

Kieron's Story

The second month

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 20th 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

Sunday 21st May

Mummy and daddy came over about 11.45am you opened your eyes a little but not much. You were playing games with daddy you'd open your eyes then as soon as he got his camera ready you shut your eyes and at some point you seemed to be smiling because there would be a little crease in the corner of your mouth. Daddy went home to have a rest and you were asleep. Mummy stayed with you until grandma and Granddad Norton came to see you, you woke up a little for them but you were mainly awake at 4ish. I think ready for your care.

Mummy stroked you and read Little Pig Lost. I've decided you're not to keen on this one because you always set your bleepers off. I'll try and read it to you again tomorrow We (that is grandma and Granddad Norton and mummy) left about 4.30pm.

So sleep tight little buddy and see you tomorrow.

Monday 22nd May

Daddy took the day off today because he woke up thinking about you. We were coming over to see you about 2ish but the car wouldn't start so we didn't get over until 4.25pm. We sat with you the whole time for 2 hours.

You're not on your milk because your stomach is swollen with wind so you're on a glucose drip. So mummy's now on her second shelf in the fridge, you seemed very tired today perhaps it the morphine you're back on.

You're making some funny expressions with your face today which mummy and daddy found quite amusing. We went to Meadowhall a big place with lots of shops, mummy bought a book about premature baby's a guide for parents, so that I can know all about the machinery your on and why. I'll still ask though. Daddy's having a look too. See you tomorrow little chap.

Tuesday 23rd May

You have had a good night but your stomach is still a little swollen so the nurses are keeping an eye on it. Mummy and Granddad Whybray are coming to see you this morning. So see you later little buddy.

Mummy and Granddad arrived at 2.45pm you opened your eyes to see who was there, then you closed them very quickly you looked very peaceful and relaxed. One of your hands was swollen so they are going to keep an eye on it. Lisa the midwife loosened your bandage on your leg so that if your leg swelled up the bandage wouldn't get too tight.

Granddad left about 4pm and then mummy sat with you. You were very good you hardly set off your beepers. Daddy arrived about 5ish and sat with you while mummy expressed some milk. When mummy came back we did your care, then more visitors; Auntie Emma and grandma Whybray.

Auntie Emma couldn't believe how much you had changed, all grandma could say was "Isn't he lovely, isn't he cute."

Lisa the midwife tried to keep your arm straight by getting you to rest it on sailor doll, but you weren't having any of that. So mummy tried you with Tigger because it was slimmer. I gently held your arm straight so that you were resting in on Tigger. You looked very cute and daddy wished he'd had his camera. You looked as though you were cuddling Tigger. How long you stayed like that, I don't know. I'll have to ask tomorrow.

Mummy is coming on the train tomorrow, so see you about 2.15ish. Sleep well little fellow.

Wednesday 24th May

You've been alright all night. Your little hand is still swollen but it doesn't seem to be hurting you. Mummy's coming in on the train today. So I'll be in about 2.15ish you be a god boy won't you, see you later love mummy.

You slept all afternoon and hardly opened your eyes. Mummy stroked your arm, your little arm was puffy and swollen, but the doctors had taken an x-ray of your hand, but there was nothing

so the doctors think it is water retention which is normal for babies like you. They think it may go down by itself.

We did your care and you sort of woke up, with those big blue eyes. Mummy changed your nappy and once I was about to stick your other nappy underneath you decided you would wee all over your bedding so mummy had to clean you all up again. Mummy and daddy left after your care and of course you were wide awake. You settled down though after we had left. So sleep well little fellow be good for the midwives.

Sleep tight little man mummy and daddy love you. See you tomorrow afternoon.

Thursday 25th May

You're 5 weeks old today. Mummy sat in the garden writing this and the sun was out. I can't wait until you can go out in the garden in your pram. You're doing well, last night you were a good boy and the nurses think your hand is going down where it is swollen.

Grandma Norton and I are coming today to see you. So see you later little fellow.

When Grandma Norton and I arrived you looked very relaxed and asleep so we left you and just sat and watched you. You woke up for a while just as grandma was leaving. You then went back to sleep and you didn't even wake up when daddy came, you must have been tired you did a lovely wee just as mummy decided to change you.

Mummy managed to get most of it though.

Mummy lifted you up while Kath changed your bedding. It was a lovely experience except you did wiggle a lot.

