



KING_{of} HEARTS

THE CHRIS BARNARD STORY

Introduction

Whether it was the first steps of Neil Armstrong on the moon or the final steps of Sir Edmund Hillary on Mount Everest, humans have had to step forward into uncertainty in order to make significant advancements. In the field of medicine, one man stands above all others at that beacon of fearless leadership and progress, Prof. Chris Barnard.

In 1967, at a time of significant changes in the West, Barnard would step forward to achieve the impossible, performing the world's first ever human heart transplant. This accomplishment would thrust Barnard into the world's spotlight, turning him into an overnight celebrity and placing him on magazine covers, panel shows, and newspapers around the world.

Gifted with charisma, intelligence, and tenacity the King of Hearts follows Barnard's adventure from a young and ambitious country boy to a household name. Our story follows Barnard as he completes his PhD in record time, stands alone against the slow moving and backward thinking institutions, suffers obstacles in his personal and professional life, performs the now famous operation and is admitted to the celebrity jetset of the 1960's, culminating in his ultimate downfall in endorsing questionable quasi-medical drugs and the end of his third marriage

3 December 2017 marks the **50th** anniversary of this magnificent event. Follow us as we celebrate and explore a life of ups, downs, victories, and losses.

OUR ASSURANCE COMMITMENT
TABLE FANS
BUILT TO LAST
FREE DELIVERY
FREE SERVICE
FREE REPAIRS
FREE REPLACEMENTS

Daily Mail

ARANDSBURG, MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1967

FIRST HEART TRANSPLANT

World triumph for team of South African surgeons

From JOHN TERRY

CAPE TOWN. A TEAM of University of Cape Town surgeons made medical history today yesterday morning by successfully performing the world's first human heart transplant at Groote Schuur Hospital. In five drama-packed hours, the heart of a 25-year-old woman who had just died was transplanted into a 56-year-old business man, aged 55.

The surgical moment on the highly-televised operation, watched closely by 10,000 people, when the donor's heart was given, was a moment of a second of silence, as the heart was placed in the recipient's chest.

The donor was Mrs. Sheila Ann Smith, of Grahamstown, who died of a heart attack, after a long illness, at the age of 25.

The donor was Mrs. Sheila Ann Smith, of Grahamstown, who died of a heart attack, after a long illness, at the age of 25.

Dead girl gave her kidneys as well

3

She gave...

He received

They stopped to buy cake: then came tragedy—and triumph

From JOHN TERRY

CAPE TOWN—A dramatic step to live a new life in the death of a mother and daughter, done in private at Groote Schuur Hospital, was a triumph in medical history.

The donor was Mrs. Sheila Ann Smith, of Grahamstown, who died of a heart attack, after a long illness, at the age of 25.

The donor was Mrs. Sheila Ann Smith, of Grahamstown, who died of a heart attack, after a long illness, at the age of 25.



Story

Early Life

What makes the story of the most celebrated medical professional of the 20th century so compelling is his constant perseverance regardless of his circumstances. While the required time period for the completion of a PhD in Medicine is 6 years, Barnard completed his in 2 years. Born in the rural town of Beaufort West to a poor family, Barnard did not wear shoes to school and was often the subject of torment by the local children. We investigate his youth and how the early death of his brother from a heart disease would mould a man to change the world.



The Transplant

The first heart transplant changed the world forever. What had once been the subject of science fiction, the idea of a heart transplant was something few had ever dreamed of. The road to the first transplant brought about challenges, legal barriers, ethical questions, medical obstacles, and a world not yet prepared for this event. In a 1960's framed by the space race, the civil rights movement, and female empowerment we investigate how Prof. Barnard navigated through the many challenges before him and go into the original theatre room to get a blow by blow recount of what took place on that famous night.



