

# Thank you ...

... to everyone who has supported the Appeal in recent months. There are too many to name individually but below are just some of our fantastic supporters.



Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas Raffle, which raised over £23,000. Pictured are lucky winners Mr & Mrs Williams from Amesbury, collecting their brand new Kia Picanto from F J Chalke.



Over 120 auction items, hundreds of bidders, plus volunteers, readers and listeners helped raise a record-breaking £18,028 in the All Day Auction with Spire FM and the Salisbury Journal in aid of the Caring 4 Kids campaign.



Around 500 brave bears took to the skies on April 24th in this year's Teddy Bear Parachuting at Salisbury Cathedral. With support from their friends and families and from event sponsor Wilton Wholefoods, we raised over £13,000!



Rowanmoor Pensions, Enterprise rent-a-car, Amesbury Baby Centre, Roses of Salisbury, BBC Radio Wiltshire, Shape Financial Ltd, JAS Hair, Fritham Free Church, Provincial Grand Lodge of Wiltshire, The Porton Hotel, Shaston Social Club, Gillingham Town Twinning Association, Test Valley Brass, Rotary Club of Blandford, Rotary Club of Shaftesbury, Rotary Club of Salisbury, Colton Dancing Academy, Wilton Wholefoods, Funky Moose Ltd, South Wilts Charity Cup Competition, The Swan@Stoford, The Black Dog Inn, Dun Valley Singers, Club Rouge, The White Rooms, The Old Ale House, Anna Barrett, James Fuller, Coach House Day Nursery, Ringwood School, 22 Engineer Regiment, 32 Regiment RA WKSP, Sharkies Bar Laverstock & Ford Downland & Watermeadows Trust, Figheldean & District Working Men's Club.

We are very grateful to all our supporters big and small and try to mention as many as possible in our newsletter. Please do let us know if you would like your support featured on this page.



If your details are incorrect or you would prefer not to receive our newsletter in future, please let us know.

# STARS APPEAL NEWS

## Fundraising News from Salisbury District Hospital



President: The Earl of Pembroke  
Patrons: Nick Holmes, Stephen Mangan, Lord Marland of Odstock, Julian Rhind-Tutt, Lord Sharman, Johnnie Walker MBE

## CAMPAIGN WILL SUPPORT THE FAMILIES OF POORLY BABIES LIKE DARA

Thanks to our generous supporters, we're making good progress towards our £500,000 target for Phase 2 of the Caring 4 Kids campaign.



One of the projects we aim to fund through this campaign is the building and equipping of a family accommodation unit to complement the new Special Care Baby Unit (NICU) being funded by the NHS. Parents will be able to stay close to their new baby, rather than face journeys to and from hospital of up to 30 miles.

### Emer, mum to baby Dara, tells us about their experience of NICU, and how the family unit will help new parents.

"Dara was born five weeks early. She had breathing difficulties at birth and had trouble regulating her own heat. So we found ourselves going from the delivery suite, where we had met our beautiful pink baby, to NICU where she was placed in an incubator. I could hardly believe that my precious beautiful baby was covered in tubes and lines and was lying in a plastic box where I couldn't hold her.

We were allowed to take Dara out of the incubator for about one hour a day for the first week. Those hours were very precious, and the cuddles were unforgettable. That's when everything felt ok. Putting her back in again was very difficult. Also difficult was the fact that I was sleeping in a separate ward. And it felt very far away. If I couldn't hold her, I wanted simply to be with her so that we could get to know each other.

When you have a baby on NICU there are inevitably some tough days. When you're worried about your baby you feel so alone. Nothing anybody says can really reach you and all you want is to see some improvement in your baby. Seeing your baby in pain and distress and not being able to help is very stressful. These are hard days, days when you need all the comfort and support you can get, from your spouse, from friends, from the medical staff.

A huge factor in our experience of NICU was that my husband Brian was making a 50-mile round-trip every day to be with Dara and myself. Brian did his absolute best, but he simply couldn't be there

all the time, and we needed him. So Dara and I faced some of these difficult times alone. My only focus was Dara's care and well-being, but being so tired and stressed from the worry of the whole experience, I needed support too. It was very lonely and very frightening.

A family unit would address this need and would allow for family support for the mums and babies in NICU - a godsend, and much needed. It is tough enough at the best of times to have a baby on NICU, and these exhausted, stressed-out, frightened and bewildered mums need all the support they can get."

## Caring 4 Kids campaign



Mum Emer and baby Dara in NICU and recently



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The Stars Appeal raises money to create the best possible experience for the 300,000 people who rely on Salisbury District Hospital. It funds extra care and equipment over and above that provided by the NHS. The Appeal raises funds for all wards and departments as well as major projects.

Very special thanks to our media partners Salisbury Journal for their continued support. Visit www.salisburyjournal.co.uk for all the latest Appeal news.



## Building Starts on the New Children's Unit

Building work on the new Children's Unit started in January. The work involves major internal redevelopment within the main hospital. When completed in December 2010, children's services will move from their current wartime buildings into first-class modern facilities located close to the hospital's main entrance.