Once laid down you went straight back to sleep and looked so peaceful and baby like. Be good tonight and see you tomorrow little fellow.

Friday 26th May

Well you had a good night you've still got to do more than a wee in that nappy of yours. Daddy and mummy came to see you this afternoon, you were very relaxed and asleep so we both said

hello by touching you then we just sat and watched you. You were more active than normal, but you've come off your morphine.

Daddy said you woke up for him while I was expressing some milk for you. You woke up for your care and daddy did all of it today, we're going back to a joint effort tomorrow.

HURRAH ! You actually did more than a wee in your nappy and a lot of it. Well done Kieron. You went back to sleep after your care and mummy and daddy left. See you tomorrow little fellow
God Bless,

Love mummy.

Saturday 27th May

Hello! Well you had a good night your breathing good on the ventilator, your blood gases are fine which means you may go onto CPAP this afternoon see you later Kieron. Remember if you're on CPAP mummy and daddy can hold you.

Mummy and daddy arrived about 4.30pm, grandma and Granddad Whybray were already with you. Well done you're on CPAP Kieron.

You seemed very relaxed, even one of the doctors commented on this, you were put up to your full feed for your weight which is 4.5mls an hour and your drips have been stopped, so the drip will be able to come out of your leg and hopefully where your leg is swollen it will go down.

Grandma Whybray came to watch your care today, mummy did it all. She winced when they were suctioning you, but I think daddy and I must be used to it.

If you're still on CPAP tomorrow you'll be weighed and we can hold you, so keep up this relaxed and calm Kieron. I know you've found you can cry on CPAP, but when you do it takes all your breath and all your beepers go off. So, you relax and stay calm and we'll see you tomorrow little fellow.

God Bless, sleep tight
Love mummy and daddy.

Sunday 28th May

You had a couple of dips on CPAP during the night, but you managed to sort yourself out. So daddy and I came to see you this afternoon, you were very relaxed and sleeping on your stomach.

You were trying to suck your thumb but at the same time you would get your fingers caught up in your milk tube and then you would pull some of the tube out.

Mummy and daddy had a hold of you which was wonderful. You opened your eyes a little and then you slept. Once you were put back in your incubator you went to sleep opening your eyes once in a while to check we were there.

We left you about 4.30pm asleep and relaxed. Be a good boy tonight and no dips. See you tomorrow love mummy and daddy.

Monday 29th May

We came to see you in the morning you were having a dip when we arrived, that was because you'd been weighed and measured and you weren't too keen on it. You weigh 21lb now. What a big boy, but your following the line on the graph to show how you gain weight. So your milk is up to 5.6mls an hour, when the doctor came round they want to put it up to 6.5mls an hour, so they're going to take you up slowly.

We stayed with you until dinner time once on your stomach you relaxed and went to sleep and showed off with your oxygen levels. Mummy and daddy went to see Tigger the movie. Well we had to check it was ok for you to watch, we bought you the CD so you can listen to it when you come home.

See you tomorrow fellow remember no dips tonight please.

Tuesday 30th May

Good morning you've had a good night with no dips well done little fellow.

Mummy and daddy came to see you about 3.30ish you were lying on your side looking very peaceful so I gave you Tigger to cuddle for daddy to take a photograph.

We went to Meadowhall today mummy got a Winnie the Pooh and friends changing bag for you when you're at home. It's lovely and it was the last one.

While mummy went to express some milk for you daddy stayed with you, you were very relaxed on CPAP you had some dips while we were there, but brought yourself out of them which was really good.

Mummy and daddy showed you the Tigger the Movie book we got for you.

Grandma and Granddad Whybray came to see you they thought you looked very relaxed and calm. Mummy and daddy did your care which you kept your eyes open all the time, it was lovely. Jeanine then turned you onto your tummy and mummy lay Tigger up at the edge of your incubator so that when you woke up you could see him.

Sleep well little fellow see you tomorrow.

Love mummy and daddy.

Wednesday 31st May

Well you had an excellent night you didn't make a sound you slept, well done Kieron.

