



## **A brave humanitarian: Tom Hurndall remembered 20 years on**

**11 April 2023**

Tom Hurndall was 21-years-old when, twenty years ago today, he was shot in the head while trying to rescue a small child in Gaza. Tom lay in a coma for eight months, until his passing on 13 January 2004.

Tom is an enduring inspiration for all of us. So too is Tom's mother, Jocelyn, who is always incredibly encouraging, perceptive, kind, incisive and caring. We are extremely grateful to have her truly inspiring support as a Trustee of LPHR.<sup>1</sup>

Twenty years on, we acutely know that Gaza is still a small piece of occupied territory in this world - now subject to an intensive closure for the past fifteen years - where children are at substantial risk of grave harm. Many hundreds of children have been killed in Gaza, and across Palestine, in the two decades since Tom was killed.

Tom's profound courage to rescue a young child whilst putting his own life in danger, reminds us that we must do all we can to soon reach a time when children in Palestine no longer need to fear being killed by a soldier's live-fire or a military bombardment.

We must strive to rapidly reach a time when a child in Palestine no longer needs to be rescued by a brave humanitarian.

In honour of Tom, and all young lives lost far too soon, we will seek to do all we can - together with others - to accomplish this.

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<sup>1</sup> [LPHR](#) is a lawyer-based legal charity in the United Kingdom that works on projects aimed at protecting and promoting Palestinian human rights.