

Jeremy Scott was born in with a huge hole in his aorta valve that cruelly denied him the opportunity to live the life of a normal healthy child. Although surgeons discovered the defect when he was two years old, they didn't want to operate until he was four as they feared he wouldn't be strong enough to survive the procedure. His Open Heart Surgery was carried out by renowned surgeon Sir Brian Barratt-Boyes and it turned out to be a huge success.

Thirty four years after the surgery that changed Jeremy's life, he understood he had been given a second chance. He realised life is what you make it and craved a challenge that would push him far beyond anything he had ever previously attempted.

With practically no experience or training, Jeremy took the plunge and began a solo, self-funded, 51,916km bicycle ride through 29 countries that began in London on the 5th October 2011 and finished in New Zealand over 2 ½ years later.

This journey tested Jeremy both mentally and physically as he came to grips with his epic challenge. Temperatures ranged from -20 degrees Celsius in the mountains of Eastern Turkey to over 50 degrees in the Taklamakan Desert, West China.

With no support crew Jeremy carried absolutely everything he needed to survive in these incredibly harsh environments. At times the loaded bike weighed in excess of 65 kilos.

Encounters with both the Iranian and Filipino Mafia left Jeremy fearing for his life and in one case, feeling he would need to kill three men if he was to see the light of day. He was also robbed in Cambodia and had to fight an Uzbek shepherd who tried to steal his camera as Jeremy went to offer him food. Each and every sandstorm, typhoon, mountain or desert Jeremy encountered and conquered only made him that little bit stronger.

A chance encounter in Vietnam really opened Jeremy's eyes to how fortunate he had been in life and how others tragic losses had a profound influence on his own destiny. He learnt that many people were not as fortunate as he had been while he also discovered his personal journey had inspired many families with loved ones currently awaiting open heart surgery.

While Jeremy was fortunate enough to visit some of the remotest and most breathtaking places on earth, it was the people he met who shall forever warm his heart. Time and time again Jeremy was left overwhelmed by the incredible acts of kindness offered by complete strangers from all different ethnic races and religions. The hospitality and unbelievable generosity he received in countries like Iran will completely destroy so many Westerners horribly inaccurate preconceptions of the country and Islam. That alone is an incredibly powerful message that many people need to hear.

While this beautiful story of self-discovery will leave you feeling genuinely inspired, Jeremy's stunning photographs from the road will render you speechless. The Long Road From A Broken Heart is not only a story about life in the saddle, it is a beautiful example of what someone can achieve if they believe in themselves and have the courage to chase their dreams.

Jeremy raised money and awareness for the Australian, New Zealand and British Heart Foundations during his epic journey and will continue to support these incredible charities through the sales of his first book "The Long Road From A Broken Heart"