is the big day, your coming home YIPPEE!!

So sleep well tonight little man, see you tomorrow.

## **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September**

The big day is here and at last we have you at home.

### **Afterword**

Kieron came home on oxygen, for a while we were unable to take him to places where there were large numbers of people due to the risk of infection, however one day I was able to ring Andrew at work with the news that we could take him out, a visit to the supermarket had never been such a special time!!

*In March 2001 Kieron was officially diagnosed with cerebral palsy which affects all his muscles, to some extent we were ready for this as we had been told about his brain damage when he was very young. It was still very hard to get used to and we do have our difficult days however these are made easier when we consider how far he has come and the progress he has made.*

In April 2001 Kieron celebrated his 1<sup>st</sup> birthday, we were so happy; as it was a day we never thought we'd see.

A lot has happened in the intervening years, there have been difficult days but so many happy days. Kieron is a very happy and clever boy with a smile to brighten the darkest day.

To catch up with Kieron's progress visit his website

[www.kieron.nortonsnotes.net](http://www.kieron.nortonsnotes.net)