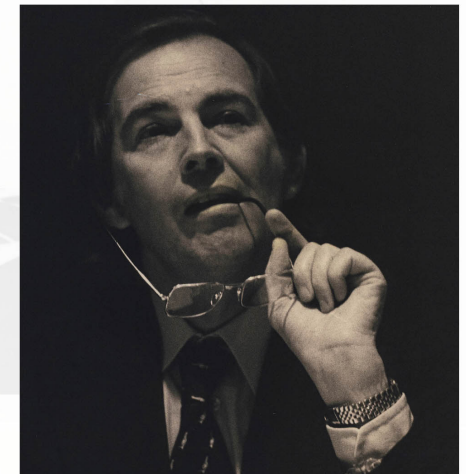
Fame

In what has been called the most widely publicised medical event of the 20th Century, Prof. Barnard became a household name overnight. With his newfound fame he found himself on the cover of Time Magazine, the guest of talk shows, and the focus of weekly tabloids. Prof. Barnard's good looks and infectious charm, added to his newfound celebrity, allowed him to be inducted as one of the 1960's jetset and linked him to celebrities such as Sophia Loren, Princess Diana, and Gina Lollobrigida. It was during this time that his first marriage ended, however, he was soon married to the young heiress Barbara Zoellner who was 28 years his junior. We follow Prof. Barnard's story as he moves from an unknown doctor born and raised in the countryside, to a world figure, who is swamped by the media wherever he goes.



Late Life

Prof. Barnard's late life is a sad tale. His craving for fame ended his second marriage as it did his first. Slowly, and over time, the legend of the greatest medical professional of the 20th century became tarnished as he endorsed questionable products which claimed to extend the users life. Making one last attempt at rekindling his fame, Prof. Barnard approached an agent to raise his social profile once more and bring him back into the limelight. For a moment he rekindled his fame and began his third marriage to a young model nearly 50 years his junior. Unfortunately this resurgence would not last as his young wife would soon leave him for another man. Old, and at the end of his life he reflected on his life. We speak to a close family friend who tells us of the last days with Prof. Barnard before he bought a one way ticket to Greece where he was later found dead beside a pool.



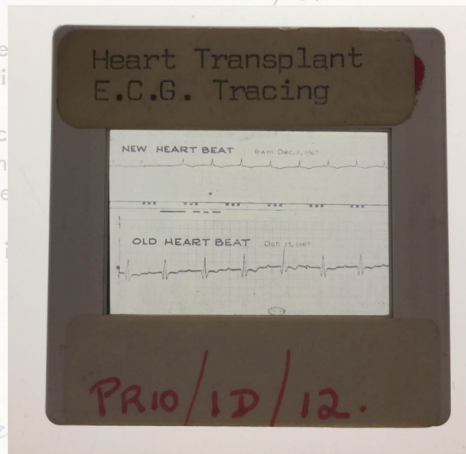
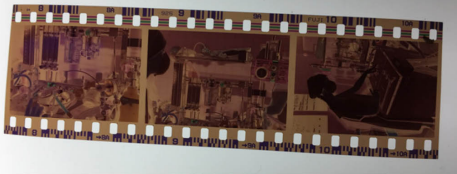


Access

1st March 1976.

By working in partnership with the Groote Schuur Hospital Museum we have gained access to archive video reels, photographic negatives, and projector slides. Our investigation has unearthed previously unseen footage which has been digitised specially to commemorate the 50th anniversary and for placement within our documentary.

Prof. C. Barnard,
Cardiac Department,
Groote Schuur Hospital,



List of Interviews

Room 274

Key Interviews

Deirdre Visser: First Child of Prof. Barnard, 16 at time of the operation, has significant insight into the marriage relationship, the fame, and the divorce.

Don Mackenzie: Prof. Barnard's friend and personal photographer, travelled extensively with him and together met the Pope, Sophia Loren, Princess Diana and many more.

Baylon Sandri: Family friend who spent Chris' last night in South Africa before he died, has significant insight into his last days alive.

Dr. Moss: Only Doctor still alive who was present in the Donor theatre on 3 December 1967, studied with Chris at UCT and knew him well.

Dene Friedman: Only Per fusionist still alive who was present in the Recipient theatre on 3 December 1967 and family friend of the Barnard family.