The £1 million raised through Phase 1 of the Caring 4 Kids campaign will fund additional facilities in the new unit including parents' accommodation, home from home rooms, therapy facilities for children with disabilities, indoor and outdoor play areas, and a more child-focused environment. Huge thanks to everyone who helped to make this possible!

*Pictured right: Stars Appeal President Lord Pembroke and Appeal Chair Lisa Stratton mark the start of building work for the new Children's Unit with children who have received care at the hospital.*



## Take a look at what Phase 2 of our Caring 4 Kids campaign will fund

*Families will be able to stay close to their babies in the new NICU family accommodation unit. Pictured is an artist's impression of how the new unit might look.*

**Planning for the dedicated children's area in the Accident & Emergency department and the NICU family unit is well underway.**



The family unit will be created in the old NICU building once NICU has moved to its new bigger home next door. Plans include en-suite bedrooms so that parents and siblings can stay close to their new babies, a quiet room and a playroom plus kitchen and communal dining area. The family unit will link to the new NICU by a purpose-built corridor and will accommodate up to four families at a time.

The new children's area in Accident & Emergency is part of the complete redevelopment of the department. It will contain a separate family waiting area with play equipment and child-friendly treatment bays. The aim is to reduce the stress of a visit to A&E. Over 9,000 children a year, plus their families, will benefit from the improved facilities.

Please continue to support Phase 2 of the Caring 4 Kids campaign, which aims to raise £500,000 by spring 2011.



*A multi-sensory room similar to the one Anna's Room will fund in the new Children's Unit.*

## New Multi-Sensory Room to be donated by Anna's Room

**Anna's Room** is a charity that aims to equip and maintain sensory environments, all of which will be called Anna's Room. We are very proud that Salisbury District Hospital will have the first ever Anna's Room, opening as part of the new Children's Unit at the end of 2010. The room will contain special equipment for use by therapists to help children with disabilities.



## Stroke Unit Thanks Stars Appeal Supporters

**The Stars Appeal raises money for all wards and departments at Salisbury District Hospital. Donations for each specific area go into a dedicated fund, and staff from that department decide how to spend the money available.**



Dr David Walters, Head of Service in Stroke Care, explains the difference that donations to the Stars Appeal Stroke Unit Fund have made in his department.

*"Stroke disease is the third commonest cause of death in the United Kingdom and the major cause of disability. Surprisingly, until recently, stroke medicine has had a low profile and has attracted little attention in the wider community. Times have changed and 'The National Stroke Strategy' has very much highlighted the importance of this common disorder, which can affect anyone including children.*

*At Salisbury District Hospital we have recently opened a 30-bedded stroke unit in the acute area of the hospital, offering a dedicated team of doctors, nurses and therapists. This allows us to offer a timely and appropriate service to stroke patients. However, it is often the smaller requirements on the ward that mean so much to patients and their families. No hospital can offer every piece of equipment that a patient may find useful and the Stars Appeal has enabled us to buy those very items that do make a difference to quality of life including:*

- a therapy plinth to enable specialist rehabilitation on the unit
- a purpose-designed wheelchair for patients who have no sitting balance
- additional wheelchairs for families who wish to take their relatives on day trips
- a state-of-the-art television for the day room
- a special couch to examine outpatients.

*In addition, training and education for all staff is important and the fund has enabled therapists and nurses to go on educational courses to further improve stroke care for the south Wiltshire area and beyond.*

*I, on behalf of all my team, thank you all for your very generous support which truly has made a difference. In return we will do our best to ensure that you have the best possible stroke care in your community. Once again, a very big thank you."*

*David Walters*



**Dr David Walters, Head of Service, Stroke Care**

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Dr David Walters, Head of Service, Stroke Care

Coming up ...



**Walk for Wards**  
Over 800 walkers have already registered for Walk for Wards. It's on **Sunday 20 June** at Wilton House, supported by Wilts & Dorset. There's still time to register online at [www.starsappeal.org](http://www.starsappeal.org) before 13 June.



**Supercars at Wilton House**  
Get up close and personal with up to 100 of the world's fastest and most expensive cars at Wilton House on **Saturday 14 August**.



**Rockbourne Fair**  
Start your Christmas shopping early at the 22nd Rockbourne Fair at Salisbury Racecourse from **Wednesday 20th - Friday 22nd October**.



We have bonded places in events including the **Great South Run on October 24th**. Contact Hannah at the Stars Appeal Office for more information. Watch out for news on this year's Tidworth 10k at [www.starsappeal.org](http://www.starsappeal.org).



Brian Dalton, the 750th Mayor of the City of Salisbury, has chosen the Stars Appeal as his Mayoral charity. He will focus on raising funds towards the NICU family unit and will host a range of fun activities and events throughout the year. Keep an eye on [www.starsappeal.org](http://www.starsappeal.org) for more information.