Mummy came to see you about 3ish. You'd been fine. You just became cross and your oxygen had to be put up when your care was being done. So Ruth the staff nurse had only handled you when necessary. They tried you on incubator oxygen which you lasted for 30 minutes, not bad! But I was told you weren't happy and once back on CPAP you relaxed down. You slept most of the afternoon looking very relaxed on your side. I've noticed you seem to prefer it on your side or stomach when on the CPAP. Daddy and I did your care and you woke up. As soon as you were placed on your stomach you dozed back off to sleep and opened your eyes a couple of times, then you finally went to sleep.

Thursday 1st June

Well today you are 6 weeks old. Your auntie Emma and mummy arrived about 3.30ish and you'd got a little blue vest on, very cute

you looked. We sat watching you then Auntie Emma left about 5ish you managed to open your eyes a couple of times. You then changed incubators and you moved up the room, because you're doing so well they moved you nearer to the door because the end you were at is really for smaller babies as it is warmer and you're controlling your temperature really well. Mummy took your vest off before you were moved. Then you were lifted out of the incubator with no CPAP and quickly put on the scales to be weighed and then back into your incubator. You coped very well with the move. I think you were glad to have the CPAP monitor back on and you relaxed down really well. You now weigh 2lb 1½ ozs and you've put on 55grams. Mummy and daddy did your care and put a clean vest on you. Daddy was really pleased with you we're just going to have to get use to your new position. Well done little fellow keep it up love mummy and daddy

Friday 2nd June

You had a good night you'd had a couple of dips but you brought yourself out of them.

Mummy and Grandma and Granddad Whybray came to see you, we were suppose to be there in the morning but we got stuck in a traffic jam so we saw you about 2ish. Your stomach was swollen so they had stopped your milk. Grandma was disappointed that you weren't in your vest. You had a dip at dinner time and they'd had to help you out of it a lot, but once out of it you relaxed back onto CPAP.

You've got to poo so that they can take a sample to see if you have an infection.

When we left you still hadn't done one come on little fellow you really need to do one.

Daddy did come and see you this evening, but mummy phoned up about 7ish you were down to 26% oxygen BRILLIANT! You've done a poo HURRAH! They were going to start you back on your milk EXCELLANT! Keep going little buddy you're doing really well.

See you tomorrow morning.

Saturday 3rd June

Hello it's your mummy here, you've been fine over night you'd had a couple of bradycardias (slowing of your heart rate) during the night but you brought yourself out of them.

Mummy and daddy came to do your 10am care. Lisa was looking after you; your stomach was still swollen so you were on 1ml of milk an hour. We did your care. When the doctor came round he felt your stomach and listened to it, he asked for an x-ray just to check everything out and to put a long line in for your glucose feed.

So mummy and daddy said goodbye to you and mummy left to express some milk then we left.

We rang later on and the x-ray had showed nothing other than wind they think. So we pray that you will get rid of this wind and your stomach will go down.

See you tomorrow little fellow love mummy and daddy.

Sunday 4th June

Well you had a good night only one dip and you brought yourself out of it.

We, that is mummy and daddy, came to see you about 3ish you were asleep. You are still swollen but they say your stomach is wind and air and you're a little bit swollen on your legs which is sometimes normal for a baby your age.

You didn't wake up until 5ish you must have heard we were doing your care early. You've got an infection in your wee so your on antibiotics. Daddy did your mouth and I did your nappy and once your nappy was off you decided to wee everywhere. So that meant your bedding had to be changed. Louise let me lift you up while she changed your bedding. You're doing really well on CPAP, mummy and daddy are really pleased.

Daddy won't see you tomorrow but he'll ring to see how you've been.

See you tomorrow love mummy

Monday 5th June

Well hello little fellow who had a goodnight and who's put on weight you now weigh 2lb 4 and a bit. Well done!

Mummy came to see you about 2.30ish with Granddad Whybray you had another visitor Nicola who is mummy's godparents daughter. You've got 2 little books, well one big book of Beatrix Potter stories and a Teddy Bear story book and tape. Mummy will write to them on your behalf.

Granddad was pleased you opened your eyes for him even if it was a quick look.

Mummy then sat and looked at you had stroked you. Mummy did all your care tonight; I still think we need the expert daddy to do your mouth.

Anyway mummy left after your care, daddy looks really forward to seeing you, so be a good boy and open your eyes for him.

Tuesday 6th June

Well you'd had a great night when I rang you'd had a bit of activity all arms and legs then you settled back down.

