



Throat Cancer Foundation

PRESS RELEASE ** EMBARGO IMMEDIATE *****

International jewellery designer to royalty and celebrities, Shaun Leane has become an ambassador to the Throat Cancer Foundation after supporting his father through his own personal throat cancer battle

The Throat Cancer Foundation is delighted to announce that internationally award-winning jewellery designer Shaun Leane has joined the organisation as an ambassador.

The critically acclaimed jeweller, whose work is favoured by everyone from royalty such as The Duchess of Sussex and The Duchess of Cambridge, through to famous celebrities, including Elton John and Emma Watson, will be helping to raise the Throat Cancer Foundation's profile into global consciousness after his father Jimmy Anthony Leane, 70, recently went through throat cancer treatment and was given the all clear.

The Throat Cancer Foundation is an organisation which invests in medical and scientific research programmes with the aim of getting improved treatment processes and better survival rates.

Leane, who helped with the design of Princess Beatrice's engagement ring, said: "I was honoured to be asked to be an ambassador for the Foundation. I am keen to contribute through my own experience and give support to the work of the Foundation that brings support, awareness, knowledge and a world of expertise to help combat this deadly illness.

"When my father was diagnosed with Throat Cancer in December 2018, the University College Hospital London (UCLH) Macmillan Centre's action was amazingly fast, albeit a whirlwind, of doctors, speech therapists, dieticians and surgeons.

"This was followed by an array of instructions, procedures and medications. Our lives were turned upside down, there so many advisors and they were all incredibly supportive, but it was also very daunting at a time of fear, worry and uncertainty."

During his own research into his father's illness, Shaun reached out to the Throat Cancer Foundation's chief executive Jamie Rae, who has also had his own personal experience with throat cancer like Shaun's father.

Following Jamie's treatment and recovery in 2012, he was so concerned by the lack of resources and support available to people facing throat cancers that he established the Foundation to provide what was missing: information and reassurance for those dealing with the disease.

Leane continued: "I came across the Throat Cancer Foundation and learnt that the founder Jamie Rae was a survivor of throat cancer, so my reaction was to reach out and speak to someone who had experienced this terrible illness.

"Jamie shared his experience and knowledge with me and my father and gave us a sense of process, direction and most of all hope, in a turbulent time.

"He opened doors to additional advice and support from world renowned throat cancer experts. The Foundation was beside us for the entire journey of my father's treatment and to this day, his recovery.

"Alongside the excellent treatment and care from the UCLH, the Foundation was an essential resource to us and to whom I will be eternally grateful."

Celebrated world-wide for his work that pushes the boundaries of contemporary design, Leane began his career training at the bench in London's jewellery quarter, Hatton Garden.

While working as a goldsmith, he began a long-standing collaboration with the late Alexander McQueen, creating provocative catwalk jewels that have become iconic milestones in the art of couture jewellery.

He has also worked with leading worldwide fashion and jewellery brands such as Givenchy and De Beers amongst others.

His jewellery has been acquired for the permanent collections of the [Metropolitan Museum of Art](#) in New York and the [Victoria and Albert Museum](#) in London.

The Throat Cancer Foundation is dedicated to reducing the impact of throat cancers on individuals and wider society. It offers support, and aims to ensure that anyone affected, including the person who has cancer, their friends, and their loved ones, has access to the most up to date information available regarding their illness, the best possible treatments, and what to expect in recovery.

In 2018, TCF spearheaded and won a nationwide campaign to have boys vaccinated against the human papillomavirus (HPV) which at the time, had only been accessible to girls and reducing the risk for them of developing HPV related cancers. Extending the equitable vaccination programme allowed around 400,000 teenage boys a year to be protected too.

Jamie Rae, chief executive of the Throat Cancer Foundation, commented: “We are delighted to announce multi award winning jewellery designer Shaun Leane as part of our ambassadorial team.

“It’s fantastic to have such an inspiring influential and international figure come on board and to speak about his own experience of having a parent with throat cancer, and the impact this has not just on the sufferer but also on their loved ones too.

“With his help, we can do more to support those living with head and neck cancers and to promote a gold standard of health care across all levels of a patient’s treatment.”

Editor’s Notes: About – Throat Cancer Foundation:

The Throat Cancer Foundation was founded in 2012 by oropharyngeal cancer survivor Jamie Rae. Following his treatment and recovery, Jamie was concerned by the lack of resources and support available to people facing throat cancers and established the charity to provide what was missing: information and reassurance for those dealing with throat cancers.

The charity is dedicated to reducing the impact of throat cancers on individuals and wider society. It offers support, and aims to ensure that anyone affected, including the person who has cancer, their friends, and their loved ones, has access to the most up to date information available regarding their illness, the available treatments, and what to expect in recovery.

The foundation’s work is guided by a team of leading cancer experts and consultants working in the research and treatment of head and neck cancers. The Throat Cancer Foundation is also a founding member of HPV Action, which is a collaborative partnership of 50 patient and professional organisations that are working to reduce the health burden of HPV.

Website – www.throatcancerfoundation.org