PRESS RELEASE  
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Rotherham family urge women to take up mammogram invitation

A mother and daughter from Kimberworth have teamed up with Rotherham General Hospital to help promote the importance of breast screening to women across Rotherham.

62-year old Pat Mann and her 32-year old daughter Kaye, responded to an appeal by the NHS Trust for local women to come forward and volunteer to be local champions for breast screening and join the other champions from Barnsley, Bassetlaw, Doncaster and Sheffield.

Pat first went for screening for breast cancer when she was 53, but wasn’t initially going to go for her mammogram as she ‘didn’t realise the importance of it’.

Fortunately she did attend, and her mammogram revealed a cancerous mass that saw her treated for the disease. Pat beat cancer and now, eight years later, wants to encourage women across Rotherham to take up their screening invitation.

“Initially I wasn’t going to go because I was going on holiday and had lots to do. I didn’t really realise the importance of it and it was actually my husband Harry who persuaded me to go.

“I am obviously now very glad that I did go. The mammogram was quick and nothing to be afraid of so I would urge every woman who receives an invitation to just go because you never know. I feel it has saved my life.”

Pat’s daughter, Kaye Mann volunteered to be a screening champion, as she knows first-hand the impact that a breast cancer diagnosis can have on not just the sufferer herself, but also her family and friends. Kaye has also recruited 23 month old son Henry to help.

“If it wasn’t for breast screening my mum might not be here today and she might not have met her grandson. Breast screening is very important. We all have busy lives but we need to make time for something as important as this and there really is no reason not to have it done.

Breast cancer screening is currently available to women aged 50 to 70 years and Rotherham General Hospital is urging eligible women across Rotherham to make the time to attend their screening appointment when they receive their invitation every three years.
Faye Drabble Superintendent Radiographer at Rotherham General Hospital said “We are committed to providing first class care for our patients, and I am urging all Rotherham ladies to attend their breast screening appointment whenever they receive an invitation.

“If they can’t make the appointment offered, they can contact us and it can be easily re-arranged. Screening for breast cancer saves lives. Early diagnosis and prompt treatment remain the most effective way to reduce the impact of breast cancer. Early detection offers a better chance of successful treatment and full recovery.”

If you have missed your last breast screening appointment or haven’t been screened within the last three years you can telephone the Rotherham Breast Screening Unit on 01709 424807 to make an appointment.

Photograph- L-R: Pat Mann, Kaye Mann and Henry Thomas-Mann

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For media enquiries, please contact Communications on 01302 647020.

Notes to editors:
We provide a wide range of health services to a population of around 420,000 at our three hospitals (Bassetlaw Hospital in Worksop, Doncaster Royal Infirmary, and Montagu Hospital, Mexborough) and community locations including Retford Hospital and Chequer Road Clinic.

In 2012/13 we had a turnover of £342m and 172,236 people attended our hospitals for emergency care, 51,528 of whom were admitted to a ward. We also delivered 5,310 babies and treated 43,174 patients as planned day cases, 9,969 patients having planned inpatient care, and 486,477 outpatients (including maternity but excluding clinical therapies).

As one of the first 10 NHS foundation trusts in the country, we really value the relationship we have with our members. Membership is free and open to all residents of Bassetlaw and Doncaster, and all patients from outside these areas, over the age of 16. Contact our Membership Office on 01302 381355 or email foundation.office@dbh.nhs.uk to find out more about membership or to join.