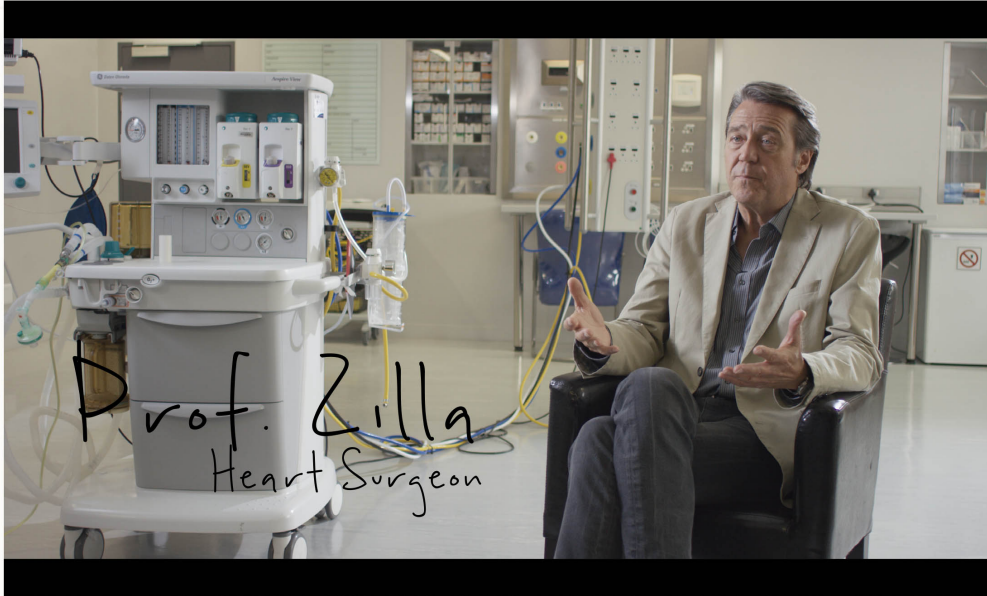
Sister Tollie Lambrechts: Only nurse still alive who was present in the Recipient theatre on 3 December 1967.

Prof. Peter Zilla: Heart Surgeon and Head of the Chris Barnard Division of Cardiothoracic Surgery at Groote Schuur Hospital

Michael Lee: Author of the biography of Prof. Barnard, Heartbeat.

Christine Anne: Historian at Groote Schuur Hospital Museum specialising in Prof. Barnard and the first heart transplant.





Argentina. But I hope - since German postal service is
lightly better than the Italian one - my best wishes for
your birthday will be just a little late, since it's im-



19 December
1967.



Specs

- 2 - (L.Sordillo to G.Barnard, 5.11.1975)

Delivery:

Running Time: 58 minutes

Delivery Date: 31 October 2017

Recommended Air Date: 50th Anniversary of the First Heart Transplant - **3 December 2017**

We relive the past in glorious 4K resolution. Our material has been captured using some of the best cinema cameras and lenses on the market. Unseen Film Archives have been blown up and captured onto our 4K timelines.

Camera: RED DRAGON

Format: REDCODE RAW (R3D)

FPS: 25

Aspect Ratio: 16/9

Resolution: 4K (4096 x 2160)

Sincerely yours



8 photographs

Production Company:

(L.Sordillo to G.Barnard, 5.11.1975)



Welela Studios is a Cape Town based international award winning production company which has been in existence for near to 30 years. In this time Welela has produced 15 separate television series comprising of more than 400 episodes including local versions of BBC's What Not To Wear and Eyework's Test the Nation. Welela has also, through its conduit company Karoo Pictures, been at the helm of the new wave of feature films which are being shot in Cape Town. This activity has seen the successful production of 16 feature films which have sold locally and internationally in more than 50 territories worldwide, including the much acclaimed Seun as directed by Academy Award Nominated Daryl James Roodt.

Local clients include MNET, DSTV, and SABC with international clients including BBC, Netflix, Amazon and more. Local distribution has been handled via Times Media, Indigenous Films and Black-sheep with international distributors including Kaleidoscope Film Distribution (UK), eONE (USA), and Pandastorm Pictures (Germany). Film Freeway is our registered as the international collection agency.

Contact:

Sales:

Canoe Film / Caroline Stern / caroline@canoe.film

8 photographs



KING^{of} HEARTS

The Chris Barnard Story