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Media Release

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Montgomery twins turn two

Premature twins Milly-Rose and Lachlan Montgomery turn two today after being born at the Royal Women's Hospital in September 2009 at just 24 weeks.

Born 16 weeks early, with their eyes fused shut in an emergency caesarean at the Women's the twins have defied the odds and are thriving.

The Montgomery's paediatrician, Dr Sheryle Rogerson who has 25 years experience said that when babies are born so early they are not expected to reach mile stones at the same time as other babies, but the Montgomery twins are very much on track.

"Lachlan weighed just 622 grams and Milly-Rose just 545 grams when born. It is amazing they survived and are doing so well," Dr Rogerson said.

"On day eight, Milly-Rose's bowel perforated and Lachlan had severe respiratory problems."

"It really is a great outcome for this family. About 1:1000 babies are born at 24 weeks and of those about a third are twins. Generally if your child is born at 24 weeks you will be in hospital at least 16 weeks. "

The twins stayed in hospital some 200 days in hospital before going home finally in March 2010.

Dr Rogerson said premature babies are followed quite closely to ensure they are progressing as they ought and to identify any subtle issues early and provide extra support.

Mum Meaghan Montgomery said the hospital became like a second home.

"We felt as though we lived there. But I feel so lucky seeing how far they have come, watching the twins run around," Meaghan said.

Meaghan said it is amazing how well the twins are developing and that she, her husband Alex and the twins still come into the Women's to visit with staff who looked after the Lachlan and Milly-Rose.

"We spent so many days here, and it was so intensive that we got to know the staff really well and we like to come in and visit to keep up that connection," she said.

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