

Driven to help unit



SUPPORT: Fiona Castle chats to consultant Alexander Taylor during a tour of the women's health unit ID: 10084093

Accident

A FATHER was injured after his car was involved in a collision with a van carrying a young child. The incident occurred on People Carrier Close, near the Leuroyd Road, Heath, Poole, on Thursday. The van stopped and the driver was arrested. Police are appealing for a woman to come forward with information on 01202 222222.

By Julie Magee

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LAUNCH: Fiona Castle, centre, with staff and children from Tops Day Nursery and the car that is being raffled for the appeal ID: 10084043

A NEW appeal to transform the Royal Bournemouth Hospital's women's unit is a cause so close to Fiona Castle's heart that she agreed to be a patron.

Fiona, who lost her husband Roy to cancer, launched the £1.5 million Jigsaw appeal on Thursday along with children from Tops nursery, who helped unveil a car which will be raffled to boost the charity's coffers.

She said she felt honoured to be involved in the appeal, adding: "What is about to be done here is absolutely fantastic. The sooner this unit gets transformed, the better."

"I've had the privilege of benefiting from wonderful NHS support - that is why I'm involved today."

Two consultants on the women's health unit are leading the way in the fund-raising drive, with breast consultant Dexter Perry running his first London Marathon next month and gynaecology and obstetrics consultant

Alexander Taylor tackling a challenging trek in Egypt in October.

Breast surgery, gynaecological surgery, early pregnancy clinics and hormone replacements clinics are just some of the services that women will benefit from at the new state-of-the-art unit where they can be seen and treated.

In a rallying call to supporters, Jigsaw appeal committee chairman Robin Scott said: "This is an historic, memorable and special moment, giving the green light to this major appeal. This our hospital, it belongs to us and we want to make it even better."

Children from Tops day nursery, on the hospital site, handed Mr Scott £17 they had raised from baking pink cakes. Thursday night saw the first official fund-raising event - a sell-out fashion show at the Captain's Club Hotel in Christchurch.

Strictly Come Dancing star Karen Hardy from Bournemouth, who had ear cancer, has also agreed to become a Jigsaw patron.

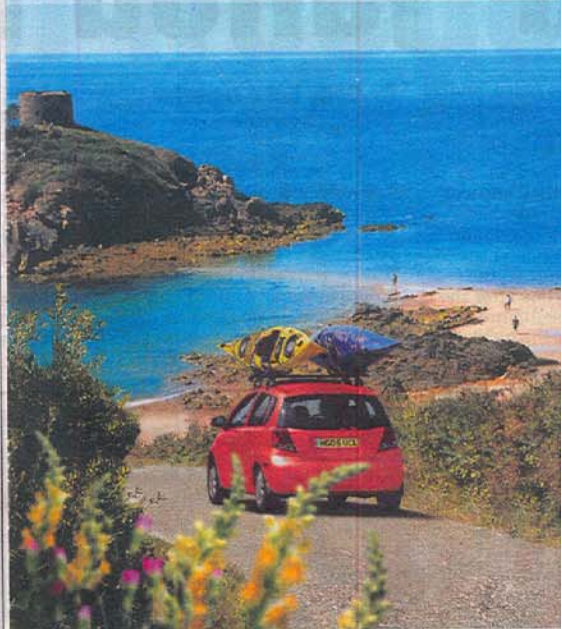


FACT-FINDING: Fiona Castle meets some of the nurses working at the unit Pictures: Sally Adams ID: 10084054

For further information about the appeal phone 01202 704060 or visit jigsawappeal.org.uk

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