

## Talk will mark contribution

THOUSANDS of women involved in a unique breast cancer research project are invited to a talk celebrating their contribution to fighting the killer disease.

The ground-breaking study began in the early 1960s and over the years more than 11,000 women from Guernsey have had tests taken for investigation.

Now, medical experts involved in the project will be travelling to the island to host a talk with those women whose frozen samples are still being used to discover the causes of and possible cures for breast cancer.

The study led to the Guernsey unit becoming a world leader in screening and detecting cancer.

'Thousands of women volunteered, very selflessly, to have samples taken and undergo clinical examination for the project,' said consultant surgeon and breast cancer specialist Roger Allsopp.

'As well as the collection of blood and urine samples, the women were screened using mammography, before it was widely used for detecting cancer. The samples were used for various research projects on UK and international levels.'

And to celebrate their



**TALK: Consultant surgeon and breast cancer specialist Roger Allsopp. (Picture by Brian Green, 0277258)**

participation in breast cancer research. Speaker Ian Fentiman, professor of surgical oncology at Guy's Hospital in London and director of the project, will outline the successes of the study.

The data gathered from the research and the samples stored at Guy's Hospital have become an international resource for further scrutiny not only into breast cancer but bowel, ovarian, pancreatic and womb cancers.

Mr Allsopp added: 'The work carried out in the 60s, 70s and 80s is a remarkable example of what can be achieved in a small island when local health professionals and the community work together.'

Everyone involved in the project is invited to the meeting, which will take place on the evening of Friday 17 March at the Grammar School. Tickets are free and can be obtained from Lucy Whitman at the Health Promotion Unit. Contact 707311 for more information.