Granddad Whybray and mummy arrived about 2.45pm you were asleep lying on your back looking really comfortable. You didn't open your eyes until about 3.30ish just as Granddad and mummy were going for a cup of tea. You opened your eyes after mummy had de-stuck them.

Granddad had never seen your eyes so wide open and your little legs and arms were everywhere. After mummy came back from a cup of tea with Granddad she went to express some milk.

When I came back you were not happy I think it was because of your dirty nappy. Mummy decided to change before daddy arrived and left your mouth for daddy and you were a lot happier when you had had your nappy changed.

Daddy arrived, he was really pleased to see his little fellow and you opened your eyes for him.

Mummy and daddy left about 6ish.

See you tomorrow little man love you!

Wednesday 7th June

“WOW! What a clever boy you were last night. You were on low flow for 3 hours and you only went back on CPAP because your blood gases dropped.

Mummy and Grandma Norton came to see you about 1.15pm you were asleep and relaxed and you stayed like that all afternoon. You didn't even open your eyes for grandma or auntie Denise and uncle Paul when they came you stretched a little and went back to sleep.

Even while I did your care you slept and when daddy came you opened one eye briefly then shut it tightly and you stayed asleep after that, which in a way it's good for you to rest.

See you tomorrow little fellow

Love mummy.

Thursday 8th June

You were tired last night and didn't seem to move much so you're going to be put back on the ventilator and they're going to check you out.

You're 7 weeks old today. Daddy and mummy rang to check on you, we were told you had an infection. Once mummy came the doctor said the infection was probably from the long line and he commented on how well you looked this afternoon. They're giving you antibiotics and they've taken the long line out for the time being.

You were more active today. Not as active as normal but you're not feeling good so we'll forgive you.

You opened your eyes when daddy came and responded more when we touched you.

Keep going little man we're proud of you, though you do worry your daddy and me. So fight this infection and we'll see you tomorrow afternoon.

Friday 9th June

You had a good night mummy and daddy arrived about 2ish daddy had taken the afternoon off. You responded a little better to out touch today and your arms and legs were more active. But

if you've got an infection you're going to feel sleepy, although you did open your eyes a little.

Sleep well little fellow and remember you're mummy's little fighter.

Saturday 10th June

Mummy and daddy arrived about 10.30ish. We did your care then sat with you. Kieron you were a lot more responsive today. You were on your back with the padded "U" part of your snuggly round your head and Eeyore was propping up your legs. You looked so cute like a little old man sunning himself in a deck chair.

We then had some lunch, the doctor was trying to put a long line in but was having problems, but they let us come and say good bye to you while she continued to try. You were under a green sheet, so we both stroked your hand and said goodbye.

See you tomorrow morning little fellow.

Sunday 11th June

You still not 100% with your infection, we held your hand which you seemed to like and you were body popping all over the place. Come on mummy's little fighter. We really wanted to hold you and rock you to sleep, but we couldn't so we held your hand. We rang up this afternoon you'd pulled your ventilator tube out. What a silly thing to do, you won't do that again in a hurry will you?

Mummy will see you tomorrow and we'll ring up in the morning. Sleep well and don't forget you're mummy's little fighter Kieron. So come on let's have you better soon.

Monday 12th June

You had a good night you were settled your neck and eyes are still swollen, but that's to do with the infection.

Mummy and Granddad Whybray came to see you daddy was tired so he didn't come today. Your little eyes are swollen and you're really trying to open them, you managed your left one a bit.

You're mummy and daddy's little fighter and we know you can fight this infection.

You're more responsive to mummy touching you, your arms and legs are everywhere.

Mummy did your care and you behaved well so keep fighting, everyone's praying for you.

See you tomorrow little fellow.

Tuesday 13th June

You look a lot better today your eyes are not so swollen and once I'd cleaned them you opened them which was wonderful to see.

Daddy was pleased to see you looking better and you opened those big blue eyes for him too.

Kieron, you must try and absorb more of your milk. Mummy is stock piling it at home.

You had a visit from all your grandparents today we hear you opened your eyes for Grandma and Granddad Norton and slept for Grandma and Granddad Whybray.

They were all pleased to see you.

“Dear Lord I place Kieron into your hands, please use your healing hands to take this infection and swelling away so that he can be back on full feeds and absorbing his milk. We pray Lord that you will watch over Kieron and put your cherubs around him. You know he's a little son and we love him dearly.

So I just place him into your hands.

