

## **The BBC Finds Inspiration in Hampshire**

18th March 2008

The inspirational story of a Hampshire based business woman has attracted the attention of television producers. Vanessa Whitehouse is to appear later this month on the BBC show 'See Hear' as part of a special feature acknowledging the achievements of deaf people throughout the UK.

Filming took place last week and aims to produce a snap shot of Vanessa's everyday life, from taking care of her young son to running a successful business. The feature endeavours to inspire other deaf and hard of hearing people by providing an insight into her world.

Being born deaf has certainly not prevented Vanessa from making a success of herself in the business world. Taking part in the programme has given her the opportunity to communicate this message to others:

"There are so many more things I am looking forward to achieving - sheer determination, not taking no for an answer and playing to my strengths has helped me to achieve some of these things and I hope to continue to use my position to help influence others, raise awareness and open up opportunities for other deaf and hard of hearing colleagues."

As a high flying career woman Vanessa made her mark as a city banker, however after becoming a mum in November 2006 she made a dramatic lifestyle change. Instead of returning to her career in banking she chose to develop her own home based business to allow her to spend more time with her family.

'Cash It In For Me' is a service which converts client's unwanted items into cash using online auction sites such as eBay, the business model has been such a success Vanessa is now able to offer Cash It In For Me business opportunities to other stay at home mums and dads.

In addition to caring for a young son and running a successful business Vanessa also finds the time to serve as an elected trustee member of the Royal National Institute for the Deaf (RNID) as well as contributing to a number of other charities.

The 'See Hear' programme featuring Vanessa is to be aired March 26<sup>th</sup> 1pm on BBC 2.

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