



Philip Pain awakes from coma in Mexico

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by Katie Lamborn

A Kent student who has been in a coma in Mexico since falling from a hotel balcony on New Year's Eve has woken up.

Philip Pain, 20, a former Dartford Grammar School pupil, has undergone many operations at the Sharp hospital in Mazatlan after falling seven floors.

Philip's family say his life has been saved by donors with his rare type-O negative blood coming forward.

An international facebook campaign spearheaded by Philip's brother and sister, Lawrence and Stephanie, led to offers of help from Mexico and the UK.

Philip's parents, Neil and Sally, recently updated the facebook group.

They wrote: "Another momentous day. Today he was able to touch his nose and has spoken loud enough to be heard on Skype."

The University of Southampton student, who is in Mexico as part of his Spanish course, is expected to have his big toe removed.

"At the end of the day," wrote his parents, "to lose a toe after such an accident will be a small price to pay."

Speaking to Kent Online, Philip's brother Lawrence said: "He can't remember anything about what happened."

"My mum and dad were asking him what the last thing he remembered was. He said it was sitting by the pool during the day."

The family have been touched by continuing offers of help.

"It's really been overwhelming," said Lawrence.

"Someone's given my parents a flat to stay in in Mexico and meals are being brought to them in the hospital."

Lawrence says he is so grateful to every single person who has offered to donate blood.

"Please keep giving blood," he said.

"As Phil has shown, it really can save lives."

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