

Cutting-edge centre for pets prosthetics opens

A NEW veterinary centre, which aims to push boundaries of animal and human medicine, has officially been launched.

DJ Chris Evans, comedian Alistair McGowan, Irish folk-rock band The Saw Doctors, and more than 1,000 vets and pet-owners from all over Britain and Ireland braved the rain to celebrate the opening of Fitzpatrick Referrals, based at Eashing, in Godalming.

Speaking at the launch party the centre's founder and director, Noel Fitzpatrick said: "I built it, they came, it rained, but we did not care because the life and the

love that was there meant everything to us and our dream.

"That's what medicine should be all about - hugging and healing."

At Eashing, a dedicated veterinary team led by Mr Fitzpatrick - the pioneer of prosthetic implants for animals - has created Europe's most advanced neuro-orthopaedic centre for dogs and cats.

It represents a £10m investment to create a world-class "centre of excellence" in diagnosis, surgery and rehabilitation.

Launching the centre, Chris

Evans - whose dog Enzo was one of the centre's first patients - described Mr Fitzpatrick as "one of history's great pioneers".

Outlining his vision for the centre, Fitzpatrick told the 1,000-strong crowd of well-wishers at the grand opening: "Today is not about me. I have just lit the match. The fire is yet to come."

Mr Fitzpatrick was the first veterinary surgeon to successfully apply a prosthetic limb to a dog where both bone and skin can grow onto metal - a technique with far-reaching crossover potential for human surgery.

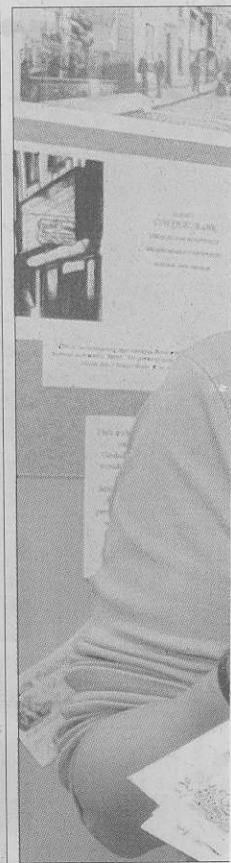


From left, Chris Evans, Reg with his dog Cole, veterinary surgeon Noel Fitzpatrick and Dr Paul Unwin at the opening of Fitzpatrick Referrals, Eashing. (c)



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Exh

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There to celebrate it was a descendant of our founders of the first Godalming. Nicolas joined town dignitaries local historians this

Age po

by Beatrice Phil

A NEW organisation joining with Waverley police ensure the Hindhead not marred by overdevelopment when the A3 is built.

The campaigning