

Hello, and welcome to TOFS Facebook Group,

You have now been signed in to the TOFS Facebook group, the only group sponsored by TOFS, which is a registered UK based charity (no. 327735), dedicated to providing emotional support to adults and families of children born 'unable to swallow' with Tracheo-Oesophageal Fistula, Oesophageal Atresia and associated conditions.

The group provides a platform for all affected by the TOF condition but please remember that information or advice posted on this site, should never be taken as a substitute for a proper assessment by a qualified medical professional.

If you want to find out more about the TOF condition we would recommend our book "The TOF Book" which is available from Amazon [BUY THE TOF BOOK](#)

Before posting on the group page please read our GUIDELINES FOR POSTING and enjoy the support from this site. Admins will delete posts and/or members where content is inappropriate or contentious. (Facebook is subject to the laws of libel.)

TOFS has been in existence for thirty-five years, run by TOFS Trustees who are all TOF parents, TOF grandparents or Adult TOFS giving their time and skills voluntarily.

TOFS:

Provides support through TOFS Facebook Group and the TOFS website

Provides information through leaflets and 'THE TOF BOOK' (in depth information written by medics on the TOF/VACTERL condition. Available from Amazon.)

Publishes a regular newsletter called 'Chew' (free to all members of TOFS)

Organises National Conferences in the UK

Liaises with the medical profession worldwide

Sponsors medical and genetic research into the TOF condition

Interacts with other TOF support groups in other countries.

Organises parties for TOF children and their siblings to give parents the opportunity to meet and share their experiences.

Has one small office in Nottingham, where we employ three part-time members of staff.

TOFS is funded entirely by our members' donations and fundraising.

If you are not already a member of the TOFS charity and would to be part of the TOFS you can [JOIN ON LINE HERE](#), wherever you are in the world. There is no charge for membership although we welcome annual or monthly donations if you are able to help us. To find out more [VISIT OUR WEBSITE](#) Should you receive a direct invitation to join any other TOF related Facebook Group please be aware that it is not in any way associated with the TOFS registered charity. If you have any questions or concerns, please email us: info@tofs.org.uk

Dennis W. Harvey

TOFS Trustee (and granddad of 18-year-old TOF Phoebe)

(All TOFS Trustees are volunteers and actively involved with running the charity)"

Before posting on the group page please read our **RULES AND GUIDELINES FOR POSTING** and enjoy the support from this site.

POSTING RULES

This group is the only group on Facebook which represents TOFS, a UK based charity, registered number 327735. Membership of the group is open only to those who have a genuine interest in this medical condition, or in supporting the TOFS charity. Since this group was established in 2011 it has grown steadily to nearly 3000 members and must surely be one of the most successful support groups on the Internet. Our group has a unique family atmosphere and provides invaluable comfort and support to many members for whom life can be very stressful. Being part of the TOFS "family", they know that they are not alone, and through the TOFS Facebook group they can share their problems and experiences with others in similar circumstances. As the Administrators of this group, we are determined to do all in our power to keep it this way. All members of the group are reminded that only posts which are directly related to the TOF condition or activities involving the TOF charity, are allowed. Any posts which the Administrators consider critical of others, negative, likely to be divisive, in bad taste, or in any other way inappropriate, will be removed. The member making the post will be advised of the reason for its removal and if that member makes further inappropriate posts, he or she will be permanently removed from the group. Members are also reminded, that any posts advertising a service or product are not allowed, and any group member making such posts is liable to be permanently excluded. The friendliness and harmony of this group are paramount, and Administrators will always act to protect the interests of the majority of group members. Always keep in mind that anything posted on Facebook, publicly or privately, which may be considered defamatory, is subject to the laws of libel and could give rise to legal action. To try to avoid any misunderstandings we have drawn up some simple guidelines for posting. Please follow these guidelines whilst continuing to post your questions and comments and enjoy being a member of this happy and successful Facebook group.

POSTING RULES & GUIDELINES FOR MEMBERS OF THE TOFS FACEBOOK GROUP

1. Get to know the TOFS Group – stay on topic, be yourself, ask questions, participate and contribute if you feel comfortable.
2. Remember that the admins will delete written posts, pictures, or photographs which they consider to be offensive or inappropriate.
3. Think carefully when posting a reply to someone and keep in mind the feelings of others. How would you respond to your best friend or family? In online communities, we can't see and hear the people who post messages. We can't assume we fully understand what they're saying.
4. Use common sense when posting about matters relating to children, especially older children. Do not post anything which could upset the child. When posting photographs of babies and children please remember that, like all Facebook pictures, they can be copied (and by anybody with access to group posts) and possibly circulated outside the group.
5. Follow the rules and refrain from the use of bad language when posting messages. Any messages containing bad language will be deleted.
6. Do not use the Group to advertise any service or product, including your own personal business or website.
7. Any post soliciting donations for any cause or charity other than TOFS registered charity no. 327735, must be approved by a group admin before posting.

8. Be safe: protect your privacy and personal information. Disclose only what you feel comfortable disclosing.

9. Please note that it is up to each individual user to remove themselves from the group should he or she wish to unsubscribe from the Group.

10. If you have a question, ask it here in the group and not through a private message.

11. Any member of the group who sends an inappropriate or offensive private message to another member of the group, is liable to be immediately and permanently removed. Any member who receives such a message should bring it to the attention of the Admins immediately.

12. Any member who posts inappropriate, untrue, or offensive comments relating to the TOFS Facebook Group or any member or admin of the TOFS Facebook Group, on this or any other Facebook Group page is liable to be excluded without further warning.

13. Posts promoting any form of gambling are not allowed

14. Please be especially careful if sharing posts taken from the Internet. If you cannot be 100% certain that the information is entirely accurate, then it is not appropriate to share. You are also requested not to share posts of a general nature, however well-meaning they may seem, if they are not directly related to the TOF condition.

Members who persistently fail to comply with these guidelines are liable to be permanently excluded from the group

Duncan Jackson TOF Parent and Chair of the TOFS Charity

John Pearce TOF Parent

Sue Lewis- Jones TOF Parent

Darrell Hill TOF Parent

Dennis Harvey TOF Grandparent

Graham Slater Adult TOF

Tamasine Swan TOF Parent

Samantha Mann TOF Parent

TOFS Facebook Group Administrators and Trustees of the TOFS charity