

# ORDEAL OF THE NEW MUM DIAGNOSED WITH VIRUS I've got swine flu so I can't hug my 7-month-old baby

By KIRA LAUBER-STRACEY

A MUM-TO-BE has been banned from hugging her seven-month-old baby after contracting swine flu.

Louiza Caulfield, 25, is in isolation at her home in Walker, Newcastle, after a middle-of-the-night visit by an emergency doctor diagnosed her condition.

Fears that mum-of-one Louiza could pass on the virus to her son, Theo, mean dad Martin is forced to hold his son up at the bedroom door so the pair can wave at each other.

Louiza said: "It's awful. All I want to do is cuddle him."

"When I found out, I was crying to my husband and screaming."

"Usually they diagnose swine flu over the phone to prevent the spread of infection, but because I was pregnant they sent an out-of-hours GP in overalls and a mask. It was very scary."

When Mrs Caulfield, four months pregnant with her second child, left her home last Friday to go shopping in the city centre, she did not expect that later that night she would be vomiting and unable to move.

She said: "I have no idea how I contracted the virus."

"When I came home at about 11am I started to feel ill, I had a terrible headache and a sore throat that came out of nowhere."

"After I put my son down for a nap I couldn't get up and my muscles were aching. By early Saturday morning I had



I COULDN'T STOP VOMITING :Louiza Caulfield with Theo before swine flu struck

already been sick 17 times."

Although doctors told her pregnant women were more susceptible to swine flu, Mrs Caulfield is hoping her course of Tamiflu is enough to rid her of the virus that is separating her from her baby.

Husband Martin, 25, an IT consultant at the Silverlink in North Tyne-side, has had to take time off work to look after their son who is missing out on nursery because of fears he may also have been infected and may spread the virus.

Louiza, a former charity worker, said: "My husband has been brilliant and so supportive. I can't wait to be able to hug them again and leave the house."

## Schools may shut

SCHOOLS across the UK could be forced to stay closed after the summer break if the swine flu pandemic escalates, it was announced today.

While the Government expects schools and nurseries to open as usual in the autumn, the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) said it "cannot be certain what the situation will be".

About 1,000 schools have already recorded cases of swine flu, the DCSF said in its guidance to teachers, though most have managed to stay open.

At the start of the outbreak, affected schools closed in an attempt to contain the virus, but

the UK has now moved away from such steps as the number of cases rises too high.

The DCSF said it was looking at the situation on a day-by-day basis and would be monitoring developments over the summer.

A message will be sent to schools in the last week of August informing them of what to do at the start of term.

A planning document published by the Department of Health suggests that if the current growth in cases is sustained, there could be a peak in the flu pandemic in early September, with up to 30% of the population experiencing symptoms.

# FRANCIS WOOD

## CHURCH MATTERS

### THERE'S A WAR ON

THE news this week has been dominated by the fighting in Afghanistan. It raises the question, when is war justified?

The question is as old as war itself. Parts of the Bible hint at ethical behaviour in war and St Thomas Aquinas presented an outline theory of a just war. Each generation, including our own, has worked on that theory to justify its actions. There are two main principles – the cause must be just and there must be a reasonable chance of winning.

We can't go through all the arguments in this column, but the section I wrestle with is the chance of winning. In Afghanistan today, guerrilla activity continues and there seems little chance of ever defeating them.

Problems arise when the other side doesn't follow the same rules of war as we do.

Most of us are not called to make the final sacrifice, but we can be thankful there are still men and women who are prepared to serve in the line of duty. If we wonder where our role models are to be found today, let us seek them first among those who do their duty.

### THAT'S THE WAY THE MONEY GOES

Thanks to Christian Aid for reporting on last month's 12-mile Bede's Way walk led by the Bishop of Durham. The route links the historic churches of St Peter's Monkwearmouth and St Paul's Jarrow. They make up the twin Anglo-Saxon monastery of Wearmouth-Jarrow, which will be the UK's nomination for World Heritage Site status in 2010.

The walk took 130 people four hours to complete and Christian Aid benefited to the tune of £11,000. The money will fund a 10-month literary course for 80 women in Bolivia. It will pay for teachers and equipment so that they can manage their businesses better – flower-growing, basket-weaving and pottery.

### COMING CONCERT

If you think the recorder is just for primary school children then you should be at Jesmond United Reformed Church, Burdon Terrace, next Saturday when Rosanna Whitton will perform. She's studied the recorder round the world and developed her own style of playing. The concert begins at noon and it's free admission with a collection for ME North East.

### DIARY DATES

SUNDAY: Wesley Memorial Church, Low Fell. We'll Meet Again! Wartime lunch and entertainment, 12.30pm - 5pm.

Leazes Park, Newcastle. Salvation Army's Songs in the park, 2.30pm.

MONDAY: Holy Cross Church, Fenham. Chinese charity banquet.

Food and Fellowship at New Rendezvous, Darras Hall, 7.30pm.

TUESDAY: St. Mary's Monkseaton. Strawberry Supper with the Mothers' Union, 7.30pm.

FRIDAY: Hexham Abbey. Lunchtime concert with Ex Collegio choir, 12.30pm.

NEXT SATURDAY: Jesmond United Reformed Church, Burdon Terrace. Rosanna Whitton, recorder player, free, noon.

St Mary' Wooler. Yetholm Sinfonia concert, 7pm.

St Maurice's Eglington. Concert: The Belford Singers, 7pm.

St George's Cullercoats. Organ Recital: Stephanie Bec (Birmingham Conservatoire), 7.30pm.

■ Please send items for CHURCH MATTERS to Francis Wood at 52 Albemarle Avenue, Newcastle, NE2 3NQ, or telephone (0191) 284 5338.



Visit  
**Renfrewshire.com**  
SCOTLAND'S DESTINATION FOR ALL SEASONS

Cultural Breaks from just £99.00  
per couple for two nights

Visit  
Scotland™

RENFREWSHIRE  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE  
The Ultimate Business Network

EUROPE & SCOTLAND  
European Regional Development Fund  
Investing in your Future