

LIPHOOK NEWS

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War book benefits charities

By Tom White

tomwhite@petersfieldpost.co.uk
01730 232607

A MILLAND woman has written her first book, and 50 per cent of her royalties will be donated to charity.

Vivien Gilliard has written *Flight Home*, and 25 per cent of the profits will be donated to Hounds for Heroes and another 25 per cent will be donated to Help for Heroes.

The book tells the wartime stories of John Philip Gregory and Emily Hale, although Vivien admitted that she stumbled across the story by accident.

She said: "We were clearing up some belongings and we found some letters, and that started the research because I was fascinated by the content of the letters.

"I went to Cornwall to do

some research and I went to Holland in 1999 for research, so I have been working on this for a long time."

John fought in the war, while Emily became a Wren and met John at Defford, Worcestershire.

"The most emotional letter was the one that John was told to write on D-Day by the ministry because they expected huge losses," said Vivien.

"The book follows John, from his birth up to the end of the Second World War.

"I take both the characters, John and Emily, from childhood to adulthood, how they meet and so on. It is quite emotionally stirring in places.

"What I found interesting is this is a story of two people and their families, but it actually mirrors many stories, many love affairs, marriages

'I take both the characters from childhood to adulthood'



Vivien Gilliard with *Flight Home*, which is raising money for Hounds for Heroes and Help for Heroes.

and so on that went on during the war.

"That's why I thought the story was important, because so many men and

women went through this.

"There's a danger that these stories don't come out."

Anyone who would like to buy a copy of the book, and

raise money for charity in the process, should visit www.amazon.co.uk and search for *Flight Home* by Vivien Gilliard.