



May 23rd, 2014

Nurse is a champion fundraiser

South Tyneside District Hospital auxiliary nurse Karlie Davies is a knockout fundraiser. The 38-year-old mum-of-two will be boxing in FTC (Fight the Cancer) 3 at Rainton Meadows Arena, Houghton-le-Spring, on Saturday, June 28th, to raise money for Cancer Connections.

The event will be the third in a series of FTC boxing events. With £2,000 so far in sponsorship, Karlie's is the highest amount anyone has raised to date via online JustGiving in connection with the boxing nights.

"When I heard about it I thought it was an unusual challenge and the idea of doing something so different for such a good cause really appealed to me," said Karlie, who is mum to Conor, 14, and Ethan, seven. "I've done Boxercise fitness training and I thought I would be prepared for it but I couldn't have been more wrong. You can't imagine how exhausting it can be when you're in the ring and someone is trying to hit you.

"I would like to say a huge thank you to everyone, including doctors, nurses and domestic staff at the hospital and friends, for their sponsorship. Their generosity has been fantastic. I set out to raise £300 but the total is still going up and up."

FTC was set up to thank Cancer Connections for the support they gave to Steven Bruce, of South Shields, and his family. Mr Bruce lost his battle with cancer but his friends still run FTC, organising sporting and entertainment events for the South Shields-based charity. FTC have handed over £132,000 so far and they are hoping to hit their target of £150,000 on June 28th.

Karlie, of South Shields, who has worked at South Tyneside District Hospital for 10 years and is currently on Ward 3, has been training five times a week since March, with the help of Harton Welfare Boxing Club, in preparation for her bout.

David Sharp, of FTC, said: "Karlie has managed to gather an incredible amount in sponsorship on JustGiving – the highest individual amount so far for any of our boxing events. I wish her luck on the night: she's put in a lot of training and I'm sure she'll do really well."

FTC 3, sponsored by Richmond Taxis, is a 'white collar' boxing night – a form of boxing in which men and women, most of whom have no prior boxing experience, train to fight at special events. Deborah Roberts, Cancer Connection's co-founder and services manager, said: "The boxing training is intense and it is fantastic when you see people putting such time and effort in for a



local cause such as ours. We're hoping with the sponsorship from the latest FTC event to build and furnish a special room at our base in Harton Lane for children whose lives are affected by cancer."

Anyone wanting to sponsor Karlie should go to the JustGiving website www.justgiving.com and key in 'Karlie Davies'.

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Pictured above: The photograph shows Karlie Davies.

Issued on behalf of South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust by Kay Jordan

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