Work your healing on him tonight right now.

AMEN”

Wednesday 14th June

Well today you're responding better, your head is still swollen, but I found out that it has nothing to do with the infection you've got and is normal for premature babies and it will disappear.

The only thing you need to do now is absorb your milk so that you can go back on full feeds for your weight.

Daddy didn't come today because he had a meeting; he's pleased to hear that you're doing alright.

Keep fighting the infection then once your back on CPAP mummy and daddy can hold you again.

We love you loads Kieron and mummy can't wait to feed you. So come on absorb your milk and grow big and strong.

See you tomorrow little fellow.

Love mummy and daddy.

Thursday 15th June

Mummy came to see you about 2ish your little head is still swollen and you're not absorbing your milk.

You're getting all your proteins, vitamins etc from your drips. Cath the sister who was looking after you said all you need to do is get rid of the swelling and absorb your milk. So come on little fellow try mummy's stock piling it here even grandma Whybray has some in her freezer.

Graham, one of the chaplains, came to see how you were today and how mummy and daddy were; it was nice to see him.

Daddy arrived just as I'd finished your mouth, so he told me to carry on. You had also done a lovely nappy for me so well done. So come on little man absorb your milk because it will make you big and strong.

Love you loads, Kieron.

Mummy and Daddy.

Friday 16th June

Prayers and God's answer to them

(ME)

“Father please heal my son,
I'm losing patience and I know the nurses and doctors know what they are doing, but he's not absorbing his milk. As I read today, you will answer prayer, but in your time not ours.”

(GOD)

“I am healing your son.”

I will give you peace and strength during this time to cope with it.”

(ME)

“Oh Father just show me this afternoon some little healing so that I know that you are listening.

I know that you're there and that you care, but sometimes you seem so far away.

I try not to show I'm worried, but I love Kieron and I want so much for him to get better, as the Joe King song says

“Father I know that you are there

And yes I Know you care

I need to feel your love.””

(GOD)

“Sharon I'm with you and you believe that I know.

I know what you are going through and Andrew

I know your prayer in faith even though sometimes you find this hard when you look at your son.

But I am the way, the truth and the life.

I am the answer, believe in me and trust.

I'm healing your baby each hour of each day.

My cherubs are with him always.

As long as you trust and believe I can work miracles.

All you need is patience and remember my time not yours.”

(ME)

“Yes Lord I know that you are healing my son and that's it's time

Thank you Lord that you are healing him every day making him stronger.

Give us both the strength to get through this hiccup of an infection and bring us out victorious at the other end.

Give us the strength and peace to take each day as it comes.”

(GOD)

“Sharon my child strength and peace will wash over you as today goes on
I will be with you both, feeling everything you feel and sharing in your ups and downs, but at the end of it all we will rejoice together you, me and the cherubs and angels in heaven.”

(ME)

“Thank you Lord I will walk out bold and strong trusting in you and knowing you’re with us both always.”

Daddy didn't come to see you today he needs a rest, but he'll be in to see you tomorrow.

Mummy and Granddad Whybray came to see you around 2ish. Granddad thought your swelling had gone down since he saw you, your eyes certainly were not as swollen and you seem to absorb some of your milk keep it up.

You were very settled when mummy was stroking you and Alison the sister commented on this.

Your auntie Emma came to see you and was there to watch me do your care. Mummy then went down to the cafeteria for some tea and Grandma Norton arrived and we both came up to see you. You were settled except for the odd jerk of your leg here and there. We left you settled and told you to be a good boy. See you tomorrow little bud.

Saturday 17th June

Mummy and daddy came in the morning to see you they'd stopped your milk, your oxygen levels went high so they did a chest x-ray and checked your lungs.

So they're giving you something to help your oxygen levels and you're also on medication for your swelling.

Mummy and daddy gave you a massage, which you really enjoyed and you then settled down to sleep.

Sunday 18th June

Mummy and daddy got in about 10ish we were going to give you another massage, but you were so settled that we stroked you and the nurse said how settled you were when we were talking to you and stroking you.

We left you hugging Tigger. Your head is more it's proper shape and your arms are less swollen your looking more like mummy and daddy's little man.

Grandma and Granddad Whybray came to see you this afternoon they think you're cute and they are pleased to see your head isn't so swollen.

See you tomorrow little fellow.

