

the
little
things





Synopsis

With an award-winning creative team behind the project, including BAFTA winner Steve Pemberton (Inside No. 9, League of Gentlemen), *The Little Things* is a poignant feature documentary that delves into the heart of Derian House Children's Hospice in Chorley, Lancashire. The documentary aims to challenge misconceptions about children's hospice care through intimate portraits of the families and staff that capture the supportive, warm and vibrant atmosphere found inside the walls of Derian House. The title of the film relates to all the cherished moments that bring joy and comfort to children and families during their most challenging times. While celebrating the extraordinary care provided, *The Little Things* also addresses the financial challenges faced by hospices, emphasising the vital role of community support in sustaining these essential services.

Ultimately, the serves as a heartfelt testament to the power of human connection and the joy found in life's smallest moments, inspiring viewers to appreciate and support the invaluable work of institutions like Derian House all over the United Kingdom.

Logline

The *Little Things* explores the staff, families and children within the walls of Derian House Children's Hospice in Chorley, Lancashire. Highlighting the profound impact of the support offered whilst breaking down stereotypes surrounding children's hospice care, illuminating the enduring power of hope, and resilience in the face of life's most profound challenges.

A Legendary Endorsement



Emma and I have seen the film. The value of Derian House comes across very strongly, and well done to everyone who has made the film.

The plight of the children is heartbreaking of course, and the strength of the people who work there is extraordinary. Inevitably, we are left feeling that this work is so important it should not be left to a charity, but be part of the NHS.

If the health service responded properly, it should not need to be bureaucratic but keep the same personal touch, which is so essential to support families who go through such a difficult time. It seems wrong that we leave this to a 'pass the hat round' culture, when it should be a shared responsibility.

Anyway, I think you've all done really well.

Love from all of us here,

Ken



Ken Loach, film director
(*'Kes'*, *'1'*, *Daniel Blake*, *'Sorry We Missed You'*)



The Team

Director - Thomas Elliott Griffiths - Thomas directed his debut documentary back in 2016 called Autism: A Curious Case of the Human Mind. Working with a shoestring £300 budget and a small team of fellow film students, Thomas documented the story of his younger brother, his neurological condition and how he wanted to heal their relationship before leaving his hometown to attend University. The film earned the Best of Festival and Best Feature Documentary prizes at the 2017 Carmarthen Bay Film Festival, along with receiving plaudits and nominations from other festivals around the world. His follow up project, Sticks & Feathers, covered a young hockey captain with a heart condition who used his passion for sport to help grieve the early death of his father. This short documentary picked up some more awards in film festivals, including Best Factual Film from HotHouse Theatre's Nottingham Film Festival in 2018. Recently, Thomas has been working for Ascendant Fox Films on the behind-the-scenes documentary covering the production process of BBC's Boiling Point television series.



Producer - Paul Woodward - Paul has a very special connection to children's hospice care, as for over seven years his late son Kalel, was cared for at Derian House. The morning Kalel passed away, Derian was instrumental helping Paul and his family through a devastating time. Paul has felt the need to give something back to Derian for many years now and this documentary is that opportunity. Paul, Master of The Arts, BAFTA Connect Member and now in his second decade in the industry, Paul brings a wealth of experience from UK stage tours to Feature Film roles. His experience in front of the camera, working with actors and creatives one to one brings a deeper understanding because he has worked from the ground up, bringing a wealth of experience from all areas of the industry. Paul was also instrumental in forming and developing a multi award winning youth Drama School as the Creative Director. Paul currently also works as a Professional Actor, Producer and Content Creator.



Executive Producer - Steve Pemberton - Steve is an actor, comedian and writer who rose to prominence as a member of The League of Gentlemen, winning several major awards including a BAFTA, RTS and the Rose D'Or. He went on to co-write and star in Psychoville and Inside No. 9 with Reece Shearsmith. Other high profile television and film credits include Doctor Who, Benidorm, Blackpool, Shameless, Whitechapel, Happy Valley, Mr Bean's Holiday, Lassie, The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy and Mapp and Lucia.

"I think it's incredible that Paul, a parent who has fully experienced what a hospice does, is looking to break down barriers around what hospice care is about," Said multi-award winner actor and producer Steve Pemberton.

"I grew up in Chorley, very close to the site where Derian House now stands. In fact, I used to play football on the field beside where the hospice is now. Derian House is well known in the area and nationally for providing the very best care for children and their families – and I am very proud to support everything they do.

