

## **MRF Media contact Colchester, Essex**

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### **Colchester parents' warning: Babies under one hit hardest by meningitis and septicaemia.**

David and Geraldine Gotts

Daughter Jemma was born 9 July 1997. On the 18 July she became ill very fast. She was treated at Colchester General Hospital for GBS meningitis and miraculously made a full recovery. Read more at MRF's online Book of Experience:

<http://meningitis.org/book-of-experience/geraldine-tassier-gotts-25113>

Said David: "Our daughter Jemma was born on 9 July 1997, nine days early. On 18 July at nine days old she refused to feed. Our midwife checked her over and called a doctor, who sent us to Colchester General Hospital for observation. Jemma went down hill rapidly in hospital - we came back from getting a coffee and she had been moved to intensive care. It was touch and go for a few days but mercifully she responded to treatment and after ten days in hospital she was well enough to go home. She's now a happy and healthy 12-year-old. Babies under one year old are 38 times more susceptible to meningitis and septicaemia than older children and adults, and tragically two babies will die every week from the diseases. It's vitally important to be aware of the symptoms and seek medical attention if you suspect meningitis or septicaemia, that's why we're supporting MRF's meningitis awareness week."

Willing to do: Press, Radio, TV

If you'd like to speak to David and Geraldine, contact the MRF Communications team: 01454 281811