

were at Bristol. We were touched when she wrote to us to offer her condolences after Steven's death. Steven was buried on 5th September at St Peter's Church in Cockett, Swansea. Many of the nurses from Morrision Hospital, who had been so caring and supportive, came to the funeral.

17. Our major criticism of the BRHSC is that we received so little explanation and guidance about Steven's care. We felt very much on our own and it seemed as if the doctors and nurses were reluctant to get involved. A support group would have been really useful. We would have liked the surgeons to explain things at our level and tell us what options were open to us at each stage and the risks involved for Steven. Mr. Wisheart, in particular, seemed to talk at us rather than to us. We wish we had been "managed" better in what was already the worst time of our lives.
18. The whole experience of Steven's short life put me off having any more children as I could not bear the possibility of it all happening again. I went on contraception soon afterwards and it was only by accident that our third child, Andrew, was born. I was really anxious during the pregnancy, but Andrew has always been a healthy child. His life, as well as Nicola's, has helped us- as far as it can- to cope with the loss of Steven. Recently, Andrew sustained an groin injury whilst playing football and we had to go to the Morrision Hospital to see his x-rays. Even though the complaint was minor, the doctor there gave us a very thorough and understandable explanation of what had happened to Andrew's groin and how it would be treated most effectively. This contrast with Steven's care showed the lack of care at the BRHSC.
19. My husband and I hope that the contents of this statement will help the Inquiry and will illustrate how the treatment of paediatric cardiac patients and their families can be