

BUSH & TROY URGE PEOPLE TO TUNE INTO 'BRISTOL'S BIG GIVE'

Three days to make a difference

GWR Bristol radio presenters Bush and Troy are urging people in the area to tune into *Bristol's Big Give* this December and get a unique insight into life behind the scenes at Bristol Children's Hospital, part of University Hospitals Bristol, as families, young patients and staff tell their heartfelt stories.

The ground-breaking three day radio broadcast is a joint initiative run by Bristol Children's Hospital charity, the Grand Appeal, UH Bristol and local radio station GWR Bristol that aims to raise tens of thousands of pounds to help sick children treated at the hospital.

Hosted live at the hospital on the 11th, 12th and 13th December by GWR Bristol presenters, led by The Bush and Troy Show, *Bristol's Big Give* will be on air from 6am to 6pm on Thursday 11th and Friday 12th December and from 8am to 2pm on the Saturday.

Based on a model by leading American charity Children's Miracle Network, which has raised millions for hospitals in the US, the Grand Appeal, has been chosen to pioneer the idea in England.

Anna Shepherd, deputy director at the Grand Appeal, said: "This is the first fundraising event of its kind to be held in England and a great chance for people in Bristol to hear a wide range of compelling stories that make up life at the Children's Hospital. Everyone is dedicated to making the broadcast a huge success, from families telling their heartfelt stories for the first time to hospital staff and volunteers keen to share their experiences."

GWR Bristol presenters Bush and Troy, added: "All of us at GWR Bristol are very excited to be involved in such a ground-breaking event. *Bristol's Big Give* will provide a real understanding of the vital work carried out at Bristol Children's Hospital as well as encouraging listeners to make a difference by tuning in over the three days."

"We are delighted that GWR Bristol is supporting the Children's Hospital with this fantastic three day broadcast, over 1,400 staff work in the Children's Hospital day in day out caring for over 15,000 in-patients each year. It's going to be a great event, as we look forward to sharing the amazing stories from inside this very special hospital," said Dr Graham Rich, Chief Executive of the Trust.

To hear the difference three days of giving can make to the care of thousands of sick children, tune into GWR Bristol on the 11th, 12th and 13th of December.

For more information about *Bristol's Big Give*, contact the Grand Appeal on 0117 927 3888 or visit the websites at www.bristolsbiggive.org.uk or www.gwrfmbristol.co.uk.

Bristol's Big Give is supported by leading American charity Children's Miracle Network and international financial services organisation, Foresters.

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For further information please contact:

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Anna Shepherd at The Grand Appeal on (0117) 927 3888

Notes to editor

The Royal Hospital for Children in Bristol and The Grand Appeal

1. The Royal Hospital for Children in Bristol, part of University Hospitals Bristol, treats children from across the region with life-threatening illnesses and serves as the paediatric intensive care centre for the whole region.
2. Since its launch in 1997, Wallace & Gromit's Grand Appeal raised £12 million towards the building of the UK's first purpose-built children's hospital which opened in April 2001. Subsequently the Appeal has raised over £4 million to enrich and support the lives of patients and their families at the Hospital

GWR Bristol

GWR Bristol is on frequency 96.3FM

Children's Miracle Network

1. Children's Miracle Network is one of the USA's leading children's charities and as a non-profit organisation raises funds for a network of 170 children's hospitals throughout North America.
2. Founded in 1983, Children's Miracle Network has its headquarters in Salt Lake City, Utah and is dedicated to improving the health of children by raising funds to provide specialist medical care, life-saving research and preventative education.
3. The organisation helps 17 million sick children a year and to date has raised more than 3 billion dollars.
4. For more information, visit www.childrensmiracletnetwork.org (US) or www.childrensmiracletnetwork.uk (UK/Ireland)

Foresters

1. Foresters, is an international financial services organisation which has operated in the UK, US and Canada for over 130 years.
2. Foresters is committed to understanding the financial needs of its members, offering products and membership benefits to assist members with financial security and peace of mind.
3. Foresters supports nearly 100 charities across the UK and many local children's hospices. Last year worldwide our charity work involved 20,000 volunteers and some two million hours of community involvement, which helped to raise over £29 million for worthwhile causes. We measure our success not only by financial strength, but also by the positive impact we have on our members' communities.