

Biker Carolyn is set for a pillion miles journey

Breast cancer survivor's charity ride

A MILNGAVIE woman is going to join breast cancer survivors from three continents for a 1000 mile motorcycle trip from London to Edinburgh to raise funds for breast cancer charities.

Carolyn Halcrow, 36, survived breast cancer after being diagnosed with it nine years ago at the age of 27.

She works for children's playground company, Jupiter Play and Leisure Ltd, and was involved with the recent re-design of the play facilities at Lennox Park in Milngavie.

Her epic ride will begin on August 20 in London where she will join 20 other young women, all of whom have beaten breast cancer,

By RENA O'NEILL

on the first leg of this global challenge.

She hopes to raise at least £2770 for The Lavender Trust and other breast cancer charities as well as raise awareness of the disease.

She said: "Breast cancer has affected my life in so many ways, it killed my mother at the age of 54, then when my sister was diagnosed in 1996 her consultant advised me to be checked out.

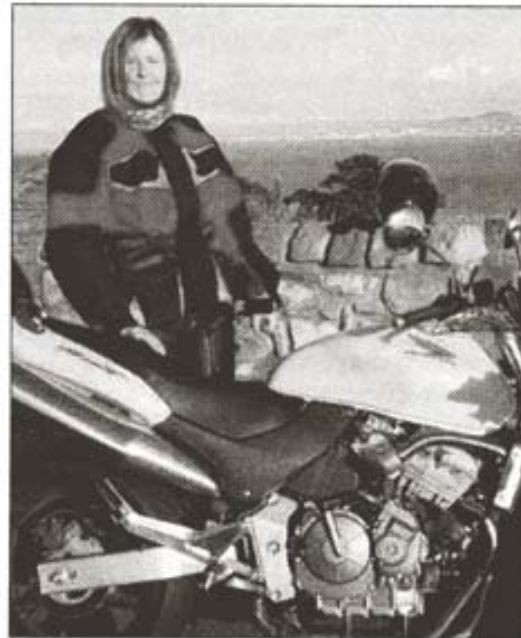
"To my horror the doctors in Edinburgh discovered I too had cancer, and after many months of tests, radiotherapy, chemotherapy and eventually a double mastectomy I finally beat the disease."

She added: "For a long time I wanted to put something back into the care sys-

tem that saved my life, and that of my sister and as a lifelong biker, the Changing Gears Global Ride is an ideal way for me to do my part for other women."

Carolyn, who regularly rides her Honda Hornet 600cc motorcycle around Scotland and beyond, including commuting to her workplace in Edinburgh on fine days, is thrilled to have been chosen to take part in the Changing Gears event.

She said: "I was struck by how appropriate it is for me to take part, as a motorcyclist and a young breast cancer survivor, to rise to this challenge and, although I feel nervous, it's an incredible, unique event and I am excited to meet and ride with other women who have been through similar experiences and come through the



▲Carolyn Halcrow is gearing up for an epic motorbike journey

other side." This year's Changing Gears challenge follows on from a successful event in 2004, in which 20 biking breast cancer survivors raised over £60,000.

Carolyn hopes that, as well as fundraising, the Changing Gears Global Ride will help increase awareness of the illness among young women and help to increase the survival rate.

If you would like to support Carolyn during her epic ride please donate online at http://www.justgiving.com/cguk2005_Carolyn. Or request a donation/sponsorship form by emailing Carolyn carolyn_changinggears@hotmail.co.uk, increase awareness of the disease and the support which is available for young women with the killer disease.