"To be able to support The Little Things is an honour, and I'm sure the film will warm the hearts of families nationally who have experienced hospice care for themselves."



The Team



Kayleigh-Paige Rees - Executive Producer - Kayleigh is the CEO of production company Raspberry Films that was initiated in early 2019. The aim of the production company is to help bridge the gap between independent creatives and mainstream media. In 2022, Kayleigh-Paige was named one of Forbes 30 Under 30 in the Entertainment Category. Since its inception, Raspberry Films has employed over 700 independent creatives and is slated to produce a documentary in Ukraine exploring the lives of displaced families from the war. Kayleigh-Paige has worked alongside and continues to work on projects with Amazon Prime, IMDB TV, ITVX, Tubi and Britbox.

"I consider Paul a dear friend and I am blown away by Derian House and the incredible care that they provide to children and families. I am very proud to be supporting "The Little Things" documentary and after visiting Derian House and seeing first hand the incredible care and thought that goes into the hospice I know this documentary will be so special and eye-opening for all those who watch it".

Kiki DeVille - Executive Producer - Australian-born singer Kiki, has been on the stage her whole life but shot to stardom on The Voice UK in 2014 as part of Team Will.i.am. Since then she has performed around the world and currently stars as a judge on BBC1's All Together Now, alongside Geri Horner and Rob Beckett. Kiki says: "When my husband and I made our way through the doors of Derian House 11 years ago we knew our lives had changed forever, but we had no idea that this inspiring place would end up being a part of us forever. On that first visit when we had to confront our son Dexter's condition head on, we literally had no idea what to expect from this place. We found out that it was far from the terrifying place we imagined but, rather, a place that is positively life-affirming.



Kiki will be working alongside her music producer Angus Powell to create the soundtrack for our documentary. This single will be a charity single and will raise money for Derian House and Alder Hey Children's Hospital in Liverpool. Not only will this track raise vital funds but it will also be a wonderful marketing tool to announce our film and spread awareness.



The industry team have also been joined by an incredible bunch of passionate individuals as Associate Producers. This group make up several hospice staff and public backers who helped fund the film via our early Crowdfunding campaign. Without the dedication and many hours spent working alongside our team, filming this intimate documentary in a sensitive environment would have not been possible. We are proud to include them all on this feature documentary.



9 Frequently Asked Questions

1. What inspired the creation of "The Little Things"?

- The film was inspired by producer Paul Woodward's personal journey with his son at Derian House. His experience highlighted the hospice's profound impact, prompting a desire to challenge societal preconceptions and share these uplifting stories.

2. What is the main focus of the documentary?

- The documentary focuses on the "little things" that bring joy to children and families at a Derian, confronting stigmas surrounding children's hospices and highlighting love, compassion, and resilience even in challenging circumstances.

3. How does the film portray Derian House Children's Hospice?

- "The Little Things" showcases Derian House as a warm, vibrant environment, filled with compassion and joy. Through visuals and personal stories, it highlights the exceptional care provided and the importance of cherishing positive memories.

4. What themes are explored in the documentary?

- Key themes include, children's hospice care, how important early referrals can be, the support for all the family that reaches out to siblings and a group for grieving fathers. The care of your child after they have passed away and the continued support afterwards. The film also addresses misconceptions about children's hospices, that they are not only a place of sadness but a place of intense love and care.

5. How does the film address misconceptions about hospice care?

- With the use of an Interrotron we have been able to capture the most truthful and compelling interviews by our contributors who make up parents past and present from the hospice and a medical point of view from staff and nurses.

6. What are some of the unique aspects of Derian House highlighted in the film?

- The documentary highlights the hospice's exceptional facilities, the dedication of staff and volunteers, and the 24/7 care provided. It emphasises the crucial role these elements play in supporting families. We also focus on how important play can be for children, play is a medicine too.

7. Why is community support essential for Derian House?

- Derian House requires over £6,000,000 annually to operate, with less than 6% funded by the government. The film discusses the financial challenges and fundraising efforts, raising awareness of the need for community support to sustain these invaluable services. In the UK we have 48 children's hospices, still not enough to meet the demand. All of them need to raise millions each year, this film can go along way to helping raise the awareness.