Monday 19th June

When Granddad Whybray and I arrived you were having your ventilation tube changed as it was loose, this was done before you pulled it out. So you were very sleepy when we saw you because they'd given you something so you couldn't feel it.

Your heart scan showed that your duct hadn't changed you just need to get your oxygen levels down from 50-70% to 20-30% and start absorbing your milk.

You did respond to mummy and daddy when we stroked you, which was lovely.

So come on little fellow and get on CPAP then we can hold you again.

We love you to bits. So come on have a good night sleep and we'll see you tomorrow afternoon.

Tuesday 20th June

Today you are 2 months old. You were wriggling around and you seem to be crying, so mummy settled you down and you opened your big eyes to look at me.

Your great uncle Bill came to see you today he thought you were lovely.

You settled down before mummy left. Granddad Whybray thought you had wind and then you got the hiccups you kept your

big eyes open and mummy settled you down and when you were settled mummy left.

See you tomorrow and remember absorb your milk.

Wednesday 21st June

You'd had a settled night been a little active and been sucking on your dummy.

Mummy arrived about 3ish and you were having a blood gas.

You weren't very happy you were trying to suck your thumb so mummy helped you put it in your mouth this seemed to relax you. Then mummy put the dummy in your mouth which you loved sucking on, and at one point you tried to put mummy's finger in your mouth.

You were wide awake today. Daddy is bringing his camera in tomorrow so you'd better open those big eyes.

Mummy did all your care and then you settled down to sleep and then I left to catch the train.

See you tomorrow little fellow.

Thursday 22nd June

Your 9 weeks old today. You did worry us this morning because you were in such high oxygen, but when mummy rang back they said this was normal for a baby with lung problems.

Grandma and Granddad Norton came to see you as well this afternoon. You were sound asleep when we arrived; you were excellent during your care not letting your oxygen levels drop. Well done!

Daddy arrived with his camera and once the blinds were shut you obliged us by opening your eyes really wide. I don't think you were too keen on the bright light.

So daddy got loads of photos with your eyes opened wide.

Well done little buddy keep it up.

Friday 23rd June

Mummy arrived about 3ish and Sharon who was looking after you said you'd been sound asleep for an hour. Then one of the doctors came to do your blood gases, but mummy managed to

settle you down again and you slept for a while longer holding my finger. You showed off and your oxygen went down to 69% well done. It went back up after your care, but you were doing some of the breathing by yourself.

Grandma and Granddad Whybray and Auntie Naomi came to see you. You opened your eyes for Granddad; Grandma was disappointed that she'd missed it. Mummy left you relaxed and asleep.

Daddy's bringing his camera tomorrow, so don't forget big eyes please little fellow.

Saturday 24th June

We arrived about 9.45am. Jackie hadn't done your care because you'd been asleep, so she left you.

So daddy and I were able to do it, we then settled you down.

Jackie showed me a new way of relaxing you by holding your head and stroking it and holding your feet so that you feel secure, this has something to do with when you were inside me.

You relaxed right down and when I had to move my hand from underneath your head you weren't to keen on it, but daddy and I settled you off to sleep and then left.

When we rang up you had had a settled afternoon and been in 60% oxygen and now on 2.5mls of milk.

Well done little fellow keep it up.

Sunday 25th June

Mummy and daddy got into see you about 10ish and Kath had left your care for us to do. So daddy did your mouth and I did your bottom you were on about 46% oxygen and doing a lot of breathing for yourself.

Everyone seemed pleased with you. You dozed back off to sleep.

Auntie Ruth and Uncle Mark came to see you; you became upset so Auntie Ruth came out to us. Daddy settled you down a little while I expressed some milk.

When I got back daddy said it needed a mummy's touch. Well I did carry you around for 6 months. We settled you down and left you to sleep.

When we rang up about 7ish you were asleep and in 24% oxygen. Jackie said that might be because you were on your tummy. Mummy and daddy were really pleased keep it up little fellow remember if you go on CPAP you can be held.

Monday 26th June

Well you had a good night and you were really sucking on your dummy this morning.

What a surprise mummy got when she arrived to see her little fellow CPAP well done and in 55% oxygen.

Mummy came and settled you down and you started showing off and your oxygen was put down to 35%. Well done buddy!

Daddy had a surprise too we did your care and you did wriggle and had to have your oxygen turned up to 45% but that is still very good.

