

MARPLE DESIGNER SPONSORS MISS ENGLAND HOPEFUL

Northwest designer, Yvonne Gillon is sponsoring Marple's Minna Kane in her bid to be crowned Miss Manchester at the city's No 1 Charity Social Event on Thursday 8 June at the newly refurbished Palace Hotel. The new Miss Manchester will also receive a designer bespoke evening dress created by Yvonne as part of her prize package and will automatically go through to Miss England with the opportunity of being crowned Miss World in Poland.

Although Minna, 23, has no modeling experience, her combination of brains and beauty are bound to impress the judges. She gained a 2.1 in Biochemistry from Imperial College, London. Whilst at university she was Captain of the girls' Athletics and Badminton Teams, playing both sports at County Level and has several National medals to her name. Minna is currently working in healthcare advertising in addition to learning French and using her spare time as a volunteer presenter in hospital radio.

Having a local sponsor was an important factor for Minna, as she explained,

"Being a Marple girl, I felt that it was really important to have a local sponsor and someone that I could relate to who had not only gained recognition for their achievements, but also added value to the town's economy in terms of employment. Yvonne fits the bill perfectly and I am delighted that she has agreed to sponsor me."

She continued,

"Just as Yvonne has worked tirelessly to promote many dying skills, my ambition is to encourage more people to enjoy science – a subject that can be fun and exciting, but a profession that currently lacks women. To this end, I want to become a science communicator through various media. I also want to be a strong role model for women from a mixed parentage background and winning Miss Manchester will be a great step in the right direction."

The Miss Manchester event will raise money for the Young Oncology Unit at Christies in Manchester, a cause close to Yvonne's heart,

"There are very few people whose lives have not been touched by cancer, including mine," said Yvonne. "I am delighted to be involved in the Miss Manchester Grand Final and with this particular charity but more so to be Minna's sponsor. It's great to be given the chance to give something back to Marple as it has always supported me throughout my career and I wish Minna every success on the night."