8. How does the documentary contribute to the broader conversation about end-of-life care?

- The film challenges societal perceptions, shedding light on the often unspoken aspects of caring for children with life-limiting conditions. It encourages dialogue about empathy, compassion, and the support needed for families facing bereavement. As a country we are polite and would rather not open up that conversation to loved one when in fact it is that conversation that can make a difference. This documentary will help open up that door to acceptance.

9. What impact do you hope the film will have on viewers?

- We hope the documentary inspires empathy and understanding, encouraging viewers to appreciate the resilience and joy found in life's little moments. By highlighting the importance of institutions like Derian House and other children's hospices and services across the UK and Internationally.





The Little Things Audience

The feature documentary *The Little Things* has the potential to reach an initial audience of around 6 million in the UK. With the backing of all 48 UK children's hospices, alongside supporters such as Derian House, MediCinema, and Liverpool's Alder Hey Children's Hospital, the film can be distributed widely to connect with individuals who have experienced or are currently involved with a children's hospice. Whether they are family members, friends, staff, or medical professionals, *The Little Things* is poised to resonate with a broad and engaged audience.

On a global scale, an estimated 21 million children are in need of end-of-life and palliative care, yet only 5% have access to facilities like Derian House, meaning 95% are unable to benefit from the crucial support such institutions provide to families. Despite the challenges of government funding for hospices here in the UK, the country remains a leading provider of palliative care. However, there is a significant shortage of children's hospices across Europe and internationally. Our documentary aims to raise awareness and foster understanding of the critical need for more facilities like Derian House around the world.

