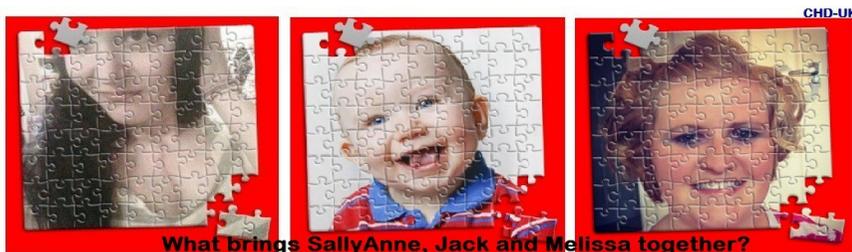


Educating, Raising Awareness of Congenital Heart Defects

What is a CHD?

CHD means Congenital Heart Disease or Defect and is the term given to any defect of the heart which is present from birth.

Congenital heart defects (CHDs) are the most common birth defects and will affect 1 in every 125 babies each year. Some are detected during pregnancy whilst others are not detected until birth or even adulthood.



What brings SallyAnne, Jack and Melissa together?
They were ALL born with a Congenital Heart Defect.

Being a Heart Parent

Every parent wishes that their child(ren) will be born healthy but, if this is not the case, it brings a lot of stress and worries. You find yourself lost in a whole new world which adds more fear and questions about what the future will bring for your child.

It might be of great help when you have the opportunity to talk to other parents who have had the same experience or are still in it.

Growing up with a CHD

Every person who has a CHD wonders if there is anyone in the area that they grow up in and normally you do not meet anyone that is until you go on the internet but then they may not live in the same area. It can be a lonely experience living with a CHD as it can be daunting, stressful and scary at times. You wish you could talk to someone who has been through it or is going through it. We are here to help you find others who are of a similar age to yourself and live in the same area and to point you in the direction of other charities that may be better suited for your needs. However, it is of great help when you have the opportunity to talk to other teenagers/adults who have had the same experience.

About CHD-UK

CHD-UK was set up by an adult who was born with one type of CHD.

Through the founder's own experience it was found that there was a need for more awareness and education of Congenital Heart Defects, as well as promoting for the use of echocardiograms during pregnancy and the use pulse oximetry on neonatal to detect CHD's. With the help from other heart parents and adults born with a CHD throughout the UK, Congenital Heart Defects – United Kingdom was set up to provide awareness, education, media awareness, promotion of echocardiograms and pulse oximetry as well as funding for research.

What CHD-UK can do for you

CHD-UK provides information and support to parents with heart children and their families and make it possible to meet each other in an informal way through support groups.

When a child is in hospital we will give emotional and practical support, if parents would like that, by hospital visits or contact in another way.

It all depends on what you as a parent feel that you need and you can contact us any time.

Our forum on Facebook is there to come in contact with other parents and share experiences

www.facebook.com/groups/congenitalheartdefectsuK/

CHD-UK does more

- ³⁵/₁₇ Creating more awareness for CHD
- ³⁵/₁₇ Working together with other support groups and charities
- ³⁵/₁₇ Organising events in the future

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