

**PHOTO OPPORTUNITY: At St Luke's Hospice Inpatient Unit
On: Tuesday February 24th 2008 at 2pm**

**Jewel Scattered Bed to Show How
Tucked Away Gems are Helping to Keep Hospice Open**

A bed on the inpatient unit at St Luke's Hospice will be covered in donated gems, jewellery and precious metals to illustrate the positive impact of an unusual recycling scheme. The jewel scattered bed will also help to underline the point that giving to charity doesn't always mean parting with cash.

Since April last year a scheme to raise funds by recycling discarded gems and unwanted or broken jewellery and precious metals has raised more than £12,000 for the Hospice. The financial boost couldn't come at a better time for the charity, which like others is having to face the current credit crunch head on.

John Hirshman, Managing Director of Plymouth based Drakes Fine Jewellers, the company running the 'Gem Appeal' with St Luke's said: "We are absolutely thrilled with the response and with the sum raised so far, particularly as we launched it less than a year ago."

The 'Gem Appeal' encourages people to recycle any unwanted or broken jewellery they may have tucked away by donating it to the Hospice for recycling.

ENDS

Note to Editor:

A bed on the Hospice inpatient unit will be covered in donated gems, broken jewellery and precious metals (including broken chains, odd earrings, medals and cutlery) to help illustrate the point of the recycling scheme. Two St Luke's nurses in uniform along with representatives from Drakes Fine Jewellers will be present for the photo opportunity.

Further information available from St Luke's Public Relations Manager Shirley Smale.

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