

## **MRF Media contact OXTED, Surrey**

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### **Oxted mum's warning: Babies under one hit hardest by meningitis and septicaemia.**

Lucy Steel

Lucy's son Leo suffered from Group B Meningococcal meningitis (MenB) in May 08 aged just 8 months. He was critically ill but somehow pulled through to make a full recovery. Leo starts school in September 2009, a huge milestone for him and for his family. Read more at MRF's online Book of Experience: <http://meningitis.org/book-of-experience/leo-steel-27627>

Said Lucy: "My son Leo had meningitis in 2005. He was only 7 months old. He became unwell - drowsy, breathing heavily and whimpering - so we gave him calpol and let him rest. My partner changed Leo's nappy and noticed a rash, and immediately we rushed him to the GP. As soon as the GP saw the rash he called an ambulance, but by the time we got to East Surrey Hospital Leo's heart had stopped. He was resuscitated but we were told we might lose him. Doctors fought to save him and mercifully he pulled through, although he lost 50% of his bodyweight and was on massive doses of antibiotics. After 3 weeks in hospital he'd recovered enough to come home. Meningitis and septicaemia act so fast that it's vitally important to know the symptoms and spot the diseases early. Get symptoms information from MRF - it will only take a moment but it could save a life."

Willing to do: Press, Radio, TV

If you'd like to talk to Lucy, contact MRF's Communications team: 01454 281811