

**STATEMENT OF MR AUBREY LEWIS****11. Waiting List**

Mr Wisheart explained there was a waiting list of about 2 months, although he told us he could sort out the problem on the Monday if we were able to pay privately. We asked how much that would cost, and were told that it would be £10,000. I was thinking where I could get that money from, when he said that that was for the initial operation. All the intensive care costs and aftercare would more than double the bill. We only lived in a council house, and there was no way that I could afford that. If we had been able to have had the operation done privately, Mr Wisheart would have done it - there was no question of going elsewhere.

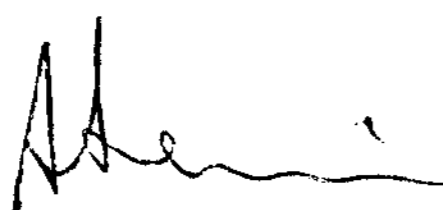
**12. We Ask Mr Wisheart to Go Ahead with the Operation**

Mr Wisheart gave us the opportunity to go away and talk about the operation with each other, before putting Kirsty on the waiting list, but we had already talked and talked about surgery, and decided to go ahead. The whole meeting lasted well over half an hour. Mr Wisheart struck me as a professional person, who was brimming over with confidence.

**13. Cancelled Operations**

Kirsty had to wait over 3 months for her operation. During her wait, two dates were fixed and then cancelled. The first operation was cancelled very shortly after being made. The second cancellation was particularly cruel - we were all ready to leave, when they rang up the night before the admission, to inform us that the operation had been cancelled. No explanation was given for either cancellation, although in the press at the time, there had been a lot about cancelling operations, because of lack of funding, and I assume that it was lack of money which caused the cancellations.

Signed



Dated

15.6.99