Clacton midwives in big push for better birthing facilities

Donning specially designed T-shirts, about 10 Clacton midwives will next week (Monday 25 May) step out on a sponsored pier-to-pier walk to raise money for better birthing facilities.

The midwives, who are all based at the Maternity Unit at Clacton Hospital, will be joined by supporters consisting of family and friends for the seven-mile hike on bank holiday Monday from the end of Walton pier to the end of Clacton pier.

The T-shirts will bear the slogan “The big push for a pool!” because they are raising sponsorship money to relocate the birthing pool at Clacton Hospital into a bigger room and to make the room more homely by investing in new furniture and fittings.

Midwife Julie Edgcumbe said: “We’ve had a birthing pool at Clacton ever since the unit was refurbished four years ago, but it’s currently located in a very small room.

“We want to move it into one of our two labour rooms, which is much bigger, and also spend money on making that room a cosier environment for mums.”

As well as seeking sponsors, the walkers will be collecting money along the route, she added.

Mrs Edgcumbe said she expected between nine and 11 midwives to take part and possibly one or two healthcare assistants. Originally, she thought the group would be joined by about eight supporters consisting of family and friends but that number is rising.

* Members of the public who would like to donate should make their cheques out to “Colchester General Hospital” and include a covering note stating that their money is for “Clacton Maternity Services.”

They can be left at the maternity unit at Clacton Hospital for the attention of Julie Edgcumbe or Kim Deamer or posted to them at: Maternity Unit, Clacton Hospital, Tower Road, Clacton CO15 1LH.

Caption:
Midwives Kim Deamer (left) and Julie Edgcumbe in the T-shirts that have been made specially for bank holiday Monday's pier-to-pier sponsored walk.

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