

7¹/₂ years ago, 9 weeks early, a very special little boy came into this world fighting. Christian was a twin and we sadly discovered that his twin brother Joshua had died when attending a routine scan and, as a result, had to be delivered by emergency caesarean. Whilst we were devastated, Christian gave us strength by his sheer determination and he fought his way out of hospital after just 4 weeks and we all believed that all his hard battles would be over. Unfortunately at 18 months old Christian was diagnosed with Cerebral Palsy and his battles began all over again.

Christian is unable to walk unaided and faces many challenges in his life, never complaining, and is an inspiration to all those around him. His determination has allowed him to thrive in main stream school. It is rare you will see him without a smile and has a great sense of humour.

TO RAISE MONEY FOR CHRISTIANS OPERATION



He has fought many battles on his own in his life so far and has done so with sheer determination and support from his family. But he has now been given the opportunity to have an operation, Selective Dorsal Rhizotomy (SDR, details at the end of this story) which could allow him to walk unaided and improve his independence for the future.

The operation and intensive physiotherapy was pioneered in the United States, and is now available in the UK but has limited funding on the NHS. We have been told by his Specialist Consultant at Great Ormond Street that whilst he is an excellent candidate for this operation, and it will benefit him greatly, he will not receive funding due to the limited funds in the NHS.

Whilst it is easy to question, and a great disappointment, why this funding is not available, we want Christian to have this life changing opportunity and wish to find any way possible to fund this for him, and to help our inspirational little boy have the very best chance of having a normal adult life.

To this end we would ask you to help us to raise as much money as possible by either making personal donations or to undertake some activity and be sponsored. If Companies, Schools or Colleges, or their staff wish to make donations we will try to get as much publicity as possible in appreciation and will, of course, keep everyone informed of progress.

We know that Christian will himself be inspired by the generosity which people have already shown and please keep the messages on Facebook up to date with details of your sponsorship and messages of encouragement and support for this special and inspirational little boy.

Details of the Operation

What is Selective Dorsal Rhizotomy (SDR)? Selective Dorsal Rhizotomy (SDR) was first developed in the United States, as techniques have advanced. It's a neurosurgical procedure aimed at reducing spasticity (tight and stiff muscle tone) in the lower limbs. It's most commonly used for children with spastic diplegia (two limbs affected) which accounts for 25 to 30% of children born with cerebral palsy.

The surgery aims to:

- Achieve a long-term reduction in spasticity
- Improve function and mobility
- Increase independence
 - Increase range of motion and improve positioning

If you are able to donate, even the smallest sums will help so much, and we have the support of a registered charity and you will receive the benefit of gift aid. Thank you in advance - christians parents - paul and yvette

Please make any donations via just giving www.Justgiving.Com/smileofinspiration Or text number 70070 message crog50 and the amount



In the UK, the National Institute of Clinical Excellence (NICE) has issued guidance that SDR is most effective for children between 4 & 10 years of age.