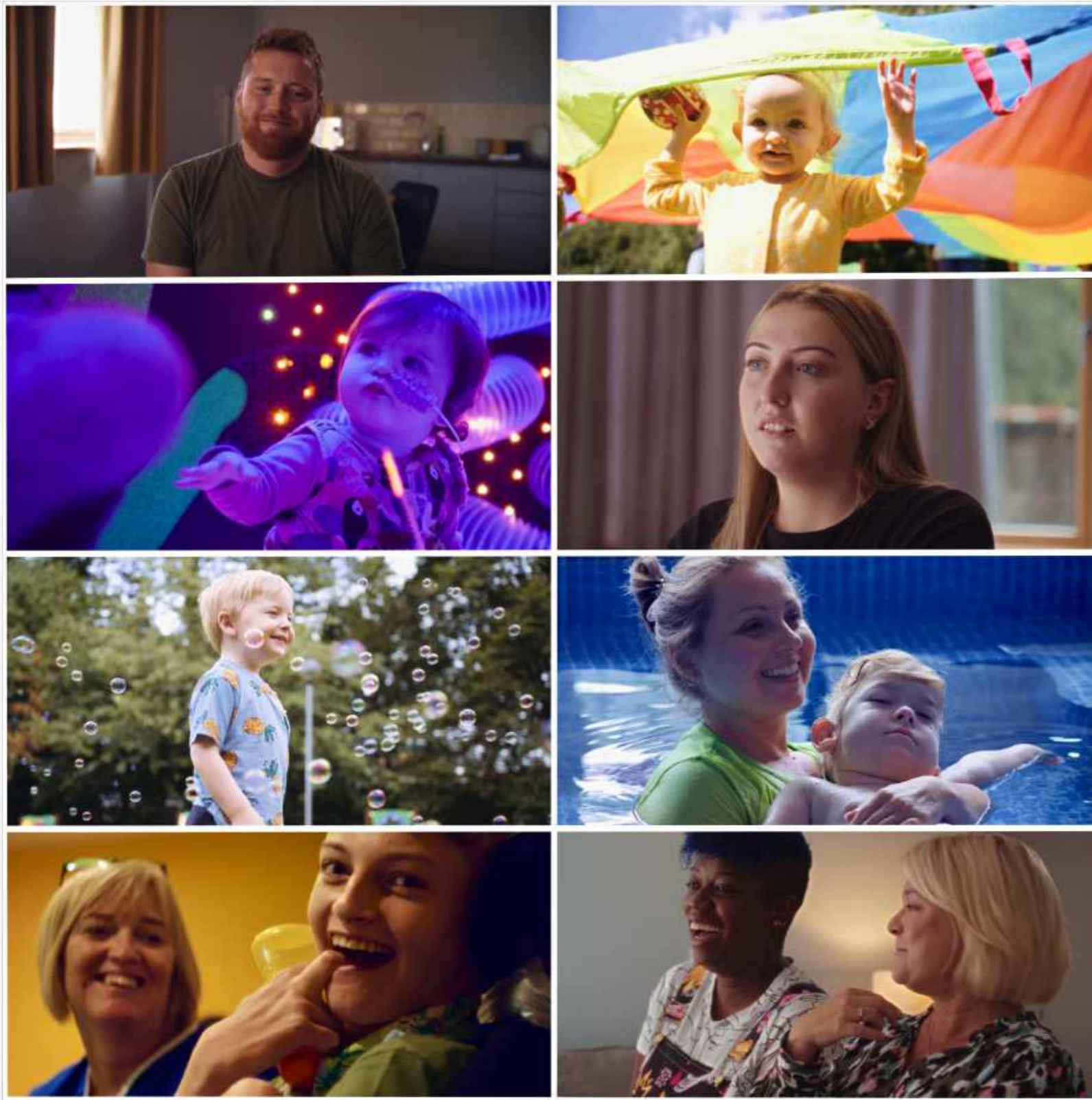
The Little Things in the News

Links Below:

- [BBC North West Tonight](#)
- [Derian House News - The Little Things Announced](#)
- [Derian House News - Steve Pemberton Executive Producer](#)
- [Wigan Today](#)
- [Wigan Today 2](#)
- [Liverpool Echo](#)
- [ITV News Segment - Features Producer Paul Woodward](#)
- [Lancs Live](#)
- [The Daily Mirror](#)
- [Lancashire Telegraph](#)



Documentary Visuals



This documentary will be dynamic, layered with personal stories and was filmed in an unobtrusive yet cinematic manner that will allow audiences to feel right amongst the stories shared and with the people in them. Whilst filming we allowed everyday care and play to unfold before our lens to see where our journey may also take us. The filming sessions will be intertwined with personal sit down interviews with staff, families and children that we have captured.

Although we want this documentary to be a raw, touching and honest portrait of the organisation, we have been fully committed to working alongside Derian to ensure that everyone is comfortable with our presence. Whilst Derian provides an amazing, cheerful and supportive atmosphere to those they help, the matters at hand are personal, delicate ones. Therefore, we have strived to navigate this documentary with the utmost sensitivity and respect for emotional boundaries, collaborating closely with Derian to find our interesting and suitable contributors, working around them in a professional and respectable manner.

Technical Information

Shooting Format - Digital

**Aspect Ratio - 2:1
Cinematic 4K**

Audio Format - 5.1 Stereo

Length - 1hr 40min

**Original Language -
English**



Reviews

[https://www.ukfilmreview.co.uk/
reviews/the-little-things](https://www.ukfilmreview.co.uk/reviews/the-little-things)



“The Little Things is the most moving documentary I have seen in years...The love and care with which The Little Things was made mean this film is a powerful success when it comes to raising awareness and respect for Derian House, other hospices and the critical role they play”

“Technically accomplished and emotionally masterful, it deserves enormous credit”

[http://screencritix.com/9157-
qukyqp/](http://screencritix.com/9157-qukyqp/)



“The Little Things director Griffiths and his entire team have created an unforgettable cinematic experience...Griffiths’ direction of the documentary is a masterclass”

“The Little Things is a powerful and thought-provoking documentary that will leave a lasting impression on viewers. It is a testament to the strength of the human spirit and the importance of compassion, support, and love. By shedding light on the invaluable work done by children’s hospices, the film encourages us to appreciate the beauty and fragility of life.

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The Little Things Official Teaser



Password: TLT2024

Closing Words and Contact Details

I would like to express my utmost gratitude for giving me the opportunity to present this project to you. I cannot begin to describe the depth of passion behind this documentary not only from myself as the creator and producer but every person connected to "The Little Things" has given everything to it's creation and understand the film's importance not only for Derian House but for the understanding and awareness of all our children's hospices across the UK and Internationally.

I assure you that this film has been a labor of love. We are committed to telling Derian House's story with absolute passion, compassion, and respect. We want to do justice to the countless children and families whose lives have been touched by this organisation.

I am incredibly fortunate to be surrounded by a team of talented individuals who are just as passionate about this project as I am. We will make sure that our film is not only cinematically stunning but also a thoughtful, heartfelt tribute to all the children and families who have ever been connected to a children's hospice. We want to create something that they will be able to look back on with pride for years to come.

Thank you once again for your time and consideration.

With warm regards,

Paul Woodward, Producer, The Little Things Feature Documentary



Contact Details

Producer - Paul Woodward

oldswanfilms@gmail.com