We settled you down before we left. You looked so angelic and peaceful asleep. We love you to pieces keep it up Buster!! This is what daddy called you when he arrived for some reason.

Your little friend Callum is very poorly he's got an infection on his lungs. So we will pray that he comes through it.

Well done little man mummy and daddy are so proud of you.

Tuesday 27th June

You had a good night snuggled up with your toys and dummy and a sheet over you and you're in 24% oxygen. Well Done!

Today mummy came to see you around 2ish you looked really snug all wrapped up in your sheet. Mummy came in and stroked your forehead. You liked that because when I came out you got really grumpy! Cathy said that could have been because you were on your steroids.

You settled down well after your care. Keep it up little fellow. Remember you're mummy and daddy's little fighter.

Wednesday 28th June

You had a good night you'd had your care at 12.30am and then settled back down to sleep with all your animals round you. Today when daddy and I arrived you were having a bit of a paddy and you'd been unsettled. It took daddy and I an hour and a half to settle you down, it's these steroids there making you grumpy. The doctors had given you something to calm you down otherwise you would work yourself up and then use up all your oxygen.

Once you were settled we breathed a sigh of relief.

The nurses covered your incubator up when we'd gone so that you would think it was night time.

You're up to 6mls of milk an hour well done! You've got a brand new monitor.

So sleep well little fellow, be good and try not to be too grumpy. See you tomorrow.

We both love you loads love mummy and daddy.

Thursday 29th June

You have had a goodnight again and well done little fellow you've gone up to 6.5mls of milk.

Well today you are 10 weeks old. Grandma and Granddad Norton came to see you today. When we arrived the nurse was doing your care because you'd woken up. So I finished off your care and settled you back to sleep you lay there for a while sucking madly on your dummy and with your eyes wide open.

You went to sleep quickly; you seemed a lot more settled than yesterday.

You were in 30% oxygen and your milk is up to 7.5mls. Well Done! Now you can grow big and strong and by this evening you'll have both arms free because your long line is coming out. So sleep well little fellow and be a good boy.

See you tomorrow

Love M&D.

Friday 30th June

You had a good night and slept right though. Louise who was looking after you hoped you would sleep though until 10am. As it was you needed to be woken at 11am.

What a surprise mummy and daddy got when we arrived you're on low flow WOW! We had a hold of you which was lovely and when you went back in your incubator you lay there holding our hands and dozed off.

It was great to be able to see your little face and nose. Mummy and daddy just sat and looked at you while you slept; you opened your eyes just to check that we were still there. Well done little fellow keep it up and you're nearly 3lb and on 8.2mls of milk an hour.

You will grow to be big. See you tomorrow
Love M&D

Saturday 1st July

Who's a clever boy you slept through the night in hardly any oxygen.

Today mummy brought you a babygrow in for you to wear. What a cutey you looked.

You fill the length you just need to fill out in the arms and legs. Mummy had a hold of you and you fell asleep in my arms. You're not having your milk going in to you continually, you're now on 8.2mls every hour and the tube goes up your nose and into your stomach and a nurse feeds you though that.

Keep it up little man tomorrow they'll try you at my breast. So keep going now the steroids have stopped you've got to keep working. Clever boy!

Mummy and daddy love you loads.

Sunday 2nd July

Today, when mummy and daddy arrived, you were sound asleep with a cover over your incubator all wrapped up.

You had a new incubator today because the other one smelt.

You'd filled your nappy well done! You looked really cute in your baby grow.

Mummy lifted you up while daddy put the babygrow underneath, and when you cried mummy lifted you up inside your incubator and rocked you and you opened your eyes wide.

You opened your eyes really wide when daddy held you and looked at him.

Then you lay on mummy's chest skin to skin and once you had your dummy you went to sleep.

It was lovely to hold you and when you had to go back in your incubator you grizzled a little then just went straight to sleep.

Keep it up little man.

Mummy and daddy are so proud of you.

Monday 3rd July

When I rang this morning you'd been a good boy and you now weigh 3lbs and when I rang later about some milk, what a surprise mummy got when they said you may be transferring to Bassetlaw. Well you're going tomorrow, hopefully.

Mummy had a hold of you today and you fell asleep in my arms.

Daddy and mummy are so proud of you. Once you're at Bassetlaw mummy and daddy can come and see you more often.

We love you